

Dear Michi,

I hope that I can call you Michi. When I received your letter, I was really both surprised and shocked. I didn't know that Frank Chin had sent you my school paper article. Your letter made me very happy and I shall cherish the same forever. I had read your book and remarked to my friends how brave you were to expose the bitter truth of concentration camp days. War time JACL leaders have always tried to "cover up" the truth by attacking people who had the courage to oppose them. I didn't know that you were on the JACL "hat list" but I'm sure happy that you think like a true American. You can see all the wrongs committed by our JACL leaders of that time and are courageous to point them out. Your letter has given me much hope and courage to fight for my belief in the Constitution of the United States.

It may be hard to believe but I know something about you. You were evacuated from Brentwood, a small farm community not far from San Jose. That you and your family were sent to Gila, Arizona concentration camp. I saw the 1944 Gila Camp High School yearbook with your picture in it. You were a senior and graduating. Do you remember Yo Migaki? His picture is in the same book. He lives in San Jose and is employed by F.W.C. My sister and I were great fans of Perry Como and when we saw your name, we both agreed that you must be a Nisei. She told me that you had to be intelligent and talented to have a job like that. In those days, Nisei girls had a hard time finding employment. Then you authored a book and became a Nisei woman admired by many people. Receiving a letter from you was something that I never dreamt could ever happen. I am very happy that you support the resisters and not afraid to voice your opinion.

I didn't want to go to jail but was willing to do so to prove my sincerity of my resistance. WRA and TACL were really against us for fighting for our Constitutional rights. Today, they are saying that their rights were violated. Does this make sense? I only wish we had strong young women like you to help us fight the battle for constitutional rights. I can't believe that all what happened to us after Pearl Harbor could actually happen in the United States. With the knowledge that both you and Walter are sympathetic to our cause gives me great courage to continue fighting.

We the resisters received a Presidential pardon after w.w. II. That means that we were vindicated and therefore cleared of all charges. I believe that when the Government of the United States willingly gives us a pardon, this means that they are willing to admit that they were wrong. Bill Hosokawa - eat your heart out!!! Hosokawa still writes in the Pacific Citizen that we were draft-dodgers. If you can use my article for any purpose, Please feel free to do so. And if you and Walter ever visit the Bay Area, please let me know. I feel that I want to meet you both and share experiences.

Sincerely,
Mits Koshiyama