

**Transcript of Oral History Interview with
Robert Bloom
January 3, 2003**

Ogilvy: I've convinced the librarian here at Catholic to start an archive.

Bloom: Great.

Ogilvy: On clinical legal education.

Bloom: That's great.

Ogilvy: So, we're recording on mini digital video here; go back to the law school we create a couple of VHS tapes. I will send you a copy of the tape.

Bloom: Do; are you familiar with the archive at American?

Ogilvy: Yes.

Bloom: About . . .

Ogilvy: Yes.

Bloom: The Reggie program cause I think, there's a parallel there.

Ogilvy: Yeah, and I actually thought about putting the stuff there.

Bloom: Yeah.

Ogilvy: But, I'm not convinced they're going to last.

Bloom: Yeah. I don't; I wasn't overly impressed with; how they had organized.

Ogilvy: Yeah, yeah. They don't have much space. Much of the stuff now is off-sight and I just didn't want . . .

Bloom: (continuing) kind of an after-thought for American.

Ogilvy: So, that's where we're going.

Bloom: Good. How am I doing so far?

Ogilvy: You're doing great.

Bloom: Good, thank you.

Ogilvy: Looking good. First question I ask everybody is what was your first exposure to clinical legal education?

Bloom: I was a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow. I spent about a year in Savannah. It also was the first year of my marriage and my wife, Wesley College graduate and a feminist, didn't like double-dating and having to wear gloves. "I ain't wearing no gloves." Anyways, so we came back. I'm a Bostonian and I worked the Cambridge Summerville Legal Services in the Summerville office. And, at the Summerville office were Clarisa Bronson and Margery McDermott who were in Gary Bellows' program.

Ogilvy: What year are we talking about now?

Bloom: We're talking about 1972. And, I met Gary. And, I actually had; I didn't have the students, per say, but from time to time I supervised some of the students. Not direct supervision but kind of be there as a resource. I did public housing and juvenile. Those were my specialties. And, a Harvard student for a third-year paper did a report on public housing that talked about the various tenant activist in ways that wasn't very useful for their opponents, other tenant activists. So, the office got into lot of trouble. I had nothing to do with it. So, I got exposed to Harvard. You know, and the tenants were more upset that there was a paper about them at Harvard than anything. And, I think Gary felt badly for me, whatever, anyways. And, Gary was just incredibly charismatic person. I ended up attending a lot of his classes. So, so, I guess, you know, kind of the Bellow

program. And, Gary in particular led me in that direction and I was working a lot of hours cause I was doing public housing and I was coming home real late. And, had just come back from Savannah where I had worked on classification kind of problem. It was the first year of an integration order and all of the black kids were in the lowest level English classes and the white kids were in this high level class. And, I was representing a NAACP task force and; who; who the head of the NAACP had; was a real Uncle Tom, for lack of better; you know, been there for years and years; was just a do nothing. And, I represented a couple; the youth task was made up of these parents who had really smart kids; previous number one and two kids in the all black school and were scoring much better than most of the white kids in the all now; the sixty percent homeroom; sixty percent white, forty percent black, and they were doing better than most of these white kids who were in much higher level classes. Anyways, so, I mean, I thought hard and I came to; came to Summerville thinking I wouldn't have to fight quite so hard and then I was out till late at night. So, then I saw the Bellow thing and I said gee this is really good and I can create a whole generation of students to do social activism. And, while there, I was there for two years, and I probably could have stayed at Castles as a staff attorney but the dean of DC, Dick Huber, who was fond of me as a student said, hey you know, we've got this thing; we're trying to create this kind of clinical thing. So, I went over to the Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau back in 1973; September 73. That was a; anyways, but Gary Bellow was probably the biggest influence back then. I mean, his whole program. And, I went to all of his classes and you know.

Ogilvy: Just as a volunteer?

Bloom: Yeah. Gary. There were all of the Harvard students; his lawyering process class. You know, I'm going to say he had about a hundred students and I'll say he had about thirty of us, you know, kind of legal services, lawyers committee for civil rights, you know, do good attorneys also in the classroom. And, Gary didn't do any direct supervision back then. This was before the whole Jamaica plain project. And, he pretty much had these fellows do kinds of supervision in a variety setting. And, it was just; so, it was fun. And, I liked it and thought I'd try my hand at it.

Ogilvy: What year did you graduate?

Bloom: I graduated in 71; 1971, so two-year Reggie and then I went into clinical education my third year around.

Ogilvy: Right. What was the structure of your law school education? What did it look

like?

Bloom: There was a legal assistance bureau which I was a part of. There was one supervisor. His name was Bob Gluso, who actually; well, I shouldn't have said his name cause I'm about to say that he was stoned all the time. But, he looks fondly; I haven't seen him since then. And, he had his own caseload. And, I had forty or fifty cases. I'm not sure how much supervision; I had both civil and criminal cases. And, I'm sure I malpracticed big-time. And, I worked there during the summer. So, that was a, you know, important moment for me. I grew up in public housing. I was the first in my family to go to college and to law school. And, I had lots and lots of loans. So, I literally had a firm job. I did pretty well in law school so I had a firm job cause I was rejected for the Reggie, initially, and then I got called by Glenn Carr and he said, how does Savannah, Georgia sound? And, I looked it up on the map; no idea. I said, it looks like it's near a beach; that sounds good. You know, I told my firm, you know, sorry, you know. Don't ever call us again. You know, started as a Reggie and I think; trying to remember; I think it was ten thousand, five hundred, maybe. You probably didn't get that, but I think that's what it was though. It wasn't much, anyways.

Ogilvy: Yeah. Was the legal system, a credit class or is this just a . . . ?

Bloom: It was volunteer. It was for no credit as I recall. Barron, who's still at BC, came in at some point; I'm trying to remember; I think my third year and tried to turn it into a credit; I don't think I ever got credit for it though. That's my sense. And, I did; I did civil stuff my second year and criminal stuff my third year. Actually, my wife, who had just graduated Wesley, was an Executive Director there; was; she was chief cook and bottle washer. That's; that's where we met, so. Anyways, but it was a bunch of us sixty folks trying to do good. And, it was very satisfying. I mean, I really enjoyed it and got very little supervision and I got very little education but I cared about my clients and I think I did, you know, I think I did okay. I don't want to say that I; it was an interesting experience.

Ogilvy: Was it through that exposure that you heard about the Reggies?

Bloom: No, no. I applied for the Reggies; yeah, I knew about the Reggies cause I always thought that's what I would want to do. So, yeah, I think I kind of knew about it and it was what I wanted to continue to do.

Ogilvy: So, when you go back to BC in 1973 then what's there?

Bloom: Well, Don Stern, who was my second mentor, had come from; had an LLM at; I want to say; I think he went to Georgetown and got an LLM at Penn. Do they have; do you know?

Ogilvy: I don't remember.

Bloom: And, I think there was a Tony Amsterdam connection with Don and he came and he was there about a year before I came and he basically set up the structure which was a lawyering process, civil clinic. That's kind of how it started. And, then while I was there I created, with a fellow named Gary Fenton, who is a former legal services lawyer out in Springfield who is now a named partner in this firm out there, a criminal program because it used to be all mushed together; and, did the, you know, which still exist, as has the civil program at BC. The criminal process program; so I was sort of; Gary and I were sort of the founders of that and did that a couple of years and did the civil thing for a couple years and then did an advance litigation thing where we took the bigger cases and worked with students for a few years. So, I came in 73 and then Bob Smith, who is now the Dean at Suffolk and a good friend of mine, came, I think, in 75 as Fenton left. And, Don left to become; and Bob did the civil end of things and then I did the criminal end of things at the Boston College Legal Systems Bureau. And, Don Stern went to

work for the Attorney General's Office and kept his title with BC as he ran the Attorney General Clinic. And, then, ultimately, you know, left entirely but the Attorney General Clinic still exists. Also, around that time, after Bernie was; started the Urban League Laboratory program which was a big externship program with The Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. And, Gary Laser spent the year doing that and Bob Condlin spent a little time doing that. And, then, at some point; I'm trying to remember; around 77, 78, I'm not exactly sure, Hubert said, you guys are, you know, you're a part of this teaching enterprise; oh, before that he asked me to teach Criminal Procedure. So, it was during criminal process that I thought that would be a really good opportunity. So, I did it and I was really successful at that. So, the combination of things and because Dick Hubert in his own way was a visionary, said, you know, you guys are really doing as much as anybody else, and you should be on a tenure tract. So, what they did is, they opened up the whole process to the entire world.

Ogilvy: What year was that?

Bloom: I want to say 77 or 78. We basically all applied for our own . . .

Ogilvy: (interrupting) and how many of you?

Bloom: . . . positions; well, there was Kathy Mitchell, who had come out of the Harvard program and there was; but I'm not sure she applied. I think she ended up doing some other stuff; left the law kind of thing. And, it was Bob Smith. Bob Smith, myself and Kathy Mitchell were the original ones that basically applied for this position along with thousands of others as it turned out. And, I got it. And, then ran the Urban Legal Laboratory and then at some point we hired Mark Spiegel, who had just not gotten tenured Penn; I'm trying to remember. I've got it all mushed up but; and he also had a tenured track position. And, then we hired Phyllis Goldfarb to run a Criminal Process Program as I was running the Urban Legal Laboratory. And, then I sort of; with Jennifer Rowcow who is absolutely one of the best clinicians I have ever met and worked her head off but didn't write. And, at that time, you know, you didn't write you didn't write. And, she ran the criminal process program and Goldfarb replaced her. So, oh yeah, so, Jennifer Rowcow, Bob Smith and myself; those are the three were hired for these positions. And, Bob kind of opted for; to be hired; he wanted to be hired for Civil Procedure and clinic; that he worked out a deal at some point with Spiegel and they split their time together. I ended up; I always thought clinician lot of different things that I thought there would be; it was important to cross fertilize so that some of us . . . so I did civil as I and I got going doing that; at some point do criminal or Urban Legal or an externship; bring that experience. But we never had a Clinical Director. That never went off and everybody sort of became

protective of their own programs. And, then I was good in the classroom so they wanted to use me for Civil Procedure and I ended up leaving ULL but I still kept my finger in clinical; to this day I've done judicial process which Jennifer Rowcow and I kind of started. You know, and its students working with six superior court judges. They see different judges during the period a semester. They don't really work with them. It's an observation thing, but it keeps my finger into something clinical. And, at some point I did do Criminal Process again. I think when Philip went on sabbatical or something; just to get back into it. But, I appreciate my roots and I don't forget my roots.

Ogilvy: In the early years and maybe later were they all single faculty clinics or did you work together?

Bloom: At the legal assistance bureau I worked pretty close with Bob Smith, especially in the advanced civil, kind of program. And, I worked with Don Stern; Gary Fenton and I worked together doing civil and some criminal. We were both sort of; we both; we all did all things. So, yeah, and that's the thing that I think I most remember is, you know, we team teach; we do all those kinds of things that judicial academics don't do. So, yeah, so that's something I miss a good bit. Although, I've got a Criminal Procedure book which I wrote with a colleague of mine; Mark Broden, who's formally (inaudible) for civil rights. And, you know,

so I feel like there's some of that but certainly not in the teaching way that we did clinic.

Ogilvy: What kind of materials did you use as you started out?

Bloom: It was hard not to use Bellow's material cause, you know, people would go and watch his class and say, wow. And, he really thought things through in a way that nobody had ever thought of before. So, I largely had my notes from; his class was before his book with Bea Molten was out. So, I had the prototype, I guess. And, then we put together our own material. And, I; and, when I was teaching the criminal thing I just put together a hand book. I never used the Molten-Bellow book cause I pretty much put together my own material which is largely still being used by clinical process in different ways. Criminal process; we had to get; back when I was doing it we had to get the students up to snuff within three weeks, so there was this intensive kind of program, so, cause they wasn't going to let them represent folks until they knew what they were doing. So, it was; it was more of a more, how to do it, and then we refined it as the semester went along. But, we had to make sure that they were ready to act. And, I; you know, the other thing I was going to say; I think, initially, many, many years ago there was tension with me and somebody like Spiegel who came in. Spiegel was a true clinical teacher. I was; I always thought of clinical teaching as a way to do

service. So, I had real problems; and, as a student I had forty, fifty cases, whatever; I had real problems with reducing case load to three or four. You know, and I thought they overdid the cases and spent more time on interviewing and counseling skills and less time on service. And, there's a part of me that still believes this; that the service piece, exposing these kids, most of whom didn't come from the same background that I did; exposing them to poor people was as an important educational function and being responsible for some of these poor people, was as important as teaching them interview skills or lawyering skills. And, I thought they could get plenty of that and get the service thing, so, I mean; so, so, yeah, I sort of felt like we weren't servicing like we had and I didn't like that.

Ogilvy: What kind of cases were you doing?

Bloom: When I was doing civil, you know, divorce, landlord-tenant, consumer, lotto welfare hearings, social security hearings, there's no specialization back then. In the criminal cases I originally did the defense. They only created a prosecutor thing, so I be; and, then at some point there was a; I would run the program which was a little uncomfortable cause I had some students doing prosecution, some students doing defense. And, I had a separate prosecutor but it was a tad uncomfortable. But, it did allow for great kinds of teaching moments because of

those differences. What was your question? I'm sorry. So, so, and in the criminal and, mostly, you know, misdemeanors, lot of driving kinds of defenses, driving under; driving while license is suspended, small-time larcenies and some assault and batteries but nothing terribly serious.

Ogilvy: Did you start the prosecution clinic before or after you did your sabbatical at the District Attorney's office?

Bloom: Before; it was in existence. It was in existence. And, I did; I was teaching Criminal Procedure and I didn't want the stomach pains that I'd have every time one of my defendants went to jail. So, I wanted more control. And, I worked for a great guy. I worked for Bill Delahunt who's now in Congress and is really a tremendous guy. And, he had me into his office, I think three months after I started. He said, Bob you've now nolle prosequi 19 cases. And, I said, Bill they were dogs. So he says, well, I thought you were on the take or something. Whatever. So, it's a good thing cause I like the power.

Ogilvy: How did you decide to do that?

Bloom: I actually helped Fisher who teaches at BU who's a good guy; teaches Criminal Procedure. He said I'd like to do something real. You know, I've been in academic. You know and he knew I was clinical. So, I got him. Most; most of the district attorneys were DC graduates so I could make some calls. So, I got him there and he really had a great experience. And, I wanted to find a way to do jury trials because I see jury trials as a way of teaching. And, I wanted a real sabbatical where I was doing something totally different. And, so I did; I ended up doing about 35 jury trials; small-time stuff but it was still; it was a; it was; and it was like teaching. It was a good experience.

Ogilvy: Were you treated like a new?

Bloom: I was; I was entirely accepted. Yeah, I had taught at this point; I had taught Criminal Procedure for about six years when I started; when I went to the DA's office. And, and, the first day I was there, you know, somebody filed a motion to suppress and they got lost in the shuffle and they needed somebody to respond; that I could respond off the top of my head, so I took this defense attorney who I became good friends with. I; you know, he was saying, aw, who is this guy, you know; you know and so, you know, one of my colleagues said, well, he was a teacher. You know, and he's just here, you know, just whatever. This is his first day. So the guy could see him; red meat, you know, he's really happy. And,

anyway, they took him to the cleaners. It was fun. It was fun.

Ogilvy: Yeah, yeah. As you were starting out doing; doing supervision.

Bloom: Yeah.

Ogilvy: You know, I assume that because Gary didn't do a lot of supervision that; that you didn't have an observational model there. How did you build?

Bloom: You know, I saw; I sort of watched Clarisa and Margery. And, Gary did talk about it and go to those meetings where he would meet with his fellows. So, it wasn't as though he didn't talk about it. And, I sort of; I knew what I had for supervision was nonexistent as a clinician. And, you know, I sort of knew I didn't want to spoonfeed the students and I was probably more spoonfeedy initially and then I got more Socratic and helped them find the answer. But, I was coming at it more from the service point of view. So, I didn't want malpractice and I wasn't going to spend a lot of time at the expense of them handling other cases. And, I think, initially, I wasn't a particularly good clinician because if I thought my client; the client was going to get hurt I took over which is; I shouldn't have done.

And, I felt guilty about it. But, I didn't tolerate not doing their work. And, I gave students that I thought had a lot of responsibility and were good, I gave them less direction. And, the students that needed it, I guess they did less discovering with me. I mean, it was probably more spoonfeeding. But, I evolved, I think. I mean, and then I started to go to; meet other clinicians and we would talk about it. And, we, you know, it all kind of evolved as I was doing it. And, then, I thought the experience was good.

Ogilvy: Where did you meet other clinicians?

Bloom: At different, you know, the AALS and different conferences and we touched bases. We had a; a recollection is we used to have stuff back in the late 70s, you know, with the folks in Boston and we'd sit around and talk about things. And, Gary did some stuff. You know, we'd all go cause he was, you know, a legend. So, yeah, we did; I did some of that. And, you know, I can't say because there was no clinical director and we all had our own little programs. So, at one point I was running ULL. Jennifer was running criminal process and Bob was running the lab along with Spiegel. We didn't talk much. And, we all covetest resources. And, that was unfortunate. And, then, at some point Carol Liebman who's at the lab wanted to do ULL and they wanted me to do civil procedure anyways, so; and, I was tired of doing ULL. So, I got out of it. I just evolved. You know, and

they; I wrote and I got tenure and it was a whole lot easier to do traditional classroom teaching. And, I knew that the coin of the round was writing and that kind of stuff, so I did less clinical, but I kept; I still, to this day, you know, I got six students starting up to do judicial process. So, I always kept, you know, there hasn't been a year where I haven't done something that I regarded as some clinical.

Ogilvy: Tell me a little bit more about the ULL.

Bloom: The ULL when I took it over, it had been started by Bernie through the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights. And, it maybe had six to eight students and they all were up in cases at the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and they would meet. It was like a lawyer office thing. It was full time. And, they would meet weekly and discuss their cases and things like that. It was; it just fell right in nicely with the late 60s and early 70s political commitment, etc. And, Bob Condlin did it for a year or two and Gary Laser did it for a year and Kathy Mitchell did it as I recall. And, when I took over Kathy started to move away from the lawyers committee. But, both; I think Gary Laser had his office at the lawyer's committee. So, he was literally part of the team being paid by BC at the lawyer's committee. Fewer students wanting to do the civil rights stuff and I saw the ULL as an opportunity for students who didn't do lab and things like that to do other kinds of things, like

students who were interested in education. I got them to work at the mass advocacy center that was dealing with kids; Chins kids and special needs kids and getting educational plans and things like that. I placed kids at Stern and Shapiro. Max Stern is a big death penalty advocate and they were a private firm but they did employment discrimination. And they did civil rights violation stuff. So, I expanded it. And, then while I was doing it, you know, I got students interested in more kinds; so I expanded it but it was within the public interest. And, then, you know, economy and students wanted to do more in other things that didn't necessarily involve the public interest like entertainment law. So, initially, I was able to find a placement with a former student of mine who was general counsel at channel 2, WGBH. And, which is the public television's channel. So, I got somebody there. So, that made me feel good. But, then I; they wanted more, you know, so; so, I; it was largely public, you know, then they wanted judges. That was a cool thing; to work with judges. So, I got some with Dave; David Nelson was the first African American federal court judge in Boston, so I got somebody with David Nelson. And, then with Bill Young. And, so, I expanded it and it ended up being a lot of judges. Some kids wanted to do labor. So I found somebody that represented unions. There weren't many. And, that was good. But, then more wanted that. So they had to find NLRB or the; but I sort of resisted the actual private; the big private firm. And, I didn't want them because I wanted to, you know, I'd say, the kid will be there for thirty-five hours a week and I want at least ten hours of documented education cause that's a pay. So, the large firms didn't really want that, so. And, they wanted to choose and I was the

one who chose. So, I would have students; I'd give them four choices. And, they would go and they'd sort of see where they meshed. You know and I'd be there. It was a; it was an externship program but I was fulltime observing that and I would meet with the students after at their office. This was, you know, from the old lawyer committee model, you know, once every two weeks. I'd see the students once a week in class, and we'd, you know, we'd talk about different things. So, they really did get good supervision even though their work was the payment to the externships and, you know, I'd often intervene if they weren't getting that. And, they; they died for our students. I mean, they got more and more; our students were good. So, so, I thought that worked pretty well. And, it's still going on.

Ogilvy: How many students?

Bloom: I had eighteen. But, see, once again, you know, I was; I worked hard. You know, and I used to supervise, gosh, I used to supervise twenty kids and, you know, and now the models are much different. And, I, you know, I understand it. I'm not minimizing it. But, I thought they got pretty good education. And, the ULL, I think it was easier to supervise eighteen. It was; just cause I wasn't directly supervising them. Occasionally, I'd work on a case but it would have had to be in line with Stern and Shapiro; something like that. Anyway

Ogilvy: Thirty-five hours a week they were there?

Bloom: Yeah. It was full time; full time. And, what was kind of neat after I had; so, I must have done that for about six years; seven or eight years; seven years. I'd have to look at my resume to figure it all out. After some of my former ULL students became my supervisors, which was ideal, so that was really quite satisfying.

Ogilvy: You said earlier that; that you'd get together occasionally with people; other clinicians in Boston?

Bloom: Yeah.

Ogilvy: Were you ever involved in national meetings?

Bloom: Not too much. Yeah, I'd come. Jennifer Rowcow was more involved, you know,

but, you know, I'd come and I knew people like Dean Rifkin. And, I knew; gosh, he's at Cleveland, David Branchier. You know, so I knew all those old, you know, and Elliott Milstein, you know, so, I would; I would come and go to them and whatever was offered I probably went to a couple of them. I didn't go yearly as now I know there's been stuff going on every year for a long time.

Ogilvy: Anything stand out in your memory?

Bloom: Just the people I met. I mean, I can't say that I got a lot out of it. I actually got more out of I went to a Civil Procedure conference at Cornell; must have been 83, 84, that; something like that. And, people showed how they taught different subjects and I thought that bringing in my clinical kind of pedagogy and showed them how they could use real live things, especially in something like civil procedure, you don't have to be a brain surgeon to figure that out; they would, aw, this is the greatest thing of all times. So, so, I do remember that. I remember that conference and I got a lot out of other people seeing how they taught; particular subjects that I had taught. So, that I found to be very, very worthwhile. And, I actually thought the thing that you ran at Catholic was very, very good. You know, different methods of supervision and stuff like that. It was the only thing for externship kind of program. Yeah, I thought that was; that was really good.

Ogilvy: Are you still in Civil Procedure?

Bloom: Yeah. I didn't do it this; I was in Japan in the fall so

Ogilvy: Are you still in some clinical aspects of it?

Bloom: Oh yeah, you know, I use real pleadings and, you know, and if there's cases going on I'll try to get some of that stuff. And, I've been using the Buffalo Creek disaster but there are other cases that I bring in cause I think that's important. And, one of the things that sort of got me out of the clinic was myself, Spiegel, Smith, this guy Mike Broden, Frank and one other person, who I'm forgetting, but at least three clinicians, were involved in this introduction to lawyering of professional responsibility, which is a first-year course, and we all taught; Smith and I taught civil procedure as well as Spiegel. So, we gave up some of our civil procedure credits so that they actually did pleadings and answers and stuff like that when we originally founded it. And, every first-year student took it in groups of thirty-five and basically litigated against each other. And, it still exists but it's now more of this counseling and interviewing thing and I don't like doing it. You know, I did it two, three years ago, but it changed from our original model where

we really did do a simulated; and then those kids were fabulous coming into the clinic cause they had a better sense of what we were looking for. So, it was able; you were able to do the clinic at a more sophisticated level I thought than we were able; than we did before, so, so. And, that still exists but not; the civil clinic has become much more of a counseling kind of thing. And, I think those are just the interest of the people and I just didn't; never had those interest then.

Ogilvy: Where do you see yourself going next?

Bloom: I've got this international thing. I just got back from Japan where they're about to institute a new jury system. And, they're also instituting three-year law schools. So, they're very interested in clinical and they're very interested in trial practice kind of stuff. So, you know, I think I like that idea. You know, I do a good bit of, you know, radio stuff, especially the local at WBY, the public radio station cause I see that as my job as a teacher, so I don't; I rarely will do local television cause it's like a two-second sound bite but I really like doing the public radio stuff or, you know, cable or talk thing where I'm on for longer than a second and a half.

Ogilvy: What kind of topics do you?

Bloom: Mostly Criminal Procedure-type topics or, or trial stuff like the judge in a lot of trouble and they're talk to me cause that's part of the judicial process or jury stuff. So, a lot of the civil and criminal stuff that I do.

Ogilvy: What's the existing model in Japan?

Bloom: Four years undergraduate and they are, you know, say there are thirty thousand people that sit for the lawyer exam and only six hundred pass. So, now with this three-year law school they're going to have to open up the bar for people who went through this three-year program. Ironically, there are many people who are non-lawyers who work for the Sony Corporation or the Mitsubishi, you know, the big Japanese corporations, that would be lawyers here cause the bar is wide open. So, they push for this reform. So, yeah, they're about to, you know, not next fall but the fall after, they're about to open three-year law schools. There's, you know, about fifteen of them ready to take off.

Ogilvy: That's three years post graduate?

Bloom: Right. So, there's real opportunities for clinical and for trial practice and they're also instituting a jury system. So, so, I mean, it's; quite a reform is going on. So, I'm interested to see how this new law school works and I think given my background, I think, I think I can help them in different ways. So, so that's kind of what I see. Oh, and I'm also; I'm going to Siberia. David and I; David is at BU; and their; looking at their clinical program and seeing how; how they run it. This was; Boston is the sister city with Tonks, so I got involved in it through some judges. So, so, I kind of see more of an international kind of place. And, it's; and, you know, there are times that I offered to do criminal process. I'd rather do the criminal stuff but it's never kind of worked out cause I'm stuck in civil procedure and I can't do it cause I needed the freedom to have the court time. So, I haven't done that for a while. But, I'm not opposed to doing it. I mean, I haven't forgotten it; my roots.

Ogilvy: Are you still writing?

Bloom: Yeah, I just; I just published a book called, *Rattling*, the use and abuse of informants in the criminal justice system with a chapter on, none other than Linda Tripp and Whitey Bulger and some jailhouse informants. And, then I've got a fourth amendment treatise; it's about to come out. Yeah, no, yeah; I'm still and I'm writing; I just wrote something for the jury trials for the Japanese federation

of bars and I got something in the ABA criminal justice thing on jailhouse informants. Yeah, I do a; do a good bit.

Ogilvy: Yeah, yeah.

Bloom: Good bit of writing, which; Dick Huber, as I say, who got us all in this; when it came time for us to; so we got all on a tenure track and when it came time for us to get tenured I always felt that we had to do more because we had to prove ourselves. And, they weren't; back then nobody was talking about just doing briefs. It was, you know, articles with footnotes and lots of footnotes. So, so, you know, I realize I could make a contribution in a way. You know, probably one of the things I'm most proud about that got; that didn't even get looked at for tenure decision, was a thing I wrote for the mass continuing legal education. I'm representing a parent who was the subject of child abuse and neglect proceedings. You know, and I had people calling me; real people, you know, who are out there and they really appreciated it cause I put it in a context and I gave them the cases. So, I think, you know, and that's what; that's always what I; cause it's my social conscience piece and that I thought I could teach more. So, I always felt guilty leaving the clinic but I tried to instill that in my students. But, that's a piece I was; was kind of most proud about; that kind of stuff. Anyways, so

Ogilvy: When you were converted to the tenure track?

Bloom: Yeah.

Ogilvy: Was it just a straight conversion or did you have to reapply for your job?

Bloom: I had to reapply. There was a nationwide search and it was really uncomfortable too. It wasn't comfortable at all. But, I did it. And, I had done such a good job and I had done; I think; I think the thing that got me the job was the fact that I had got such incredibly good reviews teaching Criminal Procedure which was can teach like everybody else. You know, and a propensity to write. Nothing, you know, small things but; but at least the propensity. So, you know, something on rent control, though, whatever, survey of mass laws; stuff I picked up while I was doing, you know, cases that I had worked on I turned into articles. Yeah, so that was kind of uncomfortable. And, then getting; tenure was once again, you know, you had a; it was uncomfortable. And, I was the first. Jennifer never got it and Bob got it two years after I did. So, I was the first cause I was more concerned cause I didn't have the pedigree that Smith, you know, University of Chicago, law school, you know, top of his class, so; near the top of his class and Jennifer, who I

think was the University of Pennsylvania, you know, I went to BC and they weren't inclined to hire their own. You know, all that kind of crap. So, I felt a more; a need to pledge the paternity and get it done; anyways.

Ogilvy: We're just about through with these.

Bloom: You must get tired of all these. They must be the specific date. I've totally forgotten.

Ogilvy: Well, is there; is there anything that we haven't talked about that we should talk about?

Bloom: No. I think you're right. I mean, there was a real; not only were we isolated from others although we tried to meet and it was mostly around Bellow. We were clearly isolated from the rest of the faculty. And, when I was a student, I mean, it was like; it was extra-curricular but it was; it was most of my legal education. My recollection it was most of my legal education it was representing. This is why; this is why I became a lawyer to represent people who were otherwise not able to afford a lawyer. So, but that was totally extra; extra-curricular. So, I think

coming from that root I had real reaction to reducing case load, you know, credit, credit, credit, credit. Believe me, I recognize the importance of it all but I was a bit of a dinosaur with regard to that.

Ogilvy: (laughs)

Bloom: Yeah. Okay. Alright, Sandy, thank you.

Ogilvy: Thank you, very much.

Bloom: My pleasure.