

Time to Think

Open University Journeys in British and Irish prisons during the years of conflict, 1972-2000

Oral History interview clip transcript

Name of Interviewee: **Gabi Kent**
Interviewed by: **Jenny Meegan**
Date of interview: **04/03/2019**

Important

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this transcript, however no transcript is an exact translation of the spoken word, and this document is intended to be a guide to the original recording, not replace it.

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Clip title:	The power and the value of knowledge
Duration:	00:01:42
Clip start point in full interview:	00_8_48
Clip end point in full interview:	00:10:28
Interview identifier:	004_T_01

Description: Gabi Kent worked as documentary film maker and digital storytelling practitioner in the area of human rights, peacebuilding, conflict transformation and transitional justice before joining The Open University as a Lecturer in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in 2015. In 2016 she became involved in this Oral History Project and joined Jenny Meegan and Philip O’Sullivan as co-lead on the newly renamed ‘Time to think’ project in 2018. Asked in this clip on her reflections on working with the interview material, Gabi reflects on the transformative power of knowledge and how it can be applied with very real effect.

Transcript:

What has surprised you? Because you’ve worked with all the archive materials, you’ve been instrumental in doing quality control to make sure that we’ve got everything right and you’ve been totally involved in everything. But what has surprised you when you’ve been listening to the interviews?

I was going to say I’ll come back to listening to the interviews, but what strikes me is the passion and hunger for knowledge I think and how that is a common point of connection for everybody and how real, when you’re studying Politics when you’re studying Social Sciences, how real those topics were for people, because they applied that knowledge in a very, very, direct way to their experiences or to their past or to their present at the time. I think it’s the value of knowledge and exchanging and sharing knowledge, not because it might get you a job but because it might open your mind and allow you to think and allow you to change your relationships with people, the situation you’re in, the kind of society you want to live in. And we talk about those in very broad brush ways and we talk about education but this is such a real tangible example of the power and the value of knowledge and also the kind of unexpected outcomes of that.