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ADV 6:30 p.m. EDT Wed. Aug. 26
Kathleen Kennedy 410

NEW YORK AP - Kathleen Kennedy, 19, eldest of the 11 children of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, says that by continuing to work "in the system," she keeps faith with the ideals of her slain father.

"How could I do otherwise?" The Radcliffe College freshman said in an interview published in the current Seventeen magazine. "I can do otherwise and that's just saying forget it to everything that Daddy ever worked for."

"He had a ten times worse loss when his brother was assassinated," she continued, "yet he went back and tried. If I didn't keep trying, that would be forgetting everything I've lived for."

Her father was shot to death in Los Angeles in June 1968 while running for the Democratic presidential nomination, less than five years after her uncle, President John F. Kennedy, was assassinated in Dallas.

Miss Kennedy, interviewed at Radcliffe before the end of last spring's semester, spoke of her intention to work with Eskimos this summer, as she had with Indians on a Western reservation two summers ago.

"I think next year, if I don't live with friends in South Boston and help start an arts project for the community in our own house, I'll go to Italy and join an archeological dig."

When she entered college, she said, "I just wanted to be by myself for a while or do something terribly selfish, like take pottery lessons . . ."

"And then I did want to do something, so I worked in a prison one night a week . . . the Cape every weekend . . . I was on the ski team . . . and sailing . . . and I'm working for Teddy in his run for the Senate."

Her other uncle, Sen. Edward M. (Ted) Kennedy, D-Mass., is up for re-election this fall.

Asked to mention her personal interests and priorities from among current public concerns, she said:

"I want to get out of Vietnam. I want to get out of there pretty quickly."

Then, she said, "I'd much rather work with Indians or Eskimos—with people—than with ecology."

"We hear that within ten years we are all going to be polluted to death, and I just found out that the sea won't feed us."

She said she was depressed by the thought that chains of life were being broken "and slowly, everything's dying out."

"But I think the people suffering and dying right now are awfully important," she said.

The strength of her family, she said, sustained her in the days that followed her father's murder.

She said she tries not to generalize about violence in the nation and connect it to her father's death.

"I just never think about that," she said, "I don't think about the violence, I don't put a cause on it and think, who am I mad at? It's happened and I don't think of any ifs . . . you never live on ifs. You never resent people or hate. You just go on from what Daddy has given me, what he's given everybody. You go on from there."

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