

alright; if you don't, alright. But always do what you think is right." And for years, like when I'd go away to school, they'd always have a [peyote] meeting and I would always have to go. My grandmother insisted on me going. My grandfather and grandmother both was highly in favor of it too since we couldn't always have our Big House Meeting. That was the next thing to a religious ceremony that they could attend you know. So then every — as I said I was going away to school, my father — I would always have them come after me. Early in the morning sometimes it would actually be dark. And they'd wake me up. And I'd have to dress and go down and the tent was always a distance of say, two blocks from the house, you know. There was a nice little place along where they lived, little creek there and a beautiful spot. That was where they had the tent. Well, I'd go and I'd say sometimes I'd be so sleepy I couldn't hardly see. And so when I'd go in there my father would always — I'd always have to stand — was you ever in a peyote building — house? Well, you know that little round half a horseshoe — I always called it a horseshoe and I would have to stand there and my father would pray, you know that I was leaving and he prayed for my safe return. I did that every — up until I was grown. Always. And so that's what I said — some you know—some people sort of ridicule it, but to me it is something sacred. The other day I was listening to a program. I can't think what kind of program it is but anyway they was kind making fun of it. And the way my grandmother expressed it to me one time, she said that was something that if you made light of it and made fun of it, something disastrous would happen to you. Because she was telling me about some man, I don't remember his name. She told me about him. He lived among the Shawnees and Delawares at Norman. And she told me, "Do you remember so and such man?" And I did remember him and she said "Well, he went, he attended these meetings. He didn't go for the purpose of getting any good out of it. So that way he just sort of made light of it and so the last I remember", she told me, she says "Well, he lost his mind. He is in Norman." She said it's something you shouldn't make light of or make fun of because there is something vital about it. But it has to be you yourself to make it so. Otherwise she said, "If you go for the kick out of it, well that ain't what the people use it for that really use it as a religion or a religious purpose."

STOMP DANCES AND WAR DANCES

Well, we used to have stomp dances, you know. Well, the Delawares used to always have war dances too you know. Just like other tribes, but then for years they quit having them. Well, they'd have the bread [Doll] dance, they got to where there was so much drinking and carousing around that this grandpa Elkhair, we always called him Grandpa Elkhair, it was his wife that