

## **Peer Group Parents**

In Orinda our parents were for the most part well educated doctors and lawyers and business people. It never meant anything to us. They were all just parents. We didn't know anything about middle class, upper middle class, or rich. Later we learned we were generally better off than the kids in Richmond.

When I moved to an apartment in Berkeley when I was 18, I could hardly believe how many people around me had next to nothing to get by on, right over the hill that I grew up on.

## **The Bad Daddy**

His son was a big bully that played dirty football and maybe raped one of the nice girls in high school when it was still accepted and hushed up.

My parents considered him beneath contempt. I never knew why.

## **The Strange Mom**

They were nice, bright, and odd people. The Mr. was a successful merchant. The mother was rumored to wander naked around Sleepy Hollow in the middle of the night.

## **Over-all Education**

Even though I was not a good student and spent a lot of time in the back of the class with the other troublemakers, I got a good education, in my opinion. In fact I have often felt that I was better educated than more recent graduates from UC Berkeley. My parents probably had a lot to do with that.

I seldom did homework and didn't really care if I passed or failed tests. It was my life to lead and I would have to live with my choices.

## **My ADD, OCD, ?**

I wonder if they had a diagnosis for this kind of thing in the fifties. It would be interesting to read the teachers private comments from my early days. I wasn't a bad person, but maybe challenging.

I liked having fun running around with my friends or just exploring, and being couped up in a classroom I only did because I had to.

I could pay close attention when something interested me, and when I cleaned my own room at home maybe there was an obsessive compulsive aspect.

## **IQ Testing**

Although I was an average uninspired student I scored high on all testing throughout my education.

I didn't do all the homework but paid attention during classes and wasn't afraid to chime in with questions and comments. Often to the chagrin of the instructor.