

JOKING RELATIONSHIPS: TEASING COUSINS

(Why would they do that?)

Oh, they just used to tease that way, you know. They used to tease girls--a bunch of us, you know--cousins. We'd all try to help one another but we couldn't do nothing. They even picked one up and just put her under the pump and just pump water on her.

(Was she a little girl?)

She was a woman! They play that way, you know. But boy, they couldn't make my husband move. He wouldn't move. He wouldn't bother his sister-in-laws. Or when they come and bother him he used to just sit there and say nothing. He was a quiet man.

(By sisters-in-law, do you mean your sisters or--?)

Yeah--my cousins. But you know we all--

INDIANS HAVE MANY RELATIONS

(Imogene: Mostly the Indians are all related-- When she says, her "sister" or his "sister-in-law", why I guess it's cousins through marriage or--well, anyway--they just--)

(This is one thing I'm really interested in. I enjoy hearing about that.)

(Imogene: You go down the street--there's her "cousin," her "brother"--)

There's just relations all over!

(Must be nice to have so many relatives--)

Yeah, but--

(Imogene: My husband's always asking me about that and I said, "Well, that's just the way us Indians are. By the time I grow up I could have grandmothers all over Canton, and their children would be my aunts and my uncles, cousins-- but it's not blood relation, you know what I mean. Like the whites, they just go on through third cousins, I guess. They go that far, but Indians, they just go on and go on--)