

Interviewee: Natasha Appleweis (Natasha Appleweis' parents gave her a combination of their two last names, Applebaum and Weisberg for feminist reasons.)

Interviewer: Sawyer Schweitzer

[consent script and agreement] *So to start out could you tell me, basically, your last name story?* Yeah, so my last name is Appleweis, it's a combination of Applebaum and Weisberg. My parent's just thought it was kind of silly to give me my dad's last name because they thought it was an outdated practice, particularly in the early 90's which was kind of a time of like, you know 3rd wave feminism, or whatever. So they thought it was silly to give me my dad's last name. They thought it was equally silly and contrived to give me my mom's last name, that's the word that she used--contrived. They didn't want to call me Applebaum-Weisberg because that's a total mouthful. They didn't want to call me WeisApple because for some reason my mother thought that it would be better if it started with an A because then I would become first in things, I don't really know.

*I never thought of that.* They really were considering having my last name be Rockefeller, because they thought that that would be hilarious, and they thought I would get a lot of things in life if my last name was Rockefeller, even though we have no relation to the Rockefellers in any way, so yeah.

*Have there been any sort of problems having a different last name than your parents?* Um, no. *Did it make anything difficult in school, or traveling?* Um, not really. I mean people will occasionally ask me if they are my step parents, which is not really a problem, it is just kind of incorrect, I don't know. It confuses people.

*What do you think you might do if you have children, would you make the same decision as your parents?* Um, I don't know. *Or is it kind of depending on how it sounds?* Yeah, it's pretty dependent on how it sounds, but I like the idea of a hyphenated name because then like, as it goes down through the generations, you just add more and more last names and have this intense chain of last names that is reflective of all of your ancestors that decided to do that, so I don't know it would be kind of a cool if that was a thing that got passed down, you keep hyphenating and hyphenating.

*That'd probably get really crazy, Yeah So what kind of reactions have you gotten from people when they hear your last name?* I don't know, they think it's cool or are slightly confused, it's usually like oh man, so cool, nobody does that. So yeah. [Natasha receives a phone call, ends interview, thank you's]