

BIRKNER: And Don can testify that the stuff gets used and it will be for a long time. There's always going to be new articles and books written about the Senate in the 1960s and you're going to be in some of those books, I think, down the line. You don't know this, but I'm proud to say that one of my former students, who was one of my worst students, recently won a prize for a book on the Senate, for the southern Democrats' opposition to civil rights legislation over 30 years. If you had told me that this fellow would write a prize-winning book—I wrote a blurb for it, in fact—I would have said you were crazy. But when people are 19 years old, they're not necessarily the same people when they're 28 or older. But he must have, presumably, used some of these collections to write that.

MURPHY: Had he gone on for a Ph.D.?

BIRKNER: He did. He did. And he teaches at a Louisiana University now.

MURPHY: Yeah, marvelous.

BIRKNER: So surprise, surprise. But it's an example of the kind of work that can shed new light on the Senate.

MURPHY: Yeah.

RITCHIE: Exactly. Well, thank you so much for coming in today.

MURPHY: Well, Don, thank you very much. I've enjoyed it immensely.

RITCHIE: Very good. We will send you a transcript just as Michael did and you'll have a chance to revise and extend your remarks.

MURPHY: Well, I will be very discreet. [Laughing]

End of the Second Interview