Interviews with Deborah Nyquist and Bridget Stafford

10/27/89

Location: Chassel, Michigan

Start of interview:

(Debroah Nyquist) What's wrong Madeline?

(Bridget Stafford) Um Debby?

- (D) [Laughs] I'm going to love doing this. Alright.
- (B) Are you going to edit this? [Giggles]
- (D) I can edit the whole thing. How long did you think about getting a tattoo before you actually went through with it?
- (B) Alright when did I go through with it? Seventeen, duh um probably be about three or four years I would think, about that time.
- (D) So like you thought about getting a tattoo for three or four years before actually went through with it?
- (B) No I think I wanted one for three or four years, I don't know how many years I thought about it before that. [Laughs]
- (D) Um did other people influence your decision and if so in what ways?
- (B) Mmm my mother tried to... [Laughs] I don't think anyone really influenced it otherwise. Except for right when it happened when we all decided to just go ahead and do it.
- (D) And one person.
- (B) I think without like everyone going alright let's just do it, it would have been a while longer probably. [Laughs]
- (D) Yeah I can see your point.
- (B) Alright let's just, ok!
- (D) Let's do it shouldn't wait until we got the Green Bay too...Um what sort of view do you have of tattooing before you had it done?
- (B) Um kind of... oh I pictured a seedy place. [Laughs] and I actually almost fulfilled that way. With all the sailors on leave and our when we went to?
- (D) The Resistant Rock Stars.
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) Yeah. And where was that?

- (B) And where was that? Where was that? That was, where was that? That was Sunfetch, Sunset Strip Tattooing Ink.
- (D) Bob and Cliff Raven.
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) Yeah ok. Like what do you think of it down now that you've been now, you know now that you have done at a like these different place.
- (B) Well now I realize that there are seedy, icky places but they are also places that symbolled doctors' offices you know? And I don't know I think it all depends where you go to.
- (D) Yeah.
- (B) What it's actually like, you know. [Laughs]
- (D) Um oh how was receiving a tattoo change your outlook on body art specifically at people in general? If at all? Nice question uh?
- (B) I hate this question. [Laughs] how go about answering this question? I don't think it really has changed it. At all, I mean I always thought it was fascinating and I still do, so I don't think it's really changed it at all except it made me become directly involved.
- (D) What makes it fascinating? Now that you have it?
- (B) Um I don't know. Uh I guess um I don't know the designs always seem to be, I don't know I guess you wonder like why people got what they did, what the meaning of it is to them, why they got that. You know and that they were willing to put something on them that is going to be there forever and ever. [Laughs]
- (D) Mm then what would you say your primary motivation was?
- (B) I just wanted one I don't know why. Let me think, why did I want one... I guess just cause I thought I was really fascinated by them and just wanted one on me!
- (D) The design that you got do you think like it reflects any, anything in particular? Is it just...?
- (B) Um well I didn't want anything that was like cutesy cutesy you know?
- (D) Mmhmm.
- (B) That I would get very tired of [laughs] like a ladybug or something of that sort. Um I don't know I think the rose is like you know I mean it's like it has a little class you know? [Giggles] The butterfly I don't know about that. [Giggles]
- (D) I was going to ask you about that! Where did you have that one done? Where was that again?
- (B) That was done in Republic, Michigan! [Laughs]
- (D) Oh yes!

- (B) In a reconverted bus! [Laughs] By the guy oh I wish I could remember his name, um oh god what's his name...? I don't know what his name is, its Black Sheep Tattooing, I wish I can remember what his name was but he was on David Letterman.
- (D) No! Really?
- (B) Yes with stupid pet tricks with his dog Hammer, Hammer bowled. Did you see that one?
- (D) Nahuh.
- (B) Stupid pet tricks and the dog bowled and Hammer is a pit bull he was there on the bus and he bowled and he was on David Letterman. And I saw that show and I said he did my tattoo. Oh I was going oh great.
- (D) Yeah I bet. So just like you know the design was classy or whatever and you decided one was there anything else you thought about? Like what it would do for you? Or just did it for...?
- (B) Um well I imagine I probably got it for attention too. You know, conversation piece. [Laughs]
- (D) It works for that that's for sure.
- (B) It certainly does.
- (D) Um so do you think like this is, do you think you'll get anymore tattoos then?
- (B) Um I don't think I'll get any more like different ones but I plan on mortifying one that I have.
- (D) So like it's like an ongoing kind of thing?
- (B) Yeah. I think I probably had enough though once I get that one fixed the way I want it.
- (D) Yeah.
- (B) You know probably unless someday I just say I want another one. [Laughs] I have the spot that just needs filling [Giggles].
- (D) So like when you got the second one done did you think you would get a second, a second tattoo or did it just sort of...? It just...?
- (B) No I knew I was going to get another I just was like....
- (D) When?
- (B) ...waiting, I didn't know where on me I didn't know where where. And then it just sort of happened, I just sort of decided like one week and went and got it the next week and...
- (D) Cool. I was wondering about that that's...
- (B) It was very spur of the moment thing. [Giggles] All of a sudden it's like oh lets go. Let's just go do it.

- (D) Alright cause um I don't know. I've wondered about that why people will go for like another one you know cause like I myself I know I am going to have...
- (B) I just had to balance myself.
- (D) Literally dozens.
- (B) Yeah [laughs] yeah you you'll illustrated a women.
- (D) Yup. How would you characterize yourself?
- (B) God... um I don't know I certainly wouldn't consider myself conservative. But I wouldn't consider myself this radical or anything you know just uh... a healthy rebellion [Laughs]
- (D) You are normal?
- (B) Yeah um well, what's normal?
- (D) Yeah. Um mm um do you think that other people see you like that too? Like how do you think other people? Like not...
- (B) A person I don't know but when they know I have tattoos I think they do look at me a little weird like you have something wrong with you, you have some flaw in your character that made you go and do that. [Laughs] Wouldn't they want to know what it is!
- (D) Bam oh why do you think they do that, why do you think people do that?
- (B) I think that people that um well I think the general consistence about it is just you know it's for low life people to do. You know and you are, if you are not one or you don't seem to be one and all of a sudden you like you have this, they are like well... there's something wrong with this picture you know? And...
- (D) So do you think that um let's see, do you think it's the image that tattooing has, like if you had to pick words for what people think of...?
- (B) Yes it's the image that surrounds tattooing is the problem and that's why people look at you strange because they don't, I mean they aren't interested in it so they don't know anything about it, they are not they don't just would rather leave it alone. [Laughs] And you know they just don't understand so that's why they look at you weird like you know...
- (D) And well what am I trying to say, is that what kind of words if you asked someone else what they think of tattooing, what kind of words do you think er or that you've heard come up most often like people talk, saying something about tattoos.
- (B) Bikers. Motorcycle gangs. [Giggles]
- (D) Yeah.
- (B) Just you know, the people that average middle class America would rather not associate with, that's what they think.

- (D) Yeah and then you find out that some people do.
- (B) And when people do they are like wait a minute.
- (D) Or if its them that's go out and gets it then it's alright or see there is lots of people like who have tattoos that aren't traditionally not tattoo type people. And do you think then with you know people first they would look at tattooing and say oh that's for sickos and then they see someone's who's I guess you'd say upper-class and see it on them do you think then they?
- (B) That would help change the image.
- (D) Like they flip flop on it? Cause?
- (B) I don't know whether they would, I don't know which way it would go like if they would look down on the person or if they would think twice about it you know.
- (D) Uhh.
- (B) I don't know I guess I guess they would have to be really impressed by the person for it to effect the way they think about tattooing you know? Instead of the other way around happening.
- (D) You think Cher has done anything to benefit tattooing?
- (B) No [Laughs] parading around in your little nylon things no I don't think so.
- (D) Um I have to ask you this cause this is something that has been irritating me ever since it's been started. What do you think about like the new wave of tattooing, like the past ten years it seems like everyone's going out and getting tattoos? Why do you think that is? Like cause when I look at it I kind of thought that...

[Interviewer got distracted by a dog]

- (B) Alright you'll have to repeat yourself I lost the total train of thought.
- (D) Yes um so this new wave of tattooing or whatever...
- (B) Oh yes!
- (D) Why do you think it got going, I've noticed lots of people are doing it because they are rock star favorites get it done?
- (B) I don't know. I don't know. It seems like a lot of younger people are doing it, I mean you see people all over now with them.
- (D) Mmhmm.
- (B) And I don't know I can't think of anything, mind is blank.
- (D) Um do you have any observation on other tattooed people? Like what they are like?
- (B) I don't know I've met all kinds in our little conventions. I mean there are some that are quite scary and there are others that are just know they may be doctors you know?!

- (D) So do you consider outstanding in anyway, tattooed people or maybe just..?
- (B) Um they seem to be interesting people.
- (D) Yeah.
- (B) You know, there is a wide variety of them and they are all, they are definitely not introverts! [Laughs]
- (D) Yeah good word! How do you think, well I asked you this but, I won't ask you again I was going to ask you um how you believe non-tattooed people perceive you as a person? But um do you look at yourself differently since you have been tattooed? Um do you think?
- (B) Not really.
- (D) No?
- (B) I mean like a lot of the times I'll forget they are even there you know?
- (D) Yeah?
- (B) Like except this one that I can see all the time, but this one I'll very often forget it's there. Sometimes I realize where I am and must cover up. [Laughs] Like meeting his parents for the first time.
- (D) Ooo??
- (B) We were out at the lake and were like going swimming you know? Ok put my bathing suit on and I looked down and put a shirt on. [Laughs]
- (D) Sore topic maybe?
- (G) Then her mom showed up.
- (B) Then my mom showed up and said guess what's the worst thing my daughter ever did. And I was like oh jeez here it comes. [Laughs] And she said whip it up my shorts and whipping up my shirt and going see?? And they are looking at me like holy shit!
- (G) We make fun of my one aunt that's like...
- (B) Yeah oh.
- (D) You know...
- (B) That's going to blab to and I'm and I'm like ohh man. And I'm like not cause his parents are going to be like this girl is involved with my son? [Laughs]
- (D) Are you going to be married? Um let's see ok this is great because I love the reaction that this got, but how does your family and friends react to the news that...?
- (B) My mother didn't talk to me [Laughs] she was so pissed she was afraid to speak.
- (D) What about now?

- (B) Well when she saw the second one she was much better she was just like I thought you said you went going to get another one?! And then she like she accepted it like within five minutes she like do you have any more on you do you?? [Laughs] Like do that's it. She reacted much better to the second one then the first.
- (D) So like you were saying...?
- (B) Like she's getting used to it.
- (D) So she is used to it and like you said before like she'll show them to other people like put you on display?
- (B) She thinks it's funny now because she told me when I got it that I would regret it someday and somewhere sometime I would not want someone to know about them and she was going to be there and she was going to let them know. And she was and she did. And she just loved it, she was in her glory.
- (D) Um mm what are like different types of reactions you've had to your tattoos, like anything really? Aside from your mom practically...?
- (B) I've been called a freak.
- (D) Really?
- (B) Um other people are like wow! You know? Just varying degrees from people.
- (G) How about my reaction?
- (B) I don't know your reaction. You were like....
- (D) The third party the fiancée of the person on the tape.
- (B) You were kind of like oh you know like you didn't really react one way or the other and then finally I just asked you what you thought and you were like you told me that you just had images of this seedy past that I've gone through.
- (D) That's interesting why is that?
- (B) I mean Bridget here hanging out in biker bars
- (G) Listening to her heavy metal bands story.
- (B) I never did tell you about tattoo conventions we went to did I?
- (G) Nahuh.
- (B) Oh.
- (D) That's interesting though.
- (G) Being from Detroit most of the people down there that have tattoos that I've ever either bikers or just problem people.

- (D) Mm so. So what do you think that says about traditional beliefs on tattooing because of their reactions?
- (B) I think it has a long way to go before people accept it as you know a normal thing to do.
- (D) What would you do to get it, um more accepted? Would you change how it's viewed? How it...?
- (B) Um I think the places where it's done have a lot to do with it. You know? They are like in the bad section of town you know like they, I think if they were like, if there was a tattoo place in a mall. [Laughs]
- (G) There is one, downstate.
- (B) Is there? Wow well if there were more.
- (G) But it's like the people who are running are always wearing biker clothes and everything so nobody goes in there.
- (B) If somebody was standing there in a suit and tie. [Laughs]
- (G) Yeah the guy looks like Jerry Garcia you know?
- (B) Lorenzo Lama standing out front saying come on in and get a tattoo.
- (G) Let me draw on you.
- (B) Yeah I think that's what would be needed to uh, and I don't think that will ever happen so I think...
- (D) Why do you think that will happen because I know that um...?
- (B) Because I think that like the people who are in tattooing the world of tattooing also have this view of the people, that don't accept tattoos you know and they are like you know, like the hat kiss my tattoo. [Laughs] You know? Like that you know they would never conform to just to impress the normal people.
- (D) The normal people.
- (B) I think they like being off on the fringe, I think that has a lot to do with the appeal of them you know?
- (D) Mm cause like as I say when you think about regular art community, like tattooing isn't recognized as an art. Um this might be beating a dead horse but why do you think that is you know given and there is bad painter just like there is bad tattooers?
- (B) You I never really did understand because like artists are you know fringe people too. They are... are out there you know and I don't understand why.
- (G) It's just a different canvas.

- (B) Yeah that's all, the art is on a different canvas and I don't see why it shouldn't be considered in the same...
- (D) Realm?
- (B) Yeah that's a good word, realm. I need my thesaurus! [Laughs]
- (D) I think I have mine out in the car. See that pisses me off that's like my biggest thing is that people refuse to recognize it as being an art you know and I realize that you know...
- (B) But then like you know like the tattoo conventions in Green Bay you know that like an art showing. You know just I mean the people that are interested in that come there and a lot of people didn't have them they just come to see them you know?
- (D) Yeah
- (B) A lot of the reason people came was to see other peoples and show theirs off you know?
- (D) Yeah. Which would be the same thing as like painters in a gallery or something like that.
- (B) Yeah.
- (G) Yeah cause the people coming in for a freak show or what?
- (D) That's a good point.
- (B) I don't think so I think the people that would think that way would be too afraid to go in!
- (D) Like the people walking by?
- (B) Like the people in motel.
- (D) His eyes were like this when they were walking across.
- (B) Cause I mean there were, it was a nice hotel that this is in, and it was very convention hall in the hotel and the regular, regular normal guests of the hotel did not go down into there and it was completely open, I mean it wasn't like you had to go through any doors or anything you just walked down the hallway and there it was and there wasn't any of them in there. There are just kind of peaking in there but they wouldn't actually go in.
- (D) Wow I remember that because that struck me as being, you know I think back on it now and at the time I didn't expect people to go in but then you say painters have galleries and things like that um and they are recognized for it as having a legitimate talent but then um really there is no excuse on being ignorant on the topic especially when there is something like that at your disposal to educate yourself on it. Um I don't know do you think that more conventions and things like that would help or would like you know if you know like you pointed out people won't come in?
- (B) Yeah cause I mean if I were there staying at the hotel and it was going on I'd be curious and go down I mean if it was something that was interesting like that I think no matter who you are its interesting. You are always kind of a bit intrigued about it I'm sure you know. Hey pop on in

there I mean it's not like you know you're in some dive or something where you are going to get killed outdoors, you know just walk in safety and walk around you know. I didn't understand why nobody went in there. I mean it was obvious people were interested because they are all like you know peaking around the corner and everything and staring at the people walking by you know.

- (D) Yeah that struck me as really bizarre. And then I think about if there had been people in there like you know Lorenzo Lamas or someone like that because then obviously there is going to be people coming in. Um I guess for some reason to me I know that it's sort of you know it's strange why people won't you know take part into something like that when its sitting right there and there is no excuse for it because then they will walk down the hall and somebody says tattoos, instead of just coming in and maybe learning something so I guess I just don't know. It's something I had to ask you about. So you would change how tattooing looks to like the general public atmosphere?
- (B) I don't know I think that um...
- (D) Or would you leave it?
- (B) People need to be little bit more open minded but I think like I said you know the appeal of it it's kind of strange thing to do.
- (D) Then with that then you'd say would you want it to become the normal thing to do? Like everybody has tattoos?
- (B) No but I think people shouldn't like be like some people are generally hostel about it too.
- (D) I've encountered that.
- (B) I think people could stand to be little bit more open minded about things.
- (D) Yeah. Good word!
- (B) I know...Ok why did you get a tattoo or many? [Giggles]
- (D) Well I guess I got tattoos because this is a typical answer for me though because I think it's something that is inside, like something that is on your spirt and it's always there and when you get the tattoo it brings it to skin surface so things like you have inside come out on the surface. That's why I did it because I always, and I was intrigued by it because I always thought they are really neat. [Laughs] So I had to have them done. So that's why.
- (B) Ok um well what kind of reactions have you gotten from people about it?
- (D Umm let's see first there was the parental disproval which is instantaneous and told I made a very grave error in judgement and that it's possible that I may not get a husband because...
  [Laughs]
- (B) Yeah yeah I got that to!
- (D) Because he doesn't want to look at it.

- (B) I won't get a job though either. For some reason in a job interview they'd be seeing these, I don't know what I'd be wearing during that time. [Laughs]
- (D) We are going to go in in the nude for our job interview so people can see all of our tattoos. I've also have people say they were sexy and people in bars or just people around saying those are kind of neat! And so those are kind of sexy, all kinds of reactions, then I've had lots of jealousy reactions from a certain person in particular that I won't mention on tape at this point but...
- (B) No need.
- (D) So it's around the gannet, it's interesting to watch people when they find out they you have a tattoo cause it can get pretty strange I guess. That's probably I think the best reaction was jealously reaction because now this particular person feels that it's a competition to see who can get the next tattoo, is it going to be bigger and whose is going to look better.
- (D) Yeah I see what you mean though like people that um like who would like to get one but don't have the guts to get it you know get mad that you did have the guts to go get it you know and they you know. The thing is that you know they are just mad at themselves for not doing it and they are taking it out on you. It's like well go ahead and get one.
- (B) And I think I think they feel like they um because they didn't do it before you that it makes it look like it's lost.
- (D) If they go get it now it's going to be like well I didn't do it first you know.
- (D) So then you got to go back and do one bigger or something and quite hostility too from people who still won't go get them done but are all questions whenever you come around and like to make I don't know I guess comments about oh I can't believe you've done something like that. It's apparent to me that they are interested in it just because it's always the, the opening thing is getting any other tattoos? And it's like...
- (B) They wouldn't be on their mind you know?
- (D) Yeah if you aren't interested and if you think it's such a big mistake why do you have this problem or this like preoccupation with my tattoos I don't know what it is so yeah I've had kinds of...
- (B) Ok well what do you think of other tattooed people?
- (D) Well I think tattooed people are um it would be nice to think that they are all sort of part of a brotherhood kind of thing where everyone can relate to each other and in reality there is too many that get it done just because you know, well this is really going to piss off my parents and I think it really brings down you know the energetic but other tattooed people I guess um the best thing I could say about them is that they are displaying something that you know most people wouldn't have the guts to put right out on it even if it was a skull. I mean it takes a certain amount of guts to say that there is something in me that has a thing about skulls you know or something that would put a butterfly or a horse or whatever else it says something about that

persons. And at my lowest option of other tattooed people are that the punks who get it done because they think it's cool, and they are just doing it because it's the thing to do at that time and those people really piss me off! But for the most part I guess like a common thread between people whether it's really thin or more like Tony Loaf or something.

- (B) [Laughs]
- (D) But yeah.
- (B) Well has being tattooed changed how you look at yourself?
- (D) Well I think tattooing, I always knew that I had probably more than my fair share of guts to do something as far as like I want to do things that are different and what not. And then I got that tattoo done and it's like it hit home and I can do whatever I want, it's really, I think it's really an ego boost especially when they are done real well and everything. It gives you a charge it's like hey man you know I had an electric needle put into my skin that there probably not much that is going to scare me about you know, jeez I'm scare all this shit and you go out for a job interview and well I don't think so. I think, it's like Michigander thing.
- (B) I sat in a chair and I let someone pierce my skin. Yeah for about forty minutes. [Laughs]
- (D) And it was fun and I enjoyed it!
- (B) Radio was having a good time.
- (D) Good old time, old man Raven was hitting on my friend. [Laughs]
- (B) Rock stars in and out Ballars it was a good time.
- (D) Yeah. I think that new Motley Crue video Doctor Feel Good.
- (B) Lets just do tattooing Yeah, I'm telling him what are doing. He's like great. Could you have look at other TV.
- (D) Oh shit always playing Motley Crue on home video too.
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) It was on there.
- (B) Oh dudes! [Laughs]
- (D) Do you remember that?
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) When Nikki Sixx when he was he was...
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) Yeah when he was like that was Nikki Sixx.

- (B) Mmm I already asked what reactions you've had. What do you feel is the atmosphere around the world of tattoos?
- (D) I think the world of tattoos is legitimately I think it would be right to say that it is um I guess sleazy and that's you know coming from someone who knows an excellent tattooist that's like a doctor's office I still think that the...
- (B) The family guy.
- (D) Yeah the family kind of man like the atmosphere is still really sleazy and I guess underbelly and that's because of the, I think the way the general public looks at it. You know because they put laws into effects that you can't put up a tattoo shop in a nice area part of town and those people will just tell those people well now, piss off we are not going to try to....
- (B) I think what has emphasizes that point is when were in Rick and that one women staggered on asking if Rick knew where she could get some rushed?
- (D) Yup [laughs]
- (B) Like hi there.
- (D) With the biker bar in the boxing studio right next door and two blocks away on whatever street that is in Green Bay just right around the corner from where he is some fairly nice shops go right up there.
- (B) Yeah yeah.
- (D) So that's from, I think it's both of their faults and its, I put more of the name on the people within the world of tattooing because they allow bad tattooist to stay in business and I think that's a big part of it if um people would you know, like Rick does where he puts people's names and those things on the wall where he says where it's done and how bad it is and everything.
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) I think that's it's up to people to be honest with themselves and say this guy seriously does not know that he is doing, you know somebody's got to say something and then pass it around because I mean like with any subculture word of mouth just gets around that you don't go see that particular tattooist. I think that would get rid an awful lot of if people would do it within the world of tattooing itself, you would turn probably a handful of excellent tattooist and I think the prestige marker would go up a lot just by doing that.
- (B) Yeah.
- (D) And I wish they would because then...
- (B) If they had to go through a sort of apprenticeship or something but that....
- (D) Cause I know Rick takes apprentices and there is others that do too.
- (B) Yeah that one that one girl that was at the convention.

- (D) Oh Daniel!
- (B) Who was in the magazine, yeah she is an apprentice under RoyBoy.
- (D) Yeah so I think it's predominantly that the tattooing worlds fault because there is no excuse for what is going on. There is enough people around, there is enough communication where people who just you know buy a kit through the mail and practice.
- (B) Yeah the fact that in the tattoo magazines they advertise that that makes no sense to me what so ever. They sit here and they show the work of these people you know and then in the back send for your kit! [Laughs]
- (D) Yeah and they criticize the people who don't do good tattoos and you look on the page and they have someone obviously who had a carnival unicorn done that is you know no one would want this thing on their skin and right below it there is a picture of someone's work like RoyBoy or Rick or Goldfinger or something like that and it just defeats the purpose completely you know cause there isn't any I guess upper crust at all so what are people supposed to think you know? It's just a puts kind of thing and you just take your chances.
- (B) And you are just lucky if you... a little Russian Roulette. Well would you change how tattooing is completed?
- (D) Yeah I would. I would change that just that it's um an art form but like you had said I wouldn't want it to become the thing that everybody is doing because that's part of the mastic behind it is that there is only certain people are going to do it. But I would change the recognition people should, you know because they are artist that excellent tattooist the masters should be recognized for you know executing art on skin but other than that as far as you know giving it a fair chance because people don't, they give it a fair chance. I would change that but as far as everyone getting them and it being this media glitz kind of thing, there's no way I would never want it to turn into that. Which I think is happening more or less just because of all the punk rock stars like Skid Row coming out and that's their claim to fame, it's that they you know there these bad boys and they have these tattoos of flaming Converse sneaker on my inner arm and I don't think so... they are to blame for stuff like that. I would defiantly um I would like to see the say where like a tattooist a master would be able to say something like I'm not doing just tattooing just because you want to piss off your parents I'm only doing like sleeves and...
- (B) Like they should ask people why they want?
- (D) Yeah.
- (B) Give me a good reason why I should give you a tattoo. [Laughs]
- (D) Yeah I don't think that would be such a bad thing you know for the tattooist to say that because um there...
- (B) I mean sure because it's their work that is going to be on these people you know?
- (D) Yeah and god there is thousands of people out there that just getting because you know oh well they would piss off my parents or I'd figured oh well..

- (B) Well think too is these people are going out with you know their work on them they'd want a little bit of respect for their work too you know. They don't want these people going out and saying yeah this piece of shit yeah I got this from, you want people who are going to be genuinely impressed with the work that they got. Say yes I got this from here.
- (D) Yeah and be able to get recognized for that, so I don't know there is a big problem with it I know that. That T's me off because sometime I plan on having like a major piece done and um Its really going to be a hassle when you have to you know you want to consult with the artist obviously before you start on something like that. You want to talk to them about it, you know how you want it to look and color and everything else but if he is all tied up doing you know a vengeance tattoo on some eighteen, nineteen year old, juvenile delinquent or whatever. That I means I have to wait that much longer and I am serious about, you know he's the artist he should have the right to be able to say, no I am not doing things like that I am only doing you know involved or genuine pieces. I'm not just doing like you know writing Mountain Dew on someone's back or something I'm not going to do it.
- (B) [Laughs]
- (D) A big Mountain Dew label on your back.
- (B) [Laughs] Well anymore comments on anything?
- (D) I can't really think of anything else. No other than it hasn't gotten a fair shake over the years, all the books, not all the books but the main stream books now that has been written by people who don't have tattoos and probably have a partial degree in psychiatry and a psychiatrist want everybody to believe that people with tattoos have some sort of mental problems and I don't think it's fair. I think that you know tattooed people um should be asked about it and be allowed to defend themselves and tell people what it really is instead of what the doctor in the office says it is across the table. So that all.

End of interview