

Story Prep Questions

A. Background:

Where did you grow up? How many brothers and sisters do you have?

Where did you live when you were in high school?

B. Interest in nursing:

How did you get into nursing?

What nurses did you know growing up?

Where did you go to nursing school? How did you choose that school?

What was your first job as a nurse? Where was it? How long did you work there?

C. Changes in nursing:

What was nursing like when you started?

What kind of nursing did you start in (e.g., med/surg, maternity, etc)?

What were the conditions: what hours/shifts did you work, number of patients, pay?

What was your second job as a nurse?

D. Getting to the _____ hospital:

When did you start working at the _____ hospital?

What was your first nursing job there?

How did the nurses from different units get to know each other?

E. Starting the union/ getting involved in the union:

Was there a union at _____ hospital when you started working there?

If yes, how did you get involved in it?

What did you do with the union? What were the most important issues when you got involved? How were these issues addressed by the nurses? What kinds of action did the nurses take to make their positions clear?

If no, how did the union get started?

What triggered the starting of the union? What kinds of meetings did you have? Where did you meet? Which nurses were most active in organizing for the union (names and nursing positions)? Were other workers at _____ hospital forming unions at that time? If yes, how did you support each other?

F. Making the union effective:

How did the nurses spread the word about the union? Were there representatives from each nursing area?

What particular union struggle stands out for you? Why was that so important?

How did the union deal with that issue? How did the hospital respond? What happened next?

What was your role in it? What union positions did you hold?