



Interviewed: Dr. Anthony R. Melman
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(Anthony)

As a little one Saxonwold School was very much, you know, predominately Jewish. I didn't go to the high school that a lot of my friends went to. I went to a Methodist boarding school. And it was quite funny because we singled ourselves out for good reason, because of academic performance, because of some reason. It was a school called Kearsney College and there were about four hundred boys and there were thirty Jewish boys. And I took great pride in being the first schoolboy who established a rock 'n' roll band at this Methodist boarding school. And, of course, I was Jewish, so you know that was wow, you know, how does this happen? And I do have fond memories. I mean in many ways the Jewish boys together, we become very cohesive. I remember sitting in chapel and when it came to morning prayers we didn't have to bow our heads.

The point is, it was a strong Jewish identity amongst the group of thirty. I remember in my bar mitzvah piece from a record that was made by my teacher. And I played it and I sang along with it and, you know, the Jewish part of me was still there and the Jewish holidays obviously. And I think also being at a non-Jewish school there was always the friction, being called a bloody Jew, and having fights and all of that. It just made me more aware and stronger and more proud of being a Jew.

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