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Title: Keiko Shinmoto Interview
Narrator: Keiko Shinmoto
Interviewer: Naoko Wake
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<Begin Segment 3>

NW: So, you were born in Japan and you said that you were born in 1938?

KS: 1936.

NW: '36, I'm sorry. So that means that well before 1936 your family was already back in Japan. So your father was back to see the sick father of his, and then, your mother, after giving birth to your sister, . . .

KS: Older sister.

NW: Older sister.

KS: Older brother. Doctor took a look and go back to Japan.

NW: I get then there were three children for your parents?

KS: I think so.

NW: So then they came back to, came to Japan. And then they were in Hiroshima. What kind of person was your mother?

KS: She was real gentle, and she doesn't say too much, you know. Of course there is nothing, [no] activity there at that time. Well, she just raised the kids, had how many kids, so that's what . . . She was a very good mother.

NW: How about your father? Do you have any childhood memory of him?

KS: Well, only a bit I remember, he doesn't too much say either. But when he was junior high, I think? Not junior high, earlier. Maybe fifth or sixth grade, um, we started to learn English at Japan, and he fluently speak Jap- I mean English, so he teach me a lot.

NW: Oh, that's nice, that's nice. So, English as a language is something you were more or less familiar with when you were growing up because of your father?

KS: Well, of course, I went to a Japanese school, yeah. But when I came to this country, I couldn't speak at all. But, whenever [there was] homework, you know, paperwork at home, he

teach me that English. He was very good, fluent, [in] English. Because when he was working in Portland, at the grocery store, a lot of Japanese came too, and [when] they needed some kind of paperwork in English, and he'd help them a lot, that's what I heard.

NW: So, that was a really a skill that was valuable. So, you were saying, your father started to teach you English after you were back in the States, after the family was back in the States?

KS: Yeah, Of course, I was born in Japan.

NW: Yeah, right, right. So you came to the States with your parents. Yeah, I understand.

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