

Oral History Interview  
Rev. Ray I. Witter  
August 28, 1964

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MR. BARBASH: Rev. Witter, could you, now, tell us a little bit about the veiling of the sisters, what is the belief based on and what form of veiling do the sisters wear?

REV. WITTER: This is centered upon Corinthians, which has already been cited, and we notice in the scripture there Jesus or where the apostle, Paul, rather makes clear that man's head should be uncovered, in as much as he is the Glory of god, and woman being created for the man—man is her head and we look upon it like this—Christ is our head and then man and then woman this sign of authority by the prayer veiling gives her the right to pray or prophecy in service, public assemblies, the same as anyone else. We call it a prayer veiling but the same word says that a woman's head could be covered, or a revised version veiled in her approach in recognition of her head and as her being in subordination. The prayer veilings were usually of a white material and made conveniently to be worn on the head in public worship and there are those that felt to wear it more to the extent that whenever they prayed they felt that they should have their head veiled.

MR. BARBASH: Rev. Witter, could you describe the two different types of covering that the women wear?

REV. WITTER: Yes, there is the prayer veiling—this prayer veiling required something different to fit and be practical so women wore a bonnet which was placed over the prayer veiling as a matter their own making and the two go together really from a practical standpoint.

*Historical Note: Rev. Ray I. Witter was a first cousin to Dwight D. Eisenhower. His mother was a sister to David Eisenhower, Dwight's father.*