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Subject: Recording Interviews

Posted by [audioaudio90](#) on Thu, 02 Jun 2011 15:24:03 GMT

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I'm watching the Casey Anthony trial and just listened to a lengthy recording of a police interview. I started wondering what they used for audio recording; I imagine by now it's all digital instead of using a tape recorder.

Having not been interviewed, I wouldn't know.

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Subject: Re: Recording Interviews

Posted by [Drury](#) on Fri, 03 Jun 2011 08:00:18 GMT

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That's a very good question. It seems funny to watch old TV shows and see those tape recorders, but digital recordings may be risky because they could be lost somehow. Maybe they record it and then transfer to a computer file?

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Subject: Re: Recording Interviews

Posted by [Ebirah01](#) on Thu, 04 Aug 2011 19:43:59 GMT

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Hi folks!

I'm not sure what recording devices you saw being used (or heard, for that matter), but I have used several different types of portable recording methods when conducting interviews for academic research. I interviewed two different Tibetan umdze's (religious chant leaders) and for one I employed a mini disc recorder (it was all I had at the time) and the other was video taped on 8mm digital tape.

I have also interviewed several Tlingit natives when I was living in Alaska researching their frame drum construction. For that I used a mini disc player that was provided by the Sealaska Heritage Foundation and my own portable DAT machine. In Lhasa, Tibet a few years later, I worked with several sGra sNyan (lute) builders and mostly I just took notes on paper, but for the one or two recorded interviews I conducted, I used a Nagra cassette player. I have used one of these before, too, when talking with a historian about the works of Luigi Russolo and Italian Futurism in the late 90s. (Interestingly, for my current Ph.D. project, I haven't recorded any interviews! It's all been written correspondence and notes typed up during or after the fact...)

I would say that many portable devices readily available today are digital formats, but that analogue machines of higher quality have not disappeared by any means.

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Subject: Re: Recording Interviews

Posted by [LizardBat](#) on Sat, 13 Aug 2011 19:11:37 GMT

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Th Nagra cassette machine is the preferred machine for recording interviews according to the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian. I won a grant from the Library of Congress and they issued a Nagra recorder to me for the project.

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