

before. But, ever since I was a kid, it seemed like my mother was always the one to make my decisions and so this was one time I was going to make a decision on my own and I was going to try to do it on my own and see if I could and I did. . . . Then I told my mother, my sisters. . . . I decided then that if I can survive this I can do anything, and so I did.

My . . . uncle . . . thought he had to keep his distance so that he would not get . . . the cancer . . . He didn't say it, but I could sense it. . . .

**Ruth Demit** [Athabaskan]



**Annie Williams**  
[Yupik]

I got no family . . . I got cousins, my aunt's daughters and sons she's the one she raised me . . . I had two kids, Johnny and Theresa. When . . . my husband drowned in Aleknay (sp?) when they were small and I take care of them. They grow up and we still live in Aleknay, Johnny he was 20 years old grow up and he start hunting for me, . . . he drowned when he was 20 years old. And I only got one left, Theresa and then Theresa finished the high school and we moved here and she went to school down Astoria Oregon . . . She got killed there.

. . . so they operate on me and my brothers and my sisters come and my sons they come and talk to me all the time.

**Mary Lou Calabaza** [Santo Domingo Pueblo]

