

Carmen Pegiero (Nate Smith House)

I'm from Bani in Santo Domingo. I was born January 21, 1930. My family was very poor. We lived in the country and my father worked in agriculture. I shared a home with my mother, father, brothers and sisters. There wasn't even any television to entertain us. In that time the people were very good, very humble, neighbors were like brothers. The people were very united.

I grew up in the countryside and I attended school for three months out of the year with other children from the fields. I enjoyed going to school and I went to learn. Although I learned a lot in school, I have learned that experience is the best teacher. When I was young I liked playing and singing with my friends from the village. I clearly remember my quinceañera and the party that we had. Life was were poor, but we were happy.

When I married I calmed down and found some form of peace. I had a wonderful life with my husband and children. We worked very hard, but we survived and got ahead. We enjoyed relaxing and going to the beach. I have three children here; one in New York and another in Santo Domingo. I have grandchildren here as well.

My husband, Manuel Peguero, and I have been together for forty years. I had nine children. It has been four years since my husband died. Now I'm alone. Fortunately, I have many friendships.

At this time of life there are many people my age dying.

Carmen Pegiero (en Español)

Soy de Bani en Santo Domingo. Nací 21 de Enero de 1930. Mi familia era muy pobre. Vivíamos en el campo y mi papa era agricultor. Vivía con mi papa, mi mama, y mis hermanos. No ni había televisión para entretenernos. En aquel tiempo la gente era muy buena, muy humilde, los vecinos eran como hermanos. La gente era muy unida.

Crecí en una parte del campo, y fue a colegio para tres meses del ano para aprender con otros niños del las tierras. Me gustaba la escuela y asistí para aprender. Aunque aprendí mucho en la escuela, la experiencia has sido la mejor maestra. En mi niñez me gustaba jugar y cantar con mis amiguitas del pueblo. Me acuerdo claramente de mí y la fiesta que tuvimos. Era una vida pobre pero feliz.

Cuando me case me trasquilase y encontré un tipo de pas. T uve una buena vida con mi esposo y mis hijos. Trabajábamos mucho pero sobrevivimos y salimos adelante. Nos gustábamos relajar e ir a la playa. Tengo tres hijos uno un Nueva York, otro en Santo Domingo ... tengo nietos aquí.

Mi esposo, Manuel Peguero, nos quedamos juntos para cuarenta anos. Tengo nueve hijos. Ya hace cuatro anos desde que mi esposo murió. Ya estoy sola. Afortunadamente, tengo muchas amistades.

A esas alturas hay mucha gente muriendo.