

# You have a stone that you roll - Transcription

## **DON**

It was a lot of sharing, and empowering that was going on. It was a thrilling time. We were making history. We knew we were making history. We were giving our brothers and sisters a real voice, for a change because they were shut out by the psychiatric establishment and the media, and still are being shut out by the media!

## **BONNIE**

Because it came out and people could see a book like this could come out, it paved the way for other books, which then were critical to the survival. Books like Irit Shimrat's and so on. I think it set the stage for people then saying okay why don't I have a book where I interview survivors and write a history on the survivor movement. So I think it was like an early—you know you have a stone that you roll then you have a bunch of others—I think it set everything going. In fact it was never exactly our primary project, it was something we did. Well we did all these demonstrations and all this activism, and all this, right?

## **DON**

Yes. Well see the book like *Phoenix Rising* as a major organizing tool—aside from other ways to characterize the book. To give a voice, but it was an organizing tool the way *Phoenix Rising*, the way we reached out to a lot of different groups in Canada and the United States. They knew about it. So I think it did help to bring people together and to break their silence. It's still hard for psychiatric survivors to go public. There was a...Bonnie's probably right, it did attract readership from the feminist community but there were a number of people getting more active.