Jonathan Quang

English Interview

Jonathan: Why did you leave Vietnam?

Nick Quang: Because the commie-what was it - communist they coming - by the time (insert pause). Me, 16 years old. I live with my brother. He was ...21 years old. We left around 1990... 1990... actually in June of 1979.

Jonathan: How did you leave?

Nick: On a boat, I paid with si-lion. That was about 10 ounces of gold. Money was worthless. Nobody wanted it. Two si-lion, two tickets. One for me, one for my brother. The trip was...hope. Life in Vietnam was poor. In Hong Kong, I could make more money and send it back.

Jonathan: What was the trip like?

Nick: The boat was about ninetee... nineteen foot. Nineteen foot. - feet. It had a small engine on the side. My boat had about 300 people. 300 people son. And on the first day, we ran out of water and food. The only thing we eat was a small cookie for each one. And luckiliz, it had heavy rain. We used the plastic to get the water to drink. What else?

Jonathan: What did you do in Hong Kong?

Nick: The trip took six days. Six days without the food and no water. And we went to Hong Kong refuge. The Hong Kong refuge sit on the boat. We cannot stretch. We were placed in a refugee camp.

Jonathan: How did you come to America and adapt here?

Nick: My uncle lived in New York. He applied for us to come to America. I listened to songs and learned perfect broken English.