

EDUCATION OF YOUNG MEN IN A CLAN (SOCIETY)

(You mentioned that sometimes these young boys learned how to hunt and different things by belonging to the Bowstrings. How would they learn about hunting, say, from belonging?)

Well, first thing, "You have a very important thing in life--" That was a gun. They didn't exactly come out and name it--the gun, bow, or knife. They didn't name them like that. They'd say, "Your weapon." That's the nearest I can translate. "You must put your weapon ahead. That includes your gun and your bows and arrows, and your knife, and anything that kills animals, or something that's for your protection." They said, "That's the main thing in life. And your horses. You must own a good horse. You can have two horses. Have a horse that you can use every day--ride around every day, or round up your horses with. But this one horse, keep him for special. Maybe the day you're going to go chase buffalo, or the day you're going to maybe go on the warpath or something like that." Of course that was the teachings way back there I just learned from my father. Those things is what they taught those little boys.

STORYTELLING

(Would they ever talk about, say, the history of the tribe or ever tell stories about their experiences?)

Yes, many times. Yes, about where the Cheyennes come from, and where the gods blessed them--known as the gods that came to bless their people. Yes, they had a chancetto talk all about that, when they got together. And many times my father said that these old men, maybe one would be talking and one would interrupt this man that's talking. He'd say, "You're telling it a little bit different." He didn't come out and say, "No, wait--you're lying!" He'd