

Interview Outline: Women

Working in the Church

1. Describe a calling that was important in your life.
 - a. What was the calling?
 - b. How did you feel about it?
 - c. What was good about it?
 - d. What was difficult?
 - e. What events in your life and Church experience best prepared you for the calling?
 - f. How did you select counselors?
2. Tell me about them.
3. What goals do or did you have as a Relief Society president (or counselor)?
4. How did you accomplish them?
5. Describe your relationship with priesthood leaders.
 - a. How do you know they care about you?
6. Are you a visiting teacher?
 - a. What is that like?
7. In your Relief Society, how do you support:
 - a. Single mothers
 - b. Part member families in which the wife is LDS
 - c. Young women transition into Relief Society
 - d. Newly married women
 - e. Married women without children
 - f. Women who never married
 - g. Widows
 - h. Elderly women
8. Do you have access to the latest lesson manuals, videos, handbooks, and magazines?
 - a. How culturally appropriate are these resources to the sisters in your Relief Society?
9. Do you have the full Relief Society program, including weeknight meetings?
 - a. If no, why not?
10. What types of Church social activities do you enjoy?
 - a. Do you help with the activities?
 - b. How?
11. Do you have access to the General Women's Session of General Conference?
 - a. What do these sessions mean to you and your Relief Society members?

Women in Society

1. In general terms, how would you describe the role of women in your culture?
 - a. How are women treated?
 - b. Is the treatment of women different in the city than in rural areas?
 - c. In what ways are women treated differently than men?
2. Is there a clash between how society understands women's roles and the way the Church defines women's roles?
3. Do you feel safe as a woman in society?
4. Do you feel safe as a woman at church?
5. How has the gospel influenced the way you view yourself?
 - a. Describe gospel influences in detail, giving examples from before and after your conversion.
6. How has the Church influenced your view of gender roles?
7. Have you used "The Family: A Proclamation to the World" to teach the Church's stance on gender roles?
8. Describe the work you do each day.
9. Are you paid for the work you do?
10. Do you have enough money to meet your needs?
11. What are the greatest challenges facing LDS women where you live?
12. Are there different challenges for women who are not LDS?
13. What marriage or cultural traditions affect the way young people court and marry?
 - a. Please describe the traditions.
14. Are there enough marriageable LDS men for women to choose from?

Welfare Issues

1. What are the socioeconomic factors that confront many members of your Church unit? (For instance, poverty, wealth, drug and alcohol abuse, child or spouse abuse, crime, class discrimination, disparity in access to education, and race discrimination.)
2. How does the Relief Society address these concerns?
3. What training have you received concerning welfare assistance?
4. What special programs are there in your area for education or employment training?
5. What more could the Church do to assist its members?
6. If people do not receive help from the Church, can they get it from the government or elsewhere?
 - a. Describe other resources that are available for people in your area.

General Questions

1. What contributions do women make to their wards?
2. Describe the ethnic make-up of your Relief Society.
 - a. Describe any challenges you may face regarding ethnic or racial differences.
 - b. How does the gospel of Jesus Christ help diminish or erase ethnic and racial barriers?
3. What blessings have come into your life as a result of service in the Relief Society?
4. What has Relief Society meant in your life?
5. How do you feel about Relief Society?
6. How has your membership in the Church impacted your relationships with your friends and family members?
7. How has your membership in the Church impacted your feelings toward and relationship with God?
8. Did you participate in the Young Women program when you were a teenager?
 - a. What was it like?
 - b. What was important about it?
 - c. What did you learn?
 - d. What do you wish you could change?