

ONLINE APPENDIX 1: LATE MIDLIFE INTERVIEW PROTOCOL

INFORMED CONSENT

QUESTIONS

Any questions for me?

HARVARD STUDENT STUDY (HSS)

What was HSS like during college?

- Have you ever thought about it since?
- Do you think it had an effect on you in college or after?

When you first heard from me, did you have any thoughts?

What would you like to know out of this study?

WORK HISTORY

Can you walk me through what you've done since Harvard?

As a child, any career ideas?

Did your parents have ideas for you?

At Harvard did your career plans change?

- What did you major in?

Have you ever thought about doing something else?

CAREER SUCCESS

In what ways have you been more and less successful in your career?

What sources of feedback do you get about how you're doing?

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your career success compared to others by the standards in your field?

- What are the standards?

How would you rate your career success vs. your own potential?

- What's allowed you to be successful? -Circumstances at work?
- What's held you back? -Other considerations in your life outside work?
-Anything unique about you?
-Special characteristics or ways of doing things?

CAREER SATISFACTION

What have you liked most and least about your work? High pts, low pts?

[Go over each major work experience for its satisfaction]

Ever considered doing something else?

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

How long will you do this work?

- Any financial goals before retiring?

Have your work goals changed?

- How do you feel about the competition?

EARLY LIFE

What was your life like growing up? (before Harvard)

1. You
2. Parents
 - As people
 - Your relationship with them
 - Values they emphasized
 - Their hopes for you
3. Siblings
 - What they were like
 - How you got along
4. School
5. Your hometown

Any ideas about a career?

Other important people, influences, or factors?

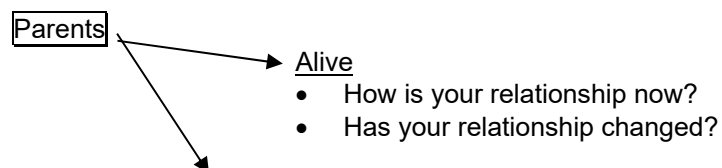
RELIGION

Did you grow up with a religion?

- How did your family practice?

Do you have religious beliefs or practices now?

PARENTS AND FAMILY NOW



Passed away

- What was their death like?
- Did you change in any way as a result?

Siblings

- What are they doing?
- How do you get along?

WIFE/PARTNER

Where met?

What attracted you?

What is s/he like? (Does s/he work?)

How has your relationship changed over the years?

- High points, low points
- Would you marry or partner with him or her again?
- Ever thought it might not last?
 - Likelihood you'll stay together?

Have you or your wife/partner ever been involved with someone else during the relationship?

How does your wife/partner see your work?

- Does s/he have expectations of you?
- Supportive of work demands?
- Has your relationship affected your work?
- How has work affected your relationship?

CHILDREN

What are your kids doing?

What are they like?

- How are they like/not like you?

How are they doing?

How do your children respond to you?

How has your work affected you as a parent?

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

Any financial problems?

Do you have financial goals before you retire?

ACTIVITIES/LEISURE/FRIENDS

Who are you closest to?

- Friends alone or with wife or partner?

What outside work and family? Charities, organizations, causes?

What do you do for fun?

What influenced you to focus on work? on these other things besides work?

HEALTH

How's your health?

Any major problems?

Any problems with alcohol or drugs?

Mental health

- Ever been in therapy?
- Ever taken medications for nervous or psychological issues?
- Ever....?
 - been depressed
 - been down, blue, couldn't get going
 - had thoughts about taking your life
 - been anxious, panicked

IMPACT

In what areas of your life have you made the most impact? The least?

What are you proudest of? Least proud of?

How do you hope to be remembered?

- Think will be remembered?

Who has had the most impact on you? (parents)

- How would they see your life?

What advice do you give to your children?

What advice would you give a Harvard senior on the life ahead of him or her?

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

What have been the most difficult times in your life?

How have you gone about handling these problems?

HARVARD

What led you to go?

What was Harvard like?

How did Harvard influence you?

- Any people stand out?
- Experiences?
- What did you major in?
- Establishing a standard of comparison?

Are you glad you went?

HARVARD GRADUATES

How would you describe Harvard graduates? Your image of their lives?

How do you think you compare?

How do you explain differences?

CHANGE

Looking at college interviews, what would you see?

How would you explain the changes?

ADMINISTER TAT

REACTIONS TO INTERVIEW

How was this interview for you?

Any major areas we missed?

Questions for me?