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Title: Keiko Shinmoto Interview  
Narrator: Keiko Shinmoto  
Interviewer: Naoko Wake  
Location: Stockton, California  
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**<Begin Segment 16>**

NW: What I'm wondering is other people's bias towards minorities, including people like us, I am a minority in this country, right, because I am not living in Japan. And I do experience certain kind of different attitudes that I pick up on because, you know, I'm a minority, I suppose. I just wondered if you have that feeling, yourself as well? Or probably not. I don't know. What do you think?

KS: No, I don't, I never think about that. To me, yeah.

NW: I wonder why? Because, I mean, I'm living in 21<sup>st</sup> century America and supposedly this is a country that's fair and just to everybody, right? But I think I do experience certain kind of prejudices and, or, sometimes it feels like I am just treated differently because of who I am. And to me It's just surprising to meet with somebody who also is from Japan or any minority background and then you experienced this School Girl system, for instance, where you were basically working for a white family, right? It wasn't the other way around. You weren't offering this opportunity to white kids. It was the other way around, right?

KS: Not only that Caucasian family, but I also worked at the grocery store. Caucasian store, too. So, I don't know. I just do not think that way. I guess I didn't have no, how am I going to say that in Japanese? Do you think I should [have been] against it?

NW: No, not, I am not saying against or for. I just thinking what you might have noticed. I think my question is coming out of the fact that many people notice it and if you don't notice it, there's nothing wrong with that. I just wondered what you think about it, if you ever noticed it.

KS: Hmm, no, I think I don't, I don't. Maybe that's because all surrounding Caucasian, that's a reason. I don't. I only the church, this is a Buddhist church, so all the Japanese.

NW: Oh, so you do have a connection with Japanese Americans.

KS: Yeah. I guess this Buddhist church, including Caucasian, too. It's not even 100 % Japanese.

NW: Where is the Buddhist church located? It's in Stockton?

KS: Uh-huh.

NW: Oh, wonderful

KS: Yeah, it's a big church. In fact, we are going to have a bazaar this weekend, this week [inaudible; she walks away from the recorder to get a picture of the church]. It's a very nice big, big, bazaar.

NW: Oh yeah, it's a nice church.

KS: They just finished it last Saturday. In fact, this year we have a new minister, she is a lady, first time. She is, she came from Hawai'i, very nice lady.

NW: Huh, so that's something to look forward to, to work with her. Well, thank you very much for your time, I really, really appreciate it.

KS: You're welcome.

NW: I learned a lot.

KS: I don't know this is helpful or not.

NW: Yes it is. It is very helpful. It is very wonderful to hear your experiences. Thank you very much. I really appreciate it.

KS: You are welcome.

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