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Title: Tonko Doi Interview  
Narrator: Tonko Doi  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
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<Begin Segment 14>

AT: 01:01:25 Um, and uh, so at this time, late 50s, early 60s, um, how would you describe the Japanese American Community of Chicago?

TD: 01:01:41 They were divided by, um, areas. There was the south side and there was the North Side and in schools all over, uh, you know, where there were a lot of Japanese Americans. Um, they had social clubs, uh, by year, by your age. So my sister-in-law, she belonged to the Donnell's and uh, another one belonged to the Jolene's that were southsiders, but they were all women their age and from that school, usually the same thing with the boys. You know, they belong to clubs like the Bruins, the Saxons, the Vikings, they gave them, they had names like that, but you would know their age. They were like the younger brother, uh Saxons were younger brother of the Vikings, etc. So there were social clubs who also were a sport clubs, teams, they played basketball, baseball, um, under those names.

AT: 01:02:47 Do you have any idea, um, whether at the time or in retrospect why those groups were formed?

TD: 01:02:54 Yes, because they didn't feel part of the white community. I mean, there were some that joined uh, organizations. I think there was one in Hyde Park called the Drakes. But if you say that to some of the guys that, you know, they, they say they wouldn't accept us. Well, they were more intellectual, you know, the Drake's perhaps, but they had friends, but the clubs were all Japanese. Now, there was a, uh, a league called CNAA: Chicago Nisei Athletic Association. There was a rule at one time that you could not play on a team if you were not Japanese, part Japanese, married to a Japanese. Our friend Leon Macpherson was totally white. He was the only person that was allowed to play on the team because he grew up with, and even, though he was a ringer, he was tall. Uh, they allowed him to play on the team cause they knew him, for, since he was in grammar school. He was my husband's friend. But they were,

they were, um, how would, what's the word, not racist, but segregated. No. Isolated. I don't know. What's the word where you divide people by race. Segregated. Segregated.

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