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Title: Yuriko Furubayashi Interview  
Narrator: Yuriko Furubayashi  
Interviewer: Naoko Wake  
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**<Begin Segment 24>**

NW: Um, do you think that, you'll be, you like to say something for future generation that may listen to this interview maybe 50 years from now. I'm gonna be preserving it as a historical record, that's part of what I'm trying to do. People who don't know anything about the bomb, don't know anything about the Pacific War or anything. Do you have anything that you like to say?

YF: You know 50 years ago? 50 years ago, I said, I feel the same way. 50 years ago, I had told them, yeah. You know, when you have children, if you are all by yourself, you have no worries. But when you start having children, family and stuff, then it become very, very important. It's not for yourself, but for your children. And this kind of atomic bomb, or any kind of bomb, you know, having it is always dangerous because you don't know what kind of leaders you have. I wouldn't say American leaders were bad but that was sort of like, experimenting, right? But now, I think most country can have it. Somehow, they gonna, even they ban it, I think they gonna have. So, what, I don't know what the solution is, but it's gonna be so bad for the next generation, 50 years from now. And I don't think anybody have a solution for that. Not even America, any other country.

NW: As a survivor yourself, do you think that you can be a part of your solution? The solution for the program that you last mentioned, or do you feel powerless?

YF: I feel powerless [laugh]. I can't, I don't think, I only experience, I don't have a solution. I think it's very, very hard.

NW: Have you done anything to maybe become even a small part of the solution?

YF: I don't think I really contributed, I only give my experience and hopefully, you know? People will be more concerned over other people.

NW: So, telling your story and experiences. Okay, that makes sense.

YF: Experiences, and they will feel that a little bit more compassionate about how people can die in a minute, I mean, in a second, you know? And innocent people, too. They're all innocent, you know? And that's really tragic and I hope that won't happen. I don't care, you reach a point, you know, there's no . . .

NW: Discrimination. If you are there, you'd be dead.

YF: And not only that, lot of stories, lot of things that people won't realize, you know? The bomb and you get hurt have the effect, but there's a lot of families that have their own story of sadness. You know? Because in Japan there was an orphanage that I went to, those kids come from upper class. People who had business in Hiroshima and all that. What they did was, in the evening, you know, when they get bombed, you got to go in a shelter, you have children and they don't have enough sleep and they will be in a way . . . when there's a fire in your house and you try to, you know, or neighbors, you try to help. So what they did, what the system did, and they thought it was a good one, was all those elementary school had evacuated. In a country, you know, temple. Not permanent, but you know, temporarily, teachers go there and the kids all go there. The parents can visit them any time they want, but they have daily work to do, I mean, they gotta open the store, how they gonna feed themselves? And a lot of them, you know, the husband or the son is at war, right? They are having hard time already. But young people that had children, for their safety reason, they go to temple and what happened, when atomic bomb was over, you see, lot of kids in the temple with nobody to take care of them. The relatives that are supposed to come are having a hard time, you know? And they cannot. So they put all the kids to Etajima, there was the Naval Academy of Japan. When I was going to . . . it's a nice facility. When I went, because I had a friend who was a Christian, her family had a store in what you call it, that? We went to school together, a real, real compassionate, nice woman. She had, when I met her in Hiroshima, she had told me that she's in Etajima and if I could only spare some time, why don't you come and, I'm not married, I'm all by myself, I don't have parents but my auntie and uncle. I didn't have a job then, you know, after the war. So she said, why don't you come? I went there and I saw all the children, beautiful kids, they're all below 10, I think. And the parents are dead, or whoever was . . .

NW: They are orphans.

YF: They are orphans, all of a sudden. And they all come from a, you can tell, they're beautiful kids, nice mannered, some are rascal but they come from a city, you know. City kids, it was well provided, the parents was royalties [?], you know. Those kind of kids, I mean, people don't talk about it, but, you know, they have to live in an orphanage until 18 and they have to start learning how to peddle their own kind of . . . All of a sudden, you know how traumatic it is for the kids?

NW: I know.

YF: All of a sudden, the life had, you know? If the kids were old enough, they would commit suicide, but they don't.

NW: They don't know what happened.

YF: So, the Christian nuns and the helpers tried to be really kind, and they survived, you know? And they survived to when they were 18, I guess 18 and then they let them go, you know?

NW: Those are many family separations and tragedies that took place.

YF: Yeah, that really made me feel that, you know, things in this world sometimes, well nobody knew what's going happen now. Nobody knew life was gonna be that different, you know. People couldn't. But of course, you know, they can stay in orphanage. They have food, they have

nice people, they are old, you know? Volunteers and if they have a friend like mine, you know, it was, the children would be alright, but without parents.

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