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I grew up in the Bronx and attended Townsend Harris High School, graduating in 1936. CCNY was the only college I considered since it was tuition-free and I could not afford to attend a college that charged tuition fees.

I majored in sociology and took courses with Professors Joseph and Tomars, whom I remember well. I was also fond of Professor William Bradley Otis in English, Ralph Wardlaw in public speaking, William Guthrie in government and Professor Hastings who taught “Unattached 5,” a course in anthropological geography. The sociology courses were influential because they led to my choice of a career in social work. The course with Professor Hastings was also significant because I later went on to earn my doctorate in anthropology.

My four years at City College were a busy time for me since I worked as well as attended school. I was a printing and stationery salesman, Also, I was assigned by the Social Research Laboratory to serve as an interne in a Brooklyn settlement house. In addition to my job and my volunteer assignment, I courted the girl who later became my wife.

These pursuits precluded the possibility of any extra-curricular activities. I envied my fellow students who had the luxury of spending time in the Alcoves.



My master of social work degree was earned at the University of Pennsylvania (1942) and my PhD at the University of Toronto (1956). My studies at the University of Toronto included field work among the Eskimo (Inuit) and the Iroquois. My doctoral dissertation was published by the University of Washington Press. It dealt with Windigo Psychosis, a cannibal illness among the Cree and Ojibwa. It became the classical statement on the subject and is often cited. This was the first of eight books that I authored, edited or co-edited.

Shortly after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, I served in the U.S. Army for almost four years, three of them in the China-Burma-India Theater. I was a psychiatric social worker and clinical psychologist in an army general hospital where I was awarded a field commission. My first (of over 100) professional article was based on this experience: it appeared in the *American Journal of Psychiatry* in March, 1946.

Following World War II, I worked in Boston for the Veterans Administration as Chief Social Worker, New England. In 1948, I moved from Boston to Toronto where I began my academic career as an assistant professor and clinical teacher at the University of Toronto. In 1956, I was appointed as the first dean of what became the Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University. For two of my fifteen years at Yeshiva University, I was on leave to start a school of social work in Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia). Also, during that time, I helped to start a school of social work at Bar Ilan University in Israel.

In 1972, I moved from New York to Chapel Hill where I was appointed dean of the University of North Carolina School of Social Work. During my thirteen years in Chapel Hill, I had a leave to spend six months as a visiting professor in Jerusalem. Following my retirement in 1985, I settled in Miami where I still live.

In 1992, I became a part-time member of the Walden University faculty. This for-profit institution offers on-line degree programs. I teach in the human services doctoral program. Also, since retiring, I became a book reviewer, specializing in books of Jewish interest. My work appears regularly in the *Jewish Journal of South Florida*, the *National Jewish Post and Opinion*, *Indianapolis*, the *Buffalo Jewish Review*, and the *Jerusalem Post*. Between my work for Walden University and my book reviewing, I keep busy even though I am 89 years old.

I remain active in the Thomas Wolfe Society which I helped to found in 1980. I served as its president for four years and I continue as a member of the board. The Society awarded me its Certificate of Merit in 1992 for “dedicated service” and for my Wolfe scholarship. I have published several articles on Wolfe and one book, a pictorial biography that appeared in 1993.

Aside from my professional career, my greatest joy is my family. I was married for almost sixty years to Mickey Teicher, a Jewish art historian and museum director. She died in 1991. We had a daughter and a son who, together with



their spouses, live in Westchester County, not far from where they grew up. My daughter is vice president of the American Jewish World Service and my son is the chief executive officer of the American Booksellers Association. Each has three children and one of my granddaughters has two children so that I am a proud great grandfather. My six grandsons and granddaughters are all successful, accomplished people with degrees from Brown, Yale, University of Michigan, Evergreen State College, Barnard, Hobart, and Macalester. They live in New York, Tel Aviv, Washington, DC, Portland, Oregon and Los Angeles.