

**T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History Collection**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTERVIEWEE NAME:** Evelyn Fike

**COLLECTION:** 4700.0528

**IDENTIFICATION:** [1925 - 2008] Women's Rights activist

**INTERVIEWER:** Margaret Parker

**SERIES:** Women's Council of Greater Baton Rouge

**INTERVIEW DATES:** September 28, 1995

**FOCUS DATES:** 1930s - 1995

**ABSTRACT:**

**Tape 766**

Family history; impact of Depression on her family; sexual discrimination in her high school in Iowa; lack of college scholarships for girls; determination to attend college; working in clerical positions during World War II; impact of war on her college campus; lack of career opportunities for women in the 1940s; inability to earn promotions; moving to Baton Rouge and getting job with Gulf States Research Institute; goals of Gulf States Research Institute; building the Superdome; difficulty in earning a promotion while working for the research institute and desire to reach executive ranks; describes perks of being an executive; discusses how she got promoted to contracts manager and outlines her duties; Equal Rights Amendment; desire to help other women break into the executive ranks; role in forming the Capital Area Network (an organization for Baton Rouge businesswomen); early work of the Capital Area Network; discusses her the jobs she took after retiring; desire to be a mentor for her female employees; establishing Women of Achievement banquet and selection of the honorees

**TAPES:** 1 (T766)

**TOTAL PLAYING TIME:** 57 minutes

**PAGES TRANSCRIPT:** 33 pages

**RESTRICTIONS:** None