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Title: Sharon Seeder Interview
Narrator: Sharon Seeder
Interviewer: Anna Takada
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AT:	<u>00:31:03</u>	Um, and given that, um, Lincoln Park at that time, was so diverse and lots of different people, did you ever experience any kind of discrimination growing up?
SS:	<u>00:31:22</u>	I, I didn't feel it so much or I think I maybe I just got used to it. I mean there's typical thing of being called a Jap and things like that, but I didn't feel it from my, from the kids. I know that, um, I was, I was telling my daughter that the discrimination was mostly outside of, uh, the neighborhood. Like when we would take trips to go to California to see my mom's family or my dad's family, um, I remember my dad always sending my mom into the motel cause there were car trips to end, there'd be vacancy signs and we'd get all excited and then in my mom would come out and there'd be no vacancy. And so we kind of figured what that was about. And then when we did stay at a place, my mom was very meticulous about cleaning up the room and making the beds because she said, I don't want any, any other Japanese Americans to be rejected because we left a mess. So on our trips we used always clean their rooms after we were, you know, we, we got up so that we wouldn't leave bad impressions. So, um, so I felt more discrimination as I got older, you know, and it became so commonplace that I'd often point out to my friends, I said, you don't even know. You don't even realize it's happening. And I'd say, see there, there you go again. And at at work I did because they just assume that if you're Asian, you're going to be docile and compliant. And I'm, I soft spoken and I was even more so when I was younger. So they just figured, you know, I was not management material, although I did quite well in my career and, and had mostly management jobs. So, um, a lot of that I had to overcome because my mom always said, you need to be humble. You're not that good. There's always somebody better than you, you know, keep quiet, keep, you know, don't talk. Um, so something that I tried to do with my girls is I wanted them to not be like me and to speak up and to state your opinion. And I think they have, I think they're, I think they have, my oldest daughter is big

into animal rights and consumer stuff. And I remember as a teenager she would write to like Proctor and Gamble saying you shouldn't be testing on animals. And then my youngest daughter is very extroverted and she's very diplomatically states her opinion.

KS: 00:34:23 That's a very diplomatic way of putting it mom.

SS: 00:34:23 No you do. I've seen you at work and, and

KS: 00:34:38 My mom and I, her last job of her career before she retired, we worked to the same place.

SS: 00:34:44 So, you know, I was very proud of her and it wasn't, cause I was a mom is because she's just great to work with. Um, so I don't know if I answered your question or not. I kind of rambled there for a little while.

AT: 00:34:59 No, no, but it's all good stuff.

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