

Densho Digital Repository  
Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) and  
Chicago Japanese American Historical Society (CJAHS)  
Oral History Project Collection  
Title: Fumino Tsuchiya-Knox Interview  
Narrator: Fumino Tsuchiya-Knox  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
Location:  
Date: November 4, 2017  
Densho ID: ddr-chi-1-12-7

**<Begin Segment 7>**

- AT: 24:01 And did you, as you were growing up, um, well, and I'm sorry, right. At what point did your family move to Gardena?
- FK: 24:09 Ah, that would have been about 1956 that we moved to Gardena.
- AT: 24:14 And then, um, let's see. You were probably middle school age?
- FK: 24:20 Yeah. Mhm. Seventh grade. Yeah.
- AT: 24:22 And then how long has your family there?
- FK: 24:25 Um, my parents were there until they passed away in the early nineties. Yeah. And I was there, uh, through high school. I graduated in 1962. Um, I went to Occidental College in Los Angeles. And that's where I met my husband and we, he was from Berkeley, so we moved up to Berkeley then.
- AT: 24:53 Um
- FK: 24:57 Oh, I, I guess I should tell you about growing up too, that, um, there was sort of, this schizophrenic push to, you know, from my parents, to both be all American as well as to retain the Japanese traditions. So I did go to Japanese school every day after school. Yeah. All through grammar school and then on Saturday's all through junior high and halfway through high school, um, to learn Japanese. Um, but then at the same time, you know, they just, they really wanted me to excel in school. Um, but then for example, when I was going to go to college, um, I had taken a tour and decided I really liked Occidental College and that was where I wanted to go. My mother kept trying to, um, make me decide to go to UCLA. And the main reason was she said there were a lot of Japanese kids there and she, I think she always thought, um, I would be safer and

treated well if I were in some place where there are a lot of Japanese. So, like even after I started working, every job I had, she would ask how many Japanese work there, you know, are they nice to you and that type of thing.

AT: 26:24 Uh, I'm, I'm curious to hear what your thoughts are on, um, what you think some of the big impacts and legacies of the camp have been on you? And it's, you know, it's, it's unique in that you were born in camp, you don't have any memories, so, um, whatever you do know or feel is probably passed down.

FK: 26:51 From my parents

AT: 26:52 From your parents. yet at the same time you were there.

FK: 26:56 Yes.

**<End Segment 7> - Copyright © 2017 Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) and Chicago Japanese American Historical Society (CJAHS). All Rights Reserved.**