

Interview with Evelin Alfaro

SESSION 1 (8/17/2020)

Timed Log

[00:00:00]	Introduction and gives her permission to record the interview. Says she is a member of United and Active Women (MUA) and the California Domestic Workers Coalition. She is forty years old.
[00:02:16]	Born in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala to a family of seven children. Her dad is a carpenter and her mom a stay-at-home mom. They also cultivate corn. She lives close to a forest and a river. She arrives in San Francisco in 2009.
[00:06:57]	Wants to talk about the importance of domestic work and she also wants to learn about the study because there is contamination and dangers in her home country as well. For example, they use chemicals on their corn in Guatemala without protections like gloves or masks.
[00:09:06]	When she was a kid, the corn products irritated her hands – and the smell also irritated her nose. She did not speak to her siblings about the effects.
[00:12:36]	Her dad had to use toxic products when he painted houses, and they were even worse when it was hot out. She speculates perhaps they affected him.
[00:16:12]	Learns to take precautions when cleaning houses like not mixing Clorox with Ajax, opening windows, etc. to avoid reactions. She doesn't go to the doctor because she doesn't want to miss a day of work and because she cannot pay.
[00:23:06]	Continues to work with some toxic products, but there are also some clients who accept vinegar. Symptoms include skin irritation and red eyes. She buys her own protective equipment.
[00:28:53]	She likes MUA because they share information and make workers feel more secure about the products they're using. She declares it is a type of power to be able to participate, receive training, and spread awareness.
[00:33:20]	A leader in the campaign for SB 1257. She especially likes labor rights. She shares her testimony with legislators. She feels proud of her work and her efforts informing about and expanding the rights of domestic workers.
[00:38:22]	Speaks about the connection between domestic work and domestic violence because oftentimes workers have to spend time in private homes.
[00:39:48]	Talks about the connection between working-class jobs and immigration status. Without papers, they do not feel the freedom to say look, I am not going to do this because it puts my life at risk.
[00:41:08]	Lack of protections during the pandemic. In general, she emphasizes the need to take care of domestic workers the same as those in any other type of job.

[00:49:38]

Final words, logistics, and conclusion. Thank you very much for your time.
