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00:00:10,820 --> 00:00:16,510

My name is Tu-Quynh Bui. I am an Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist or EEO Specialist at

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Johnson Space Center. Our office resolves people problems before they become a legal

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problems. We provide neutral EO counseling to the workforce. We educate the workforce

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on EO laws, policies, and processes. We resolve issues via the Alternative Dispute Resolution

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Program we have here at the center. I was born in Saigon, Vietnam, the oldest of three

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00:00:43,100 --> 00:00:50,100

children. My family came to United States as part of the massive influx of the refugees

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00:00:50,100 --> 00:00:57,329

at the end of the Vietnam War in April 1975. My father was a member of the Vietnamese Civil

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00:00:57,329 --> 00:01:03,730

Engineering Corps. My mother was a teacher. My father was really my first role model in

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00:01:03,730 --> 00:01:10,200

STEM, or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. What brought me to NASA was

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00:01:10,200 --> 00:01:15,770

really a brand name. You know, I was so excited to work with the space program, so during

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00:01:15,770 --> 00:01:21,790
my co-op tours I was able to work in the Engineering Directorate, as well as the Mission Operation's

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00:01:21,790 --> 00:01:28,479
Directorate. One of my most memorable experiences I have at Johnson Space Center is when I was

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crew trainer in the Space Flight Training Division of Mission Operation's Directorate.

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We, as instructors, we're part of the Shuttle Mission Simulators Training Team. We get to

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00:01:40,100 --> 00:01:46,409
train astronauts in various disciplines aboard the shuttle. One of my first job is for the

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00:01:46,409 --> 00:01:52,900
discipline of the propulsion, guidance, navigation, and control systems aboard the space shuttle.

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00:01:52,900 --> 00:01:57,899
Who would have thought that I would have an opportunity to train Charlie Bolden, who is

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00:01:57,899 --> 00:02:04,930
our current NASA administrator, on his first mission as a shuttle commander for STS-45.

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00:02:04,930 --> 00:02:12,700
I see such a -- a diverse workforce we have here at Johnson Space Center. Being Asian-American,

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00:02:12,700 --> 00:02:19,419
I thought that would offer a unique perspective to the Office of Equal Opportunity, diversity.

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00:02:19,419 --> 00:02:27,290

So I had approached the director basically to do a rotation in the office, and that was

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00:02:27,290 --> 00:02:35,010

back in 2011. And since then I have signed on permanently as an EO specialist. I think

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00:02:35,010 --> 00:02:39,720

everybody should embrace their heritage because that's what makes them the way they are. I

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00:02:39,720 --> 00:02:45,199

probably would never pursue engineering had we stayed in Vietnam. Just by the fact that

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00:02:45,199 --> 00:02:51,889

I'm here in the United States, it opens up so many doors for me as a woman that I could

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00:02:51,889 --> 00:03:00,780

accept any challenge I -- I want. We came here with no more than \$100 in our possession,

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00:03:00,780 --> 00:03:07,639

and we made something of ourselves. You know, all -- all of our children are educated. You

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00:03:07,639 --> 00:03:12,880

know, didn't know any English, now we all, you know, can speak English with an accent.

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00:03:12,880 --> 00:03:21,350

You know, but so -- so that's the -- the -- you know, that's my -- that's my story. If I can