**Name of Project: R.O.O.T.S of Sunflower County**

**Date of Interview: November 17, 2016**

**Location of Interview: Indianola, MS**

**Name of Interviewer(s): Travion Dozier**

**Name of Interviewee(s): Carolyn Hamilton**

**Name of file used for transcription** (audio and/or video file): Audio File (Carolyn Hamilton)

[0:15] TD: Where are you from?

[0:19] CH: I’m originally from Moorhead?

[0:22] TD: What brought you to the Sunflower County?

[0:26] CH: Well I’m an elected official. I was elected uhm in august of last year which was 2015 and took office in January of this year which is 2016.

[0:20] TD: What do you like about sunflower county?

[0:45] CH: Well sunflower county is my home. I like the people. I like the hospitality. I like the culture. I’ve been here all my life and I just love it.

[0:48] TD: Do you feel safe in Sunflower County?

[0:50] CH: I do, yes.

[0:56] TD: What changes have you seen in sunflower county?

[0:59] CH: Well, the… there’s been a lot of changes. I have noticed that as far as the economic growth and a lot of that has been effected. When I was a small girl we had a lot of agriculture in the area. Uhm cotton fields and things and such things. I’ve noticed that I don’t see a lot of that anymore. All of the cotton is gone. You used to see a lot of cotton fields. Those kind of things have evolved because of technology and they don’t have a need for I guess that kind of agriculture. Uhm, I have noticed that a lot of people have left. But a lot of people do come back because it’s a quiet place to stay. Uhm, I’m noticing that a lot more African Americans are in places of authority which is a good thing. Because we have very well qualified African Americans that can do the job just like everybody else. That’s something that is good to see. Because it is representative of this area.

[2:10] TD: What problem uhm, do you feel are in Sunflower County?

[2:14] CH: Uhm, lack of jobs and uhm education is not where it should be. Uhm I would love to see more parental involvement in the education system. And parents involved in raising their children. I would really love to see that. I think that that would help the criminal parts of things that are happening and all of the violence that happening. And also the educational aspect I think it would help the things in the school district.