

Chapter 16

“A Million Hearts from Here”:
Japanese-Canadian Mothers and Daughters
And the Lessons of War
Pamela Sugiman



Questions for Critical Reading

1. How do official accounts of the war influence the three women’s remembering?
2. Consider the passages from Tamura’s short story. How do these passages match her grandmother’s remembering? How do they differ? What does this reveal about inter-generational remembering?
3. Sugiman only studies her own family in this article. What factors may influence other families to remember the internment differently?
4. This article does not use any traditional historical sources commonly accepted in the field. Can this article still be considered “history”? Why or why not?

List of Primary Sources

- “Japanese Woman and Girl with a Japanese Doll.” Photograph. N.d.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4369558&rec_nbr_list=4369558
- “Personal Papers, Articles and Materials Concerning the Rights of Japanese Canadian Citizens.” Textual Document. 1931-1959.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=121320&rec_nbr_list=121320
- “Japanese-Canadian Girls Reading Signs Outside the School at the Japanese Can internment Camp.” NFB. Photograph. C. 1943.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193857&rec_nbr_list=3193857
- “Japanese Canadians Being sent to Japan after War on US Army Transport.” Photograph. 1946.
http://collectionscanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193455&rec_nbr_list=3193455

- “Miss Ruby Mosaki, one of the Dancers of the Manitoba Japanese Association.” Lund, Chris. Photograph. 1960.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=4314256&rec_nbr_list=4314256
- “Community Kitchen at Japanese-Canadian Internment Camp.” NFB. Photograph. C. 1943.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193852&rec_nbr_list=3193852
- “All Canadians of Japanese Ancestry Read This.” Print. N.d.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=2988428&rec_nbr_list=2988428
- “Japanese-Canadians Being Relocated to Camps in the Interior of British Columbia.” Photograph. 1942.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193871&rec_nbr_list=3193871
- “Japanese-Canadians Being Relocated to Camps in the Interior of British Columbia.” Photograph. 1942.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193868&rec_nbr_list=3193868
- “Japanese Children From Internment Camp Attend Local School.” Long, Jack. Photograph. 1945.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3205356&rec_nbr_list=3205356
- “Japanese Labour Employed in the Construction of the New Denver Camp Hospital.” Long, Jack. Photograph. C.1943.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3193851&rec_nbr_list=3193851
- “Internment Camp for Japanese-Canadians.” Long, Jack. Photograph. 1945.
http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/pam_archives/index.php?fuseaction=genitem.displayItem&lang=eng&rec_nbr=3191570&rec_nbr_list=3191570

Multimedia Resources

- Japanese Canadian History
www.japanesecanadianhistory.net
- Internment Camps in Canada during the First and Second World Wars
www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/politics-government/pages/thematic-guides-internment-camps.aspx

- Japanese
www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/history-ethnic-cultural/pages/japanese.aspx
- Minoru: Memory of Exile (NFB film)
www.nfb.ca/film/minoru-memory-of-exile