

Collecting Evidence: Oral History

Historians spend their time evaluating claims. One way to build strong evidence that a claim is true is if it is reported by multiple sources. You can practice this skill by listening to oral histories and looking for similar details in the stories told by the subjects. You may listen to oral histories about the Tulsa Race Massacre here:

Tulsa Historical Society

<https://www.tulsa-history.org/exhibit/1921-tulsa-race-massacre/audio/>

Voices of Oklahoma

<https://m.voicesofoklahoma.com/>

As you begin, write down the name of the interview subject and where you found the interview. As you listen, jot down the topics the interview subjects discuss under their name. When you are done, compare the topics and look for agreement.

More agreement suggests the detail is accurate...although sometimes this may not be the case! What reasons can you think of that might cause people who were involved in an event to tell stories with inaccurate details?

Name of Subject:	Name of Subject:	Name of Subject:
Source:	Source:	Source: