# Audio file

[Helena.mp3](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

# [Transcript](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[You don't work for healthcare system, right?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[No.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[And can you please tell me a little more about yourself, your age, occupation and educational background, and how long have you? Lived in this.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK, so I'm from course, Anchorage, AK and I AM 50 years old, about to turn 50. 51 I'm from Huslia, Alaska. I'm Athabaskan Indian. I work at South Central Foundation. I've been there for 10 years. I was a substance abuse counselor for 10 years. 15 years. She's almost. And now I'm a supervisor for some employees at a healthcare system.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Thank you. And how do you think about vaccines generally?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Well, I never had an issue with them and then I just saw something on TV the other day about somebody getting a vaccine and then got polio in another country. So it really it actually like we think a little bit about. What do I know about vaccines? You know? And I guess I don't know too much, except for I've had them and I haven't had a reaction. Thank God. So I'm pro vaccines.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Uh-huh. And did you have any? Do you have any people? I mean, friends, colleagues or even your family or your around community, that is against vaccine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah, I have one friend. Actually. I just have two of the name that I wanted to give you, which I didn't get her. Phone number right as I left. Which I I will she's against vaccines so wanted to get she she just didn't have she was younger probably 20 you know like mid 20s and she didn't tell me the reason she just said that she wouldn't quit a job for.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Then what was the rule?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Because at SCF, where we were, if you didn't get the COVID vaccine, then you forfeited your job. So I know a couple of people who've left due to that, but this the one that I talked to today, she didn't tell me why must be not enough information, I think.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. And it was only before the COVID vaccine or all kind of vaccine?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[For her, I think it was all kinds from what it sounded like it, but she did. I think what I think they had to get a TV one, she got that. But there was a test. This now wasn't a vaccine. So I don't know really 100%.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. And this thing people around you or make this friend that was against vaccine was under influence of social media because social media in that era was, yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah, I don't. Yeah, I think so. I well for her age, I would guess so, you know. Because all that misinformation out there, and sometimes people only see what they want to see.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah. And what about about the like, very unique environment of Alaska. Have you ever heard that because we live in a remote area, so government doesn't care very much about us. They want to do some experiment on us.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Ohh.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Ohh, they did. Oh my God, they did in the 70s and the Fifties, 60s and 70s. Boy, my grandpa said that they used to practice taking out tonsils on our people and he they paid him to like.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Kind of.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Put buckets of blood like he was so. Traumatized from that.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Oh, so historically, maybe they afraid of this phenomenon.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah, we'll see. There's no trust. Like there's no trust in the government. There's no, there's no trust that they'll help us and not try to kill us. Like what's smallpox blankets. And, you know, using as they or what's it called. Euthanasia. I think that no enforced sterilization on the reservation like like those kind of things, they're not going to trust the government. So it's there's still a lot of that even in Alaska.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[What was? What was the like you mentioned? Now in the 70s they they did an experiment on people.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[They used to go to the village, so our village was pretty far away, right? So it must have been like first time doctors or something, I don't know. The specifics, but they would come to the village and like practice taking out tonsils. Uh-huh. And things like like, do. And that's the only one I know about. Cause Grandpa told me about it. But there was. There was other things like that.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK, so they may be against vaccines somehow because of mistrust?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Because the mistrust in this whole healthcare system and the people, yeah, and outsiders coming in to do things like what if they're doing this? And said it's then they're actually doing something else, so nobody believes that from, especially in the government, that it's they're going to take care of us in any way like. Nobody believes that we're. We just think we're we they don't support us, you know, like the government doesn't probably even know who we are. Care who we are.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[I see. And how is healthcare system facilities there? I mean how people are satisfied with healthcare system totally inaccessible? Is it affordable?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Well. Mm-hmm. Well, we it's free for us. Alaska Natives and American Indians. So it's. It's free. But our ancestors died of it. You know, for it. And they spilled blood and 500 years of genocide. We paid for it. There's no trust, so the the facilities are good. We have a world class healthcare system. We are on the cover of the New York Times. We have a Nuka system, we they fly people in from the villages to get healthcare. The issue is. They have people only come when they're half dead. You know, there's no, like, they come when they have to, not when they think you know when they should really like be getting a symptom. They won't come in until they absolutely have to, because of the mistrust.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Hi.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Because of the mistrust and how people think about natural prevention, I mean people being careful.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Will people still do that? They make their own shell for like bones and stuff, like a sore bones. Or if you had, like, a sprain, they make their own stuff for back pain. They make their own. Fees for congestion and respiratory illnesses like people still use what our mother Earth provides for us to for for those. Isn't.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[I see. So some of them really believe in natural prevention.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Most of them I think, really believe that our native remedies are better than what the government is providing.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Is there any NGOs or any non governmental groups that work for vaccination or work for vaccine hesitancy during during COVID?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Well, they had teams who like would come in on dog sleds. They went pretty crazy bringing the vaccines to the villages. I don't know. I don't actually don't know the answer to that question. I remember like the. Where they came from wasn't a hospital, but it was our, like our government. Social Service agency like what? We didn't get it from the hospital. We are from the government.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. And a question about because you are from there and you know people and the culture very, very good. As you know in lots of countries and COVID vaccine was obligatory as like my my own country. For example, if we go somewhere and we said no I want. I don't want to get vaccine. Police may came and arrest me, so it was absolutely yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Where are you from? Can I ask?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[I'm from Iran.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Whole day that's way different than here.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah. Yeah, it is. It was obligatory. And and I I know that it is not obligatory in the US. I wanted to ask you how is this strategy, do you think in a case it happened again will be I mean will it work? For Alaska?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[So now. I don't know. I don't know if I know that you couldn't like they made it. Nothing like Iran feel like everything I say now is gonna be compared to that. But like, you couldn't go to the village like they wouldn't let you. You had to be vaccinated. Like there was. It was just. It was. It's like if you wanted to go home or if you want to live in Housley, you had to have be vaccinated. So yeah, that was weird. We and they wouldn't let anybody in. I mean, you know how that went, probably in I don't where you were in Iran when this. Opened. Were you, were you in Iran? Yes. OK. When did you are you in Iran now?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[No, I'm now I'm the US. But during during the COVID, I was there. Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK, got it. So you it was different little bit different in Alaska because we're so far apart and no one can really get to us right. You have to go by boat in the summer and snow machine or airplane in the winter so and that's why when I was you know what a snow machine is right.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Yeah. So they would take those snow machines and drive from village to village. It was really odd the way that like he just came in. It was crazy. It's like we never seen government in 100 years and all of a. Sudden they're here.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Ohh yeah, it is interesting. Yeah, and I have a question, if you if you want if you want to put some people to encourage to encourage other people to get vaccine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Who do you think will be more effective like a university professor or a religious leader?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Oh, oh, out of those two, probably a religious leader for, but it depends. Like for the village. It would be of religious leader. And and for a city with people who might have slight educations, the university professor, no one's really gonna listen to a university professor though, who's actually, you know, who isn't in the university or know what that whole like they're gonna skip over that in the news. They would religion is just more interesting up here than that stuff that doesn't seem to have like religion reached everybody. University didn't school didn't you know? Well, boarding schools and stuff. But yeah, religion, definitely.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Thank you. And my last question is that if you are a healthcare system policymaker and you want to put budgets in one of these two sides, which one do you prefer? The first side is infrastructure like building hospitals. More hospitals or? The other side is do some like community based activities like trust making and these things.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[The latter I would do more to engage the Community because all that's great building those things. But if how do you reach the people who already have? Those things. Like you would need to and our people, native people all over minority. Well, you know, they trust the minority other minority people. Or especially in Alaska, there is a divide, you know between non-native people and Caucasian people, right? So. There's still that huge divide. No trust like they separate. You know, we don't live next to each other, so it's still really separated. So the community based program is where you're going to get people to actually make a difference. You'd have to do it. Boots on the ground before you can build these. Infrastructures and stuff. If you don't have people going to it. Like, what's the point of doing all that great stuff if nobody's going to show up?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah, that's right. And OK, thank you. Is there anything else about vaccine or COVID era that you want to add?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[You know we're we're we're a lot of the countries like yours where they made you do it. Why?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[They just, uh, they, they they didn't want persuade people. They just wanted to force people to get vaccines because like, like here, this is a mistrust to the government. So they they thought that we have to to stop it. To stop the COVID we have to 1st prepare people to get vaccines.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Do you think it worked?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[People are not strong there as in the US are, you know people, people are not very much knowledgeable there so.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[They they accept it.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. OK. Yeah, I think here it might be a little bit different, but it's still I I believe that the vaccine was forced upon the villages. I really do. I think it was like you're gonna die if you don't get. It was like a fear campaign, almost a little bit. And it was for everybody. I mean, we thought we were gonna die after a little while after seeing what was going on in like. Cities and stuff. But it's here in Alaska. We're so spread. Out, you know, we're so spread out. We're so difficult to get to everybody, but it it went to every village. I believe it still managed to get there that that disease. Thank goodness that not a lot of people died here in Alaska, though maybe 1015 hundred. No praise Jesus for that. I think it's because we're so spread out. And we can't see each other very often and it's 50 below 50. Yeah, 5060 below. Nobody's traveling, you know.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah, that's the point. Yeah. And then, yeah, in, in, in the in the more dense communities, it happened more if it's natural, OK.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Threefold. Yes. Well, I will try to get you as many people as they can to help you guys out. Get more information. I'll get them on both sides too. As much as I can. So both sides of the vaccine debate people. Do you want both sides of the debate?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Well, let me get people on both sides. So you'll get more information. I'll make sure to ohh. OK.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Of course, especially if people who are against vaccine they they have very.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Strong opinions? Yeah. So I know a couple of people who gave up 2025 year careers at my job.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[High, yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[To not get the vaccine like they give up their whole livelihood, their money, their everything, to not get a vaccine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Oh. Thanks.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[So I'm I'm finding one of those for you. I know a guy, so I'll tell him the $75 is the selling point. I think for a lot of people. So that's how I can get them.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Thank you. Thank you so much. And can I have your phone number because I need to send to our like financial part. Thank you.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Alright. OK, now I know 75.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Yeah. Yes, ma'am.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Thank you so much and have a great night.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[OK. Yes, and I will send you names and stuff. OK, send me the link so they can take it.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Sir, I will send you the link. Thank you. Bye bye.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)

[Hun.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGrkE)