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Title: Tonko Doi Interview  
Narrator: Tonko Doi  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
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<Begin Segment 20>

- Maria: 01:25:26 You said the, and sorry you said that people again, I need it. Do you think like people like Sansei need that as well, that opportunity to share what they experience and why do you think your generation needs that as well from your position as a Sansei yourself? Because we've talked about the legacy and Yonsei being, we're talking about this now because we've been listening and we're learning the history. So why, and if you think, if you think this is the case, why aren't Sansei talking more about it now?
- TD: 01:26:01 Truthfully, I do not know why they're talking about it now, but I would guess is because it's been introduced to them. Uh, and they have the opportunity to go to the site of the interment and to the area where the Japanese lived. Pre-War. Uh, we gave them the JAACL. Uh, we put aside \$15,000 a year in our budget to send 10 Sansei, Yonsei who identify as Japanese American. They can be biracial, you know, just a drop of Japanese blood and show the interest. We send them, they pay either a hundred or \$150 and we see the results that they go. And maybe if they did not go, maybe they would not know or feel or be impressed by their heritage. Is that it Maria? Did I say?
- M: 01:27:02 Yeah. Yeah. That's kinda because from an outsider I can see that I've been to many events regarding, you know, like yeah, eh, incarceration and all of those things. And I noticed that there are two platforms, eh, in the JAs, like we see more young people, being in the Never Again is Now March, you know, for IC. But then in the all-camps reunion, it's mostly, uh, you know, like Sansei population, the one that is there, eh, rather than there being, you know, like Yonsei. So um, more of like, eh. The question is, are Sansei, in your opinion, based on the years that you've been doing this, are you noticing that Sansei are talking more about what happened during the incarceration now rather than years before? And why do you think that is? Why do you think that now is the time to talk about it?

TD: 01:27:56 Because of the immigration policies of the government. Um, I think that foremost brought the attention to the Sansei, Yonsei, Gosei, you know, they feel, um, that they must, uh, help by raising their voices, uh, against, um, the Imi-, the, the uh, government policies, which kind of related to the Japanese American in a different way, but in a way similar, right. As I mentioned, my father was very aware of the difference that as a Japanese alien and a Japanese American citizen, we were sent away without due process. So in the, um, executive order, it says, I believe it was in the executive order. If you have one 16th Japanese blood, you had to go to the camps. If you lived in this area. Now, why was just this area? Why didn't they take everybody? Because, I believe, and others believe it was more first racial, racially motivated and economically motivated. The Japanese farmers controlled a lot of land. I don't, there's a percentage. I don't know if you know the percentage. I don't, but it's huge. And they, they, um, even before the, uh, first world war in the Sacramento River Delta area, the Japanese immigrants in the 19, early 19 hundreds, learned to irrigate and to develop that land, that delta to grow potatoes.

TD: 01:29:54 Yeah, it was a, um, there's a lot of things that were lost and, and, but I think the relationships now is uh, connecting it to the, um, current policy of the government, ICE, etcetera. I don't know if, if uh, would they march just because Japanese Americans went to camp? I don't think so. Yeah. But because there's a like, um, project, it's, it comes together.

M: 01:30:27 And what do you think telling their stories does to Niseis, because we've talked to some Niseis and what do you think about being able to share what happened? Because you've been saying that your friends are sharing their stories, so what do you think that does to them? Having the opportunity to speak up about what happened to them. And have you found this to be easier with, not like now that more people are sharing their stories or is it still something that is, eh, difficult to get to happen?

TD: 01:31:01 I think it's the opportunity. I think it's a camera. It's you with you, you know, you're asking the right questions and opening up the dialogue. Sometimes when you have stories, like I'm a talker, you know, and I, I know the stories, so it's easy for me to tell the story. But some people they didn't have the same relationship with their families. Like my friend Ken, his father and mother never talked to him. So he just went along like a mope. He didn't know, you know, but he knows some things and he knows what happened. So those stories he's happy to share. But um, basically I think that's it. You have to ask the

correct right questions of them. Like many Nisei or older Sansei they say, oh, well we went to camp, we had so much fun. You know, we just played games and danced and this and that. Well there was more to it, you know, but they're not, they're not able to say it. Right. I think the hardship of their parents, if you go back to the hardship of what their parents did and endured.

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