

NARRATOR: KAZ IKEDA WITH MARGARET IKEDA
INTERVIEWERS: UNK
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INT: This is an oral history with Kaz Ikeda.

KI: (Pronounces it Ekada)

INT: Ikeda (pronounces it Ekeda), today is November 20, 2008. It is approximately 9:15 in the morning, clear and crisp outside. This is with the Cal Poly South County Japanese Internment Oral History Project for the Ethnic Studies Department. And I'd like to thank you Mr. Ikeda for joining us this morning.

KI: You're welcome.

INT: We'll go ahead and get right into it. You were born in California.

KI: I was born in California, King City, just a hundred miles north.

INT: Okay, and I understand that you went to Japan to go to school for a brief period in your childhood?

KI: Actually, we, mother took us to Japan to move to Japan to study over there and raise her kids also over there. But after three years, things didn't work out. We were getting to be rascals. (Laughs)

INT: (Laughs) becoming a handful huh?

KI: Handful for—

INT: So, what, what decided to have or who decided to have you guys come back to California?

KI: Father remained in King City area and he was working with my sister whose four years younger, passed away when she was only five. So, father came back, went back to Japan you know because of this and the, took us to you know the, to both parent's home wanting _____, Hiroshima, but he found out that we were kind of a rascals I guess (laughs) from the story goes. And well he, after in the being there for maybe two or three weeks, he realized that trying to raise family of three boys because my sister died, so there was three remaining, would be too hard for mother and it wouldn't be the right thing to do.

So, he called us back to the U.S. So, I stayed there three, we were there three years.

INT: Okay, did you, what were the benefits you know of having that experience in Japan versus you know and then coming back to California? Did you enjoy it more or less than what you remember beforehand?

KI: Well, I never did go to school here because we was six years old when I went to Japan. And you know, the life was over here because we were just in the _____ camp, and I was the first boy born in King City. So, I didn't have too many kids to play with anyways, so we, I didn't know anything about anything before I went back to Japan. But when I came back I made friends. I think it was a good thing that he called us back to raise us over here.

INT: And then, once you came back to California, you moved up to or down to Arroyo Grande where your father was working?

KI: Well he, he was, he was working in Santa Maria Valley, so after he came back we went to Santa Maria Valley where the Japanese farmers labor house and we stayed there a year and a half, and he decided, well he had an opportunity to start farming in Arroyo Grande Valley. That's where his younger brother was farming, _____, and other, other Japanese from the same pre-factory in Kagoshima. So, we started farming in the Arroyo Oceana Valley in 1929.

INT: Okay, and that was your first, was that the land that you leased?

KI: Yes.

INT: Okay, and did you guys have that land up until you were old enough to, when your family purchased more land that you were able to put under your name?

KI: We, well of us, your eleven years old I guess, so we leased, leased the land in the name of somebody who, some Japanese who were older who was able to lease it to, and we farmed it see. That's the way most of the Japanese farms started. They had to lease it in the name of some citizen you know? Nisei, older Nisei's, quite a few of the Nisei old enough to do that were born in Hawaii. I guess Japanese family came into Hawaii I guess first. So, we, we didn't lease, we leased the property through another person.

INT: I'm sorry, go ahead. Okay, go ahead. You purchased the land for—

KI: Yeah, 1939 yeah.

INT: Yeah, so that would be, that would make you twenty, twenty-one.

KI: Twenty-one yeah.

INT: And then, what, what was life like growing up with you know a farm and being you know that kind of atmosphere or rural, rural community and of that sort? What was it like growing up as a kid?

KI: Well, we had a pretty good life because farmers during that period 1929-during the, it was the height of the Depression you know. But for luckily the Japanese farmers in this area, they grew a lot of bush bean and pole beans.

INT: Okay, yeah.

KI: They did pretty well because pea was harvested and shipped to LA market or back east, but we got a good price it was, I guess they were few, few farmers that grew those peas.

INT: Hi (talks to someone who enters room)

KI: So, you good?

Unk: Why, good.

KI: You could help me.

INT: Yes, you're going to tandem. Like, I'm Casey.

Unk: Casey.

KI: Casey.

MA: I'm Mannie.

Unk: Mannie, oh.

KI: Casey's a Yonsei.

INT: I'm a Yonsei, yes.

Unk: Yonsei?

INT: Yes, my grandparents were both interned at Heart Mountain and Tulelake.

Unk: You half Japanese then?

INT: Yep, half Japanese yes, so this is a little bit of a vested interest in my own personal history.

MA: And_____, can I ask you to move closer to Uncle Kaz for me. Thank you.

Unk: We'll be lovey dovey's.

INT: (Laughs) there you go. It's too early in the morning for that (laughs).

Unk: Even though we fight (laughs).

INT: Well, we'd like to thank you for joining us. It will be good to have both of you guys here to chime in with each other. So, we were just talking about growing up on the farm and what that was like for, for you know in a rural community. We'll be getting to the war era pretty soon, so just kind of a little background.

KI: Yeah, that was before I met her anyway, so.

INT: So—

KI: So, while we had a really good life because you know during the Depression, farmers did pretty well. And we of course we worked on the farm every chance we had weekends and you know, not much during the week because we, we were going to school and right after public school we spent an hour, hour and a half at the Japanese School. So, by the time you came home—

INT: You came home, there's no time left.

KI: --weekends we worked it.

INT: So, you guys, you guys helped out around the farm when you had the chance or time?

KI: Oh yeah, oh yeah, of course.

INT: Yeah, and then you just went to public schools on up until, all the way through high school? Is that correct?

KI: Public school all the way through high school and two years at Cal Poly.

INT: Two years at Cal Poly. And then, what was your experience like at Cal Poly? What brought you to Cal Poly and would you, would you experience over there? (phone rings)

KI: We, my brother and I commuted from home to Cal Poly. (Someone talks on phone in background) So, every day we traveled to Cal Poly and went to school there and after Cal Poly, you know, they, we went back to Japanese School again which we kind of hated to do but—

INT: Yeah.

Unk: Is Stan supposed to be here?

KI: No.

Unk: No, okay. (Talks on phone)

INT: So, you guys were definitely on the move all the time going back and forth to—

KI: You know, only time we were able to not, I mean stay away from going to Japanese School was--

Unk: Excuse me

KI: --during baseball season.

Unk: Stan wants to talk to you.

KI: Hi (talks on phone)

Unk: South County Historical Society had the exhibit when they did, and so the goal might be is—

INT: I'm going to start it from here, go.

Unk: -- these interviews archive them, but then if we want, I could take it a step further—

Unk: Did you hit record? Did you press pause?

Unk: --and make an actual documentary, we—

Unk: I hit record and then I thought it was recording—

Unk: --may come with you two and shoot another interview on a high definition camera. And then what we might do with that is submit it to like film festivals and stuff like that.

Unk: We just want to make it an educational but also something that might be you know played on the History Channel or, or just you know local film festival, San Francisco, LA, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo so.

Unk: It's just crucial. You, you guys, you see the importance of it though, yeah absolutely.

Unk: Well, because from his small farm in lower Arroyo and then he enlarged it to Upper Arroyo yeah.

Unk: No, it's all fascinating and most of the people that live here and they don't, I would venture to guess that they don't know the history here. So, that's the goal is just to, because in school we didn't really get taught it, at least I didn't in high school level and we're right here in Arroyo Grande where it all happened you know. So, it's very important.

Unk: Okay guys.

INT: All right, we're ready to go. Okay, so we were talking about transfer from Gila or from Tulare to Gila. And what kind of experience it was or what I'm curious to know is you and your brothers went to Gila while your mom was the one that decided to stay with your father in Fresno.

KI: Yeah, because he wouldn't, they had to trans, move the hospital patient to Fresno because Gila hospital wasn't ready, wasn't built yet. So, anybody that was hospitalized in Tulare or maybe, maybe other assembly center too. They moved them to Fresno because I guess the facility was probably, probably larger and probably had better doctors____. So, first when you moved to, everyone to Gila, my, our family was put on a different block then

all the friends that went in from around here because we wonder why they put us you know certain place. Well they said, well your dad's being moved over here, so this would be, this block is closer to the hospital so you could you know go back and forth to the hospital.

INT: Oh, okay.

KI: But we, after we went to Gila, I don't know how long my dad stayed in the hospital but we decided to, we asked the hospital doctors, "Can we bring him to our home barrack and take care of him?" He was paralyzed and he took a lot of—

INT: Care?

KI: --care. So, there was four of us and we kind of took turns. Yeah.

INT: So, how long was it before the, because I know your brothers went back east or Midwest. How long was it when you, how long were you guys together before you got, before everyone started to leave to take off?

KI: Well, my younger, Sal the youngest, youngest brother was a UC Berkeley student.

MI: He went to Ohio, didn't he?

KI: No was Berkeley student, so the first so many months you know, Gila Camp school was looking for teachers. So, he, he applied to teach over there and he kind of a college education there, they use him. And when they started opening up, trying to get the young, young people to go back east wherever, wherever they wanted to go. They allowed them if you're a student they could find a college to go. They allowed them to go. So, he went to Toledo see. So, that left my brother and I and mother to take care of dad.

Then when dad passed away and my other brother went to Toledo too. He worked over there.

INT: And then, you finally left to go work as well?

KI: Yeah.

INT: After your father had passed away? And—

KI: Being the camp was all Japanese you know. Mother you know she took care of herself and she didn't have any problems so.

INT: Yeah, so you figured that it would be okay for you to go? When you left and you went and worked and you worked in Idaho and you worked in Chicago and then you went to Utah eventually. Did you ever feel any hostility towards you by anyone in those areas?

KI: No.

INT: So, was you, would you feel, how do you feel was the situation better or worse the farther east you got when it came to—

KI: Well, I think it was about, a lot better back east you know after we came back here again and met some new people, new, you know a lot of people started moving here you know. Most of them didn't even know evacuation took place.

INT: Oh, really? So, they were just kind of oblivious to what was going on?

KI: Yeah.

INT: I know when we first met you told us the story of, of you being, your deferment for the Army and, and the draft. I just wanted to get, have you tell that again of what happened with you going to Chicago and losing your status as a deferment and then coming to Utah, and what kind of involvement you think far, you suspect that Vard Loomis might have had in all of that with him being on the draft board?

KI: Well, I think everybody who went into camp was on the 4-F or whatever you call it classification you know the military didn't touch you see as long as you. But the minute you went out you had to make a change of address. They want you to as soon as you got there, you have to put in the change of address to the draft board. Well, as soon as you did that, you automatically was reclassified to 1-A.

INT: And so—

KI: Yeah, so when I, in Chicago as soon as they reclassified me 1-A they called me in for a physical. Well, I was twenty-five, six years old and good health and everything, no problems, so passed with flying colors.

INT: Yeah.

KI: So, mother being by herself, being the first born, the head of the family. She, she didn't want me to go in the service you know and just begged me to stay out.

MI: She didn't speak English.

INT: So, she didn't want to be left alone?

KI: So, she, she probably wrote to friends and said, could you, you know, find him a job, a job for him? So, I went to Chicago, left Chicago and went to Utah where a close friend was farming over there. I was 1-A anyway. But they wrote the draft board, the family wrote the draft board saying you know, I guess they wanted them to defer me because you know he was so valuable on the farm.

INT: On the farm?

KI: Or something like that, because I didn't, I didn't know anything. But they did. So, the draft board you know changed my classification back to 3-A again, they deferred me for

occupation reason. But probably, then that was, let's see it was, it was only a few weeks or so before I had a notice to report to the military service in Salt Lake City.

INT: And then—

KI: Then the deferment came.

INT: So, you didn't have to, have to worry about it. That's interesting that your, how that all worked out. I guess I might as well touch on right now the relationship that you had as an individual and then your family had with the Loomis' and how you guys became such good family friends?

KI: Well, first of all, we're all farmers and Loomis' family business was supply us, so the hay, hay to the farmers. First of all, they sold a lot of hay because in those days it was team horses, every farmer had horses.

INT: Horses?

KI: So, they, they sold us hay. They sold us fertilizer. They sold us seed, insecticide, everything. And you know, they, they trusted the Japanese so you didn't have to pay cash. You were you know, you paid them at the end of the season or maybe, maybe monthly or every once in a while, you get a little behind. They had one of the brothers, Loomis brothers would come around and says, "You think you could pay me so much?"

INT: (Laughs) so just as it became necessary?

KI: Yeah.

INT: That's interesting.

KI: Yeah, so we knew Loomis' and oldest son was Ivan, next one was Buster, and Vard, three sons were here. But they had other, other brothers that—

MI: John.

KI: No, no, not, they were, I mean he was, he went into the business I guess you know. But we knew them real well because, especially Vard. He graduated Stanford in thirty-one, 1931 and he came back to the farm, I mean to his family business. And he was the youngest, so I guess they sent him out to see all the farmers you know, and you know visited them to ask them is there anything you need or whatever? And he got real friendly with a lot of people like my dad you know? They would sit down out in the middle of the field for hours talking about probably baseball or whatever, yeah?

INT: (Laughs) yeah, because Vard was a player. He played baseball at Stanford.

KI: He played baseball at Stanford. And then in thirty-two, the year after he came back, my dad started realizing that we Nisei, need some, something besides just work.

MI: He needed an outlet.

KI: Nisei should be, should have some recreation. And he was, he loved baseball, so he asked Vard, “Would you coach the Japanese boys?” You know, essentially playing baseball you know? So, he agreed and he coached us for ten straight years.

INT: Oh wow!

KI: He, wherever we traveled, his wife would go along.

INT: That’s, yeah, so he kind of became you guy’s—

KI: So yeah, he was, he was our you know, mentor or whatever you want to call it.

INT: Uh-huh, yeah, almost like a role model for you guy’s as younger kids.

KI: Yeah.

INT: And so, what kind of an affect did, I mean you have him as being this, this outlet for you guys to be able to play baseball as kids and then during—

KI: Well in fact, he even coached basketball during the winters.

INT: Oh wow! So, he, I mean he had a large part in you guy's you know recreational you know outlets and then obviously during the war he, you stayed with him while you and your father were still in the area. And then he kept the farm while you—

KI: He, when I, when we had to leave. I asked Vard, "Can you, you know, manage the farm for us?" So, he, he got a couple fellows to farm, farm the place. He collected rent, paid the taxes. So, and he did that for some other Japanese family too I think.

INT: Yeah, what, I think you know, I think it's really admirable of him to do what he did. But what do you think motivated him to you know, I mean because obviously, it wasn't something that didn't put him out any? I mean he had to, probably was a lot of work to be able to you know keep things_____?

MI: Well, I think a lot of the Japanese did business with them.

KI: Japanese did practically all the business, farmers, you know farmers did business with the Loomis family. And he knew that the Japanese were reliable. They didn't have to worry, they all probably got paid the you know. In fact, I've heard that some of the farmers owed the butcher or some of these other merchants, but they all came, when they all came back, every one of them got paid you know. None of them, none of them just left and forgot.

INT: They made sure that—

KI: Japanese were known for you know paying their bills.

MI: Being honest.

KI: Of course, if he was broke, I guess he can't, some need help but.

INT: So, obviously, he you know felt a responsibility to uphold the same you know respect that they had shown towards him. And what did that, I mean it might be kind of an

obvious question. But what did that mean to you, your family and you that he was willing and able to uphold the farm and uphold the property as he did?

KI: Well, we were so close you know. In fact, he was closer to probably the Japanese than a lot of the Caucasians because—

INT: Uh-huh, because he is, he was so involved.

KI: He was involved in everything. He was such a, such a nice man, reliable fellow that all over the county he is well known.

MI: And well liked.

INT: Yeah.

KI: He was yeah.

INT: And for good reason I think.

KI: Yeah.

INT: What, do you think that he had any, this is all speculation. But do you think he had any difficulties with trying to, with just being so involved with, I mean I guess discrimination or hard feeling toward him being so involved and helpful with—

KI: During the war, I guess or even when I, when some people found out that he was boarding me you know at his place. Some, some other people went to the office, the main office over there and told him, asked, and he said, I guess they gave him a bad time saying, “How come you’re boarding a Jap when we’re at war with _____ and all that?”

MI: He was a Jap lover.

KI: Yeah.

INT: Do you, I—

KI: I never, after everybody left, I stayed just around here. I didn't make you know make friends or talk to many outsiders because you know, I wasn't supposed to be around anyway.

INT: Yeah, so you just had no way of knowing that. And I'm sure that it was probably a challenging time for him?

KI: But Vard, Vard would, after we came back, Vard never mentioned to me the hard time he got from some of these other people you know?

INT: Yeah.

KI: I heard it through the grapevine that—

INT: That things like that?

KI: Yeah.

INT: That's, and that's, I don't know.

KI: There were a few other farmers like, there's a Freeland, Sero Freeland, Ed Taylor, he, he used to be deliver gasoline and all that. And I guess during the war he started farming and I guess Freeland didn't farm, didn't do much farming in the valley, but I guess he was farming all over. But he probably took over some of the farms and you know, and after he came back. He was, they were our neighbors. And we, we didn't, we didn't have the equipment really that was necessary to do all the farming. So, once in a while we'd ask him, ask him, "Can we borrow this or that?" And he says, "Oh, go ahead."

You know, they were all real nice, except, except there was one, one family that they had youngsters, they were younger than I. I guess they were different age because they were farming. They didn't, they acted like they didn't like us you know?

INT: Oh wow!

KI: But we could tell they were farming right next, next door, next, _____ they were farming this side and he was farming, he was farming the land we used to lease and farm you know? And we, we hardly talked to them because they kind of ignored us.

INT: Oh wow!

KI: Both, we, we watched him farm and we could tell. We could tell they weren't produce, vegetable farmers by the way they were farming. The Japanese farming on this side had beautiful crops and he's got on this side, he has a terrible crop. Why he didn't last very long because—

INT: He didn't know what he was doing?

KI: No.

INT: And so, I mean, that's what I was going to hit upon next was just you know coming back and what kind of affect it had being gone and, and the entire you know camp experience? What kind of affect that had on trying to resettle back into the farming life? And obviously, it seems like that you had quite a bit of you know, it really wasn't as difficult as it could have been. But it didn't go, there wasn't. It wasn't without some prejudice involved?

KI: Some prejudice yeah.

INT: So, would you say that or how would you assess?

KI: See, I didn't come back. I didn't come back until November or December to the you know the crop was out in Utah which you know in the winter months. So, we you know, I came back with my uncle, the _____. In fact, they were over there working too. And I drove their truck with all their household goods. Hi (talks to someone who enters).

So, I, I drove a truck from, you know, brought the truck from Utah back to Arroyo Grande for them. Came through Las Vegas, Las Vegas Boulevard was one, one—

INT: The strip?

KI: There was no strip there.

INT: (Laughs) not quite yet.

KI: No.

INT: Just a little town in the middle of the desert?

KI: Yeah.

INT: Yeah.

KI: I mean we didn't even know it was a you know?

INT: Hadn't quite made it yet?

KI: No.

INT: That's, that's funny. Did you have any challenges involved with trying to reestablish farming and then getting back into POVE, reestablishing POVE and things of that sort? Was it that difficulty in the business aspect?

KI: Well, POVE was, was leased, leased out to, rented out to a couple of Filipino farmers, Salvador Reyes and Gabe Devione you know? Well, when we came back and we started farm, farming, they returned the you know, you know they returned the packing shed area, POVE area.

INT: Uh-huh, so they just handed it back over to, to you guys when you came back?

KI: Came back and started you know.

INT: And you just jumped right back into it?

KI: Yeah.

INT: So, was that, was it kind of you know hit the ground running type of a thing or did you guy's kind of have to build yourselves back up, back into getting the business running again?

KI: Well there were you know; a lot of the farm valley was probably run by Filipino farmers. So, they knew this when we came back that they had to return it so. Gradually the returned the place, yes.

INT: And then did you have to kind of evolve the you know, the kind of crops you had to grow and the way you ran the business after you came back? Was there kind of a shift that you had to make prior to or compared to before you were put in the camps?

KI: Well, we started growing the same, same type of crop like lettuce and celery and broccoli and cauliflower, you know?

INT: It just kind of went with the _____ and the way it worked?

KI: Yeah.

INT: Interesting.

KI: Instead of, instead of being able to farm the whole sixty acres we owned over there, we, I farmed maybe when we started out was maybe twenty, twenty-five percent of the farm because you know, trying to do it all by yourself and limited finance.

INT: Yeah.

KI: And so, in fact I leased the portion of the farm to some other Nisei's that came back and they didn't have no place to really farm. So, they said how about leasing me part of your land? I said, "Okay."

INT: Like you said earlier, you weren't able to use all of it at the time?

KI: No.

INT: So, that worked out well for you guys as well? Well, I also wanted to talk about you know, you've now got the fourth generation of your family involved with Bryson. And I'm just curious as to, this is kind an open question for the both of you too. What, how that, what how does that make you feel to have you know another generation finally coming into the family business?

KI: Well—

MI: It's wonderful!

KI: It's what, yes.

MI: To keep the farm up.

KI: You know they, he, he's really interested in farming, so you know we give him all the technical stuff like you know farming is more, it's harder and harder because they've got so many regulations you know?

INT: Uh-huh.

KI: And they want you to have everything written down and computers and we don't even know how to use computers you know?

INT: (Laughs) so, it's all beyond you, beyond you at this point?

KI: Yeah.

INT: What, what kind of future do you see for POVE when you see, you know the next generation coming into it?

KI: Well, see POVE pre-war had maybe forty, fifty farmers you know? They all was small farmers. But they started, well a lot of them didn't, people in Pismo area never came back because most of them were dry farmers and we used to get a lot of rain and they were nice, peas, bush peas and stuff. But they didn't come back. In this valley, a lot of

them weren't able to come back because they were all leased land, so they couldn't get, get the farm again.

INT: So, they lost out?

KI: So, we're down to five farmers now.

INT: Wow!

KI: But they're all you know, big, big acreage compared to the old days you know?

INT: Yeah, exactly.

KI: So, it's, but it's pretty. I don't know how they're getting along. I hope they're all getting along because they grew up together you know?

INT: Yeah, so, I guess would you, do you think that it's going to change a lot now that you've got Bryson and the younger generation coming into it or I mean, would you like to see it change or what kind of future do you see for POVE?

KI: Well I don't think you're going to change too much because you know this area is known for the _____ beans. It's, you know, it's got a mild, mild climate year-round, so you can grow so much different, different crops like you know lettuce family, cauliflower, broccoli and, but it's getting tougher and tougher because you know you got so many, you know, so many_____. These farmers are you know, there are thousands of acres you know.

INT: Yeah, and they're huge farms.

KI: Yeah, like _____ Bonita Farm and Tisharo's and, and _____. I don't know how they get so big right away but huge, but there's change over there too because you go over there the last couple of years, the acreage of strawberry growing over there is fifty percent. Have you been to Santa Maria Valley just recently?

INT: Uh-uh.

KI: God there was plastic all over the place.

INT: Oh really, yeah.

MI: Yeah, that's all strawberries.

KI: It's like, I was thinking, in a way that's good for us because that means there's that much less—

INT: Competition?

MI: Competition.

KI: --lettuce or other vegetable crop you know? But I don't know.

INT: Well, that could be a trend where it could you know leak over to you guys more often too.

KI: Yeah.

INT: I think I, you know, there's a certain cultural aspect to all this that we haven't really talked about. And I just wanted to know what kind of role the family takes from you know pre-war, war, to even now in kind of how traditions and the kind of simulation the Japanese culture has with American culture over the years. I just wanted to get you guys, how you, how you've seen that change within the recent decades especially with you know, the effects of the war and things of that sort?

MI: The Japanese here, they haven't really met much prejudice you know like some other communities.

INT: Yeah.

MI: I noticed that.

INT: And so, do you think that's, do you think that's kind of a unique aspect to this area?

MI: I think so. It's really nice. Everybody got along because I worked in Illinois and they had never seen a Japanese you know, and they thought, "Oh, the Japanese wear you know horn-rimmed glasses." And that's how they think Japanese.

INT: They have their stereotypical picture in their head?

MI: When they met, me they were surprised that I look nothing like that.

INT: And so, was it, because you were in Chicago?

MI: Well, I worked in Chicago.

INT: You worked in Chicago?

MI: I evacuated from my relocation camp to Chicago.

INT: To Chicago, okay, so after the war, after the camp you went to Chicago and made it back out here?

MI: Because I didn't have anything in California (laughs).

INT: But I'm just interested when you mentioned that they a mental picture in their head. Was that kind of something where they had, it was a prejudice picture that they had in their head or just kind of something that had been shown to them?

MI: No, they had never seen a Japanese, uh-huh, because I evacuated from camp to Chicago, then I went to work in suburbs of Chicago, Evanston.

INT: Okay.

MI: They had never seen a Japanese and they just pictured Japanese as horn-rimmed glasses and you know?

INT: And so, was that, did you, did you meet with just kind of like, "Oh, I guess this is how?"

MI: Well, then they look at me and says, "Oh, you're not different than us." (laughs)

INT: Yeah (laughs) it just kind of broke there, broke their image that they had?

MI: Yeah, uh-huh, right.

INT: That's interesting. Did you ever meet with any kind of—

MI: Prejudice?

INT: Yeah.

MI: No, not really.

INT: You just kind of—

MI: People were nice. I mean everybody I met anyway.

INT: Yeah, what kind of, did you guys feel as though you needed to feel or act American or keep yourself kind of secluded or—

MI: No, I never felt prejudice. I guess that's why.

INT: Yeah, and so, did you kind of feel as though when you were reestablishing in Chicago or you came back to, to AG, just kind of life as, as normal kind of feeling?

MI: Well, I didn't live here before so (laughs).

INT: But I mean, did you ever feel that you had to kind of act a certain way or keep yourself?

MI: Did you? I didn't.

KI: Well, we just tried, tried to be you know normal and up and up and everything. You'd be friendly, so you know, they think people in_____, you know Caucasian people that we meet, they think we're all good people, nice people you know? My, my son Vard is married to—

MI: A beautiful blond.

KI: Okay, Terri, Terri, Terri Lee and we, we meet a lot more Caucasian people through them too. And they were, we all Japanese and Nisei all try to help whatever they had in the community. Like Boy Scout fundraisers in the early days. When they had fundraisers,

they buy breakfast and they pass out the name cards of all the people in the valley. Well, these Caucasian friends that were helping out for the fundraising, they all wanted to grab the Japanese family's names to ask for donation.

MI: Yeah, because they were very generous.

KI: The Japanese people were generous and probably nobody turned them down see. Yeah, so—

INT: So, they knew, they knew that you guys were willing to—

KI: Willing to—

MI: Help.

INT: --help out.

KI: Yeah.

INT: And so, I mean obviously, that creates a good reputation for—

KI: So, even the, even the, the basketball organization, they have a youth kid's basketball program.

INT: They, they knew.

KI: My two, two sons—

MI: Were real active.

KI: --ran the, ran the program. And now they're helping out coaching the high school team.

But you know they're, they're not real, they're not teachers that get paid for whatever they do, but everything is volunteer.

INT: Volunteer, yeah.

KI: Of course, I guess being a basketball head coach in a high school, they get a little pay because you know they have to travel and stuff, so. But you know, it's not a full-time job.

INT: Yeah.

KI: And, and a lot of all these Sansei's are supporting the program be it baseball or basketball or you know soccer league or whatever.

INT: So, they're—

KI: And when it comes to fundraising and stuff, we try to pitch in as much as possible yeah.

INT: As possible yeah, so doing as much as you possibly can to help out?

KI: Yeah, we try to do probably more than normal you know?

INT: Is that?

KI: The, lucky that we, we can afford to do that right now. In the future, I don't know. We can't tell but you know?

INT: But when you can, you try and give what you can?

MI: And it's good to have the youth program, you know, to keep the young people active and doing it.

INT: Exactly, that seems like that's always, that's always been an aspect that's been around for when you were young and you know you always had like with Vard Loomis kind of giving you guys that outlet. And it seems like you guys, it's very, very important aspect to, to the lifestyle of the community and in order to be able to continue that and give that back.

MI: Well, he's been active in you know youth activities and now our sons are doing it. So, it's wonderful.

INT: Yeah.

KI: Yeah, some of the people I met after the war you know in our business and whatever. Maybe they came from Midwest. They didn't even know Japanese during the war you know, what we've been through.

INT: Yeah.

KI: The evacuation. Most of them never knew.

INT: That even?

KI: Just the West Coast people knew that we had to, they probably wanted to shove us out of there. But that was probably due to the competition I guess. And there was a lot of prejudice in the early, early days. They were farming. They wanted to buy land and they putting out Land Law where you couldn't buy—

INT: Own land?

KI: --own it. But people in the Midwest, they didn't know.

INT: Yeah.

KI: A lot of them didn't know, maybe a few of them did, but friends I met, they moved to California after the war. They—

INT: They had no idea?

KI: --had no idea.

INT: That's interesting because it's, well, obviously for us as students, we're you know exposed to that. And it's just interesting to think you know, wow there are some people that don't.

MI: Well, even our own children didn't know that we had to evacuate and just, you mean they kicked you out here you know?

INT: That's one thing I'm interesting to knowing is what kind of exposure did you give to, if they asked did you, were you willing to tell them about it? But was it?

MI: Oh sure.

INT: Yeah, was it something that you kind of—

MI: Nothing to hide, actually we just told them our experiences.

INT: Yeah, exactly.

KI: Well, they're not all that interested in knowing what, what we went through (laughs).

INT: (Laughs) that's, I'll ask you is, where has the greatest interest in your guy's background come from on a generational standpoint?

MI: What do you mean?

INT: Is it, like you said. Your children don't seem to be as interested. But for me, as like my grandparents, I'm interested in hearing about their experiences.

MI: Are you third or fourth generation?

INT: I am a Yonsei.

MI: Yonsei?

INT: Yeah. And so, have you, have you received? Where do you see the most interest coming from in the younger generations?

MI: The difference?

INT: Or, or like?

MI: Like our children don't feel any different huh. They just assimilate with everybody and you know, they don't. I don't think they've met much prejudice.

INT: Uh-huh, yeah and that's, that's interesting. That's kind of almost become a non-issue in this day and age.

MI: Especially in this community. I don't know if you went to a bigger city you know (phone rings) how that would be. (Phone rings, talks on phone) (whispers among interviewers) (conversation between Kaz and interviewer) What was this interview for?

INT: This is for Cal Poly and the Ethnic Studies Department is they're creating a South County Japanese Internment Oral History mainly based around the farmers in the area.

MI: Are you interviewing other people also?

INT: Yeah, actually there's probably, was there probably twenty, twenty in our class?

INT2: Yeah.

INT: There is probably a total of twenty of us in the class and then we've been paired off and we've all been talking to separate.

MI: Are you interviewing other people in this area?

INT: Yeah, everyone, everyone that we're interviewing is from the Arroyo Grande area, yeah.

MI: Oh, I see.

INT: That's are.

INT2: Fukuhara.

INT: Yeah, the Fukuhara's, the—

INT2: The Kobara's.

INT: The Kobara's, the and we, Brycen and-uh yeah.

KI: Doyce?

MI: How about Doyce?

INT: We did. We have not gotten. We did not get a hold of any of the Doyce. We have not. But we, they're hoping to be able to just continue getting as many interviews as possible so.

MI: How many POVE members?

KI: There's only five.

MI: Five, oh.

KI: Yeah, Doyce, Savatori's.

INT: Guys like Ben and Aki, hopefully will be approached to do it as well, maybe even Leroy.

MI: Ikeda, Hayashi, Savatori.

INT: Yeah, so I wanted to talk about a couple more things before we wrap things up. I wanted to talk to you about religion actually and the role it's played for you because I know that your family were Christian when traditionally Japanese-Americans, a lot of them or most of them are actually Buddhists.

MI: Buddhists, uh-huh.

INT: So, I just wanted to know, what kind of, how that's had an effect, a differing effect on your experiences with community?

KI: See, my dad became a Christian. I don't know when, but we moved into Arroyo Grande Valley he, he said, "I'm Christian, so we should go to Christian." So, we started going to Methodist Church Sunday School you know. In fact, I was, you know as I was able to drive I used to pick up a few, a few of our friends, the boys in the family would tag along with me and go to the Christian Methodist Church. And the girls in the family went to Buddhist (laughs).

INT: (Laughs)

KI: But I'm so called Methodist-Christian but I'm not one of those people that tighten and you know, one that attends, attends church.

MI: Religious.

INT: So, it probably didn't have as much as an effect on your everyday life as some?

MI: Well, your dad became a Christian because he worked for this family he told me.

KI: I don't know.

MI: I've always been a Christian though.

INT: Oh, really?

MI: Uh-huh.

INT: Uh-huh, so, did you ever had, was there any ever difference because you're a you know?

MI: A Christian?

INT: Uh-huh.

MI: No, I was always friends with Buddhists and the Japanese we're either Buddhists or Christian.

INT: Yeah, exactly.

MI: And very few Catholics. I've had friends in all the religions.

INT: Yeah.

MI: And didn't make any difference.

INT: Yeah.

MI: No.

KI: All over California they, they had the Japanese Associations each maybe each like colony, like San Luis Obispo Colony Japanese Association and they all got together maybe two, three times a year. So, functions you know and of course they had Japanese School all over too, plus we had sports and all this. Japanese baseball team, and every, every town or you know community up and down the coast all the way up to Wash, State of Washington. They had a lot of Japanese teams.

INT: Yeah.

KI: Even from the young, young, youngster like ten-year-old you know?

INT: Oh wow! They had several different?

KI: Yeah, they had a lot, enough kids they formed a team and they, they played next, like____, San Luis. San Luis had one. Arroyo Grande had one. Santa Maria had one. Guadalupe had a couple and Lompoc and Santa Barbara, all up and down the coast, all the way up to the State of Washington. You know, they used to—

MI: _____, you got a message here to call this number.

KI: --Washington, some of these teams used to come all the way down this way to play games.

INT: Oh wow! So, you were able to get quite a bit of you know, interact with quite a few teams from all over.

KI: Yeah, we didn't go that far up. We went as far as Stockton, Alameda, and Salinas and Monterey you know.

INT: All those areas which is quite a bit of you know interaction for being able to just playing baseball and able to meet up with quite a few people.

MI: (talks on phone in background)

KI: So, you know, Japanese kids were playing ball since that age. So, like in high school days, like Arroyo Grande High School was made up of maybe sixty percent Japanese, Nisei's.

INT: Yeah.

KI: But you know bigger cities you know, because the Caucasian young white kids, they didn't have those summer programs for the kids.

INT: Yeah, so you had to be able to—

KI: And for Japanese Issei of parents, that was their obligate to watch the games you know. Every Sunday they look forward to watching you know. Whole families come up.

INT: It was an experience for everyone you know being able to have that. And so, that is a big part of the community I'm sure.

KI: Yeah.

INT: Being able to have that, that for everyone to enjoy.

KI: But as you, after the, after the war we didn't have enough Japanese kids around. So, we, you know started joining the, well probably, probably it was after the war that they started forming Little League and you know for the kids to play. And after Little League, they didn't have any more team after that.

INT: Yeah, exactly.

KI: So, about four or five of us you know got together and said, let's form a Babe Ruth age group perhaps you know? So—

INT: I remember you telling us you were able to get sponsors and several teams together to be able to get an older—

KI: Yeah.

INT: --and older league started which is—

KI: The areas getting so populated and they got so many new people moving in. They, they got Little League and Babe Ruth League. And now they don't want the _____ League, they want a Cal Ripken League.

INT: Wow (laughs)

KI: And start fighting among themselves.

INT: (laughs)_____.

KI: I said to, I say to myself, “Good thing I’m not getting involved now-a-days.”

INT: Just, that would be too much then huh? That’s really neat though that it’s able, that it’s kind of taken off and continued to go on like today as it does. Well, I wanted to ask you guys one final kind of question. And how do you, with all this you know experience as you had with internment and then resettlement and the years of when they, when they had, in the 1980’s when they had, they apolo, the formal apology by the government and they were giving these twenty-thousand-dollar redress payments to the, to the survivors of the internment. I want to know how do you guys feel about that? What would, how do you, about the entire situation? How do you feel? What are your feelings behind what happened?

KI: Well, you know the twenty thousand dollars that we received, well—

MI: It probably wasn’t enough for some.

KI: --I donated most of to various organizations because I didn’t feel that you know you have to have it. Well, part of the main thing is that when we came back we started expanding and we were doing pretty well. So, I figured there’s other people and places that could use that money. So, I donated that, most of that money back to you know community where we live it. I can’t remember who I gave it to, but you know when they started getting the signature to see you know to push that, push for that. I know they, a lot of people, well I know because of that evacuation you know, we got setback you know, to get back to farming again and lost, lost all the opportunity. But we’re, we’re doing, we’re doing well enough that I didn’t need, think I need all that government money.

INT: Yeah, exactly. Do you? Do you feel that it was necessary in order to have that given to you? Or, I mean when you say that you're doing well enough that you didn't feel it was—

MI: I'm pretty sure that for some people it really was.

KI: Some people it probably--

INT: It really was?

MI: They lost a lot so.

INT: Yeah, and I mean I guess you, especially you know with your farm and being able to come back to what you had?

KI: Yeah.

INT: Was actually a very fortunate situation.

KI: There, there were farmers in some areas that they bought the land. They had bought land, bought it, they almost had to give it away then because they, they didn't want them back there.

INT: Yeah, exactly.

KI: So, for them you know, they were probably glad to get, took that money you know?

INT: Exactly, yeah, just be able to take it off their hands. Is it, when you look back on that time period and those experiences, is it something that you are very, I don't know. For some people, it might be very emotionally charged or I know that some people, depending on their age when they were in the camps, it was a completely different experience. For some, it felt like summer camp. To others, it was like you know, it was a very traumatic experience. So, when you look back on that, what kind of feelings does it bring back for you especially since you had such an unusual situation with?

KI: You have a lot, I feel that a lot of the families that were in camp, especially the mothers, they, they probably had a real good vacation because you know?

MI: Yeah, the ones that really had to work on the farm.

KI: You know, they had to work, a lot of farmer's wife you know, they had to go out and work almost as much as the regular people. And they had to cook the—

MI: Besides keep the house.

KI: --keep the house, they had to help and some, some families had employees board them.

INT: Yeah.

KI: You know.

INT: So, they—

KI: And so, only, they had no time for any recreation.

INT: Yeah.

KI: So, when they got into camp they got all kinds of time on their hands. So, they, the women had their Women's Club and they had the flower arranging class, some singing classes.

MI: Sewing and for a lot of the women it was vacation (laughs).

INT: Very, very social and—

MI: Yes, uh-huh because before that the ones that had to go out and help their dad, their husband on the farm, it was really hard.

INT: Yeah, long days and fairly, they were intensive.

MI: Like I didn't have to.

INT: Yeah, so that kind of gives it a different, gives all that kind of a different tint to thinking back to the camp experience for some.

KI: Yeah, especially the young kids. But it wasn't, little kids they, they had so much to do.
They ran all over the place and—

INT: (Laughs)

MI: When we first went to camp, it was really funny because you know the younger kids, they don't understand. So, then here they're playing games and said, "Oh, the Japs are coming, the Japs are coming."

INT: (Laughs) and they just.

MI: Yeah, it was really funny (laughs).

INT: (Laughs) that's so interesting. Yeah.

MI: They didn't know you know?

INT: Yeah, just, just didn't have any idea.

INT2: I'm going, I'm going to need to make another tape change here.

INT: Okay, well we'll be wrapping it up pretty quick too.

INT2: Okay, it happens to be in my car. I'll be right back.

MI: Yeah, it was really funny to hear that kind of stuff (laughs). And they don't, they don't realize they're Japanese you know (laughs), "The Japs are coming." (laughs)

INT: (Laughs)

MI: It's so funny.

INT: How old were you while you were in the, or when did everything?

MI: I was about nineteen when I went in.

INT: Oh okay, okay, so you were pretty. I mean it was obviously a very real thing for you to be—

MI: Interned.

INT: --interned yeah.

MI: Well, I was, I had a younger sister you know, and my dad, and just my dad because I lost my mother. So, I had to look after them you know. So, what I did was I went to a, from, then I went, from camp I went to Chicago because we all had to get out of camp you know, compelled to. So, I went to Chicago and worked.

INT: Oh wow!

MI: And then I worked during the day and went to school at night.

INT: Oh really?

MI: Yeah, then I went through beauty college uh-huh, and started working in a beauty shop after I got my license.

INT: Oh wow, that's cool. And then you came back out to, out here to visit?

MI: Yeah, and then I met him. (laughs)

INT: Can you tell me about that?

MI: (Laughs)

KI: You want to, you want to know your story and my story both?

INT: (Laughs)

MI: (Laughs) I kind of think it was arranged. I think my girlfriend wanted me to meet him, yeah so.

INT: So, kind of a pre-planned thing?

MI: Well, I came to meet another girlfriend that I had already met in Chicago and she lived here in Arroyo Grande. So, when I went to visit my friend in Morro Bay from childhood friend and so she says, "Oh." You know this girlfriend lived in Arroyo Grande, so I came to Arroyo Grande and he purposely came to visit that friend (laughs).

INT: (Laughs)

MI: Just to look me over. (Laughs) funny.

KI: It turned out lucky for her so.

MI: (Laughs), conceded huh?

INT: Yeah (laughs).

KI: I was thirty-two.

MI: We were both pretty old though.

KI: Thirty-two.

INT: Oh really?

KI: When we got married.

MI: And I was twenty-nine.

INT: Oh really. I didn't realize that. That's interesting. So—

MI: We were old.

INT: So, that's something that I, that comes to mind. The first thing that comes to mind when you say that is did you feel a lot of pressure to, to—

MI: Marry you mean?

INT: --you know, marry and settle?

MI: No.

INT: Was that kind of—

MI: I was in no hurry (laughs).

INT: (Laughs) so that was something where—

KI: I think. I think she was in a hurry.

MI: No, but I was kind of taking care of my younger sister although she got married before I did. So, it was kind of a relief to me that I didn't have to look after her anymore. And then I still had my dad until he passed away.

INT: Uh-huh, so is that kind of, you just wait until things kind of fell together?

MI: Yeah, uh-huh.

INT: Yeah.

MI: Yeah, so and then, to this day I wonder how I did it because I didn't hardly have any money to go to Chicago, barely got to Chicago and found an apartment. I had to get a job right away.

KI: They give you, they gave you fare to go to out of camp.

MI: That's right, to, to relocate you know uh-huh.

INT: But it wasn't, you mean you definitely had to make sure that you provided for yourself once you got out there? I mean it wasn't like you were set?

MI: So, even to this day I wonder how I did it and I didn't know where to go. But we found this, my girlfriend and I found this apartment and we stayed there.

INT: So, did you leave your family? Did you separate from your family after the camp to go to Chicago or did they come?

MI: Well, I only had my dad and my sister. I never had a mother for a long time. And so, I evacuated first to get my sister and my father out of the, well so they'd have a place to go.

INT: To go, okay? So, you set up camp before—

MI: Yes, uh-huh.

INT: --before they left? Oh, okay.

MI: I don't know how I did it, but (laughs)

INT: That's one of those things.

MI: But we only got what, twenty-six dollars a month or something?

KI: I don't know.

MI: You know, depending on what kind of work you did, you know, if you had a higher job, you got maybe a little more. But it was like twenty-six and twenty-four dollars a month we got.

KI: Work.

INT: Wow!

MI: In camp.

KI: No, no, camp we only got sixteen dollars and nineteen dollars.

MI: Was it? (laughs)

KI: Nineteen dollars was a doctor's, professionals.

MI: Pay?

KI: Yeah, everything else, meal and everything was free, so that was, that was you're.

MI: Oh, we got fed a lot of neck bones.

KI: Sixteen.

INT: (laughs)

KI: I remember and a lot of peanut butter.

INT: A lot of peanut, really? That's one thing that I've never really heard much about is the, I've heard conflicting stories that it wasn't really that bad. But never really specifics about—

MI: The food we ate in camp?

INT: Yeah, uh-huh.

MI: I know I-

KI: Peanut butter and apple—

MI: Neck bone and apple butter. We got a lot of apple butter (laughs).

KI: Oh yeah.

INT: Interesting, that's interesting.

KI: And uh—

MI: And you know—

KI: Orange, no what is it, jam?

MI: I don't know what you got in your camp. But he was at Gila and I was in Poston.

INT: Yeah.

MI: And same state you know in Arizona.

INT: Yeah.

MI: Because there were ten, ten camps.

INT: Yeah, and now that's also something is how did you guys deal with the change in climate that?

MI: Well, like for me it was no, no different because I was in a hot country and I went to a hot country.

INT: Oh, that's right (laughs). Yeah.

MI: In Arizona, but for him I don't.

KI: No, you get, you get accustomed to it.

INT: Yeah, yeah, you get used to it long enough.

MI: You formed a baseball team huh when you got to camp?

KI: Yeah (laughs)

INT: (Laughs)

MI: Baseball fanatic.

INT: Yeah, did you guys build your own diamond?

KI: Yeah, I, we, they built. They built the regular one nice complex at the one end of the camp. And it was one, one whole block that was empty you know, so I, I lived on that end. So, I helped build, build that. I put the backstop up and everything. But we played mostly that was practice. We played a game from one, we lived on this end of the camp and it was catty-corner on the opposite end.

INT: (laughs)

KI: They finally got tired of walking, so I bought myself a little bicycle and—

INT: (Laughs) and so you'd get over there and play easy enough? Oh, that's funny, that's funny.

KI: Not only play that, I did a lot of umpiring too.

INT: Wow! So, you kept yourself involved.

MI: Did you? Did you have a movie once a week in your camp?

KI: We had a movie. We had a movie, but I never, I never did go to the movie. I didn't have any girlfriend to take.

MI: On certain blocks, they would bring a movie and they'd show us the movies, uh-huh. I don't know what they were but, and then you had to take your own chair you know?

INT: Yeah (laughs), so it was a, some of somewhat required.

KI: I never did go to the movie.

MI: I did, I guess because it was kind of in my block.

INT: Uh-huh.

MI: You know, there's, I think there was sixty blocks in our camp or something.

INT: Oh wow! Yeah, so they were obviously very large in order to house everyone.

MI: Michael, well I was in a camp where they had one, two, and three different sections of camps.

INT: Oh okay.

MI: So many miles apart, how many miles apart it was, one miles apart. I can't remember.

INT: Wow!

MI: Out in the desert. I was used to the desert, so it wasn't hard for me. But for some people that came from the city and then to live in this desert. It was hard.

INT: Yeah, I bet, especially being just kind of thrown right into that.

MI: Right, uh-huh, I felt so sorry for them because I was used to the heat and all that. Yeah, and then in my block there was a man that caught rattlesnakes and ate rattlesnakes.

INT: Oh wow!

MI: He had, because there's a lot of snakes out in the desert.

INT: Yeah (laughs). This was a way to get a little bit, something besides what they're giving you?

MI: Yeah, and then our camp, his camp was, we were near the Colorado River. You know people, I think some people walked eight miles and went to the river to fish and—

INT: Oh wow! So, were they, were you able to leave fairly often and free to go?

MI: No, we weren't not at the beginning. We couldn't leave camp.

INT: And then did you, did it kind of become more and more lack towards the longer you were in there?

MI: Well, then we were compelled to—

INT: To leave?

MI: --yeah.

INT: Yeah, exactly okay. So, I have one kind of fun question to ask you Mr. Ikeda is, actually my roommate wanted to know. He said ask him who his favorite baseball player was?

KI: Who's?

INT: Who's your favorite baseball player?

KI: My favorite baseball player? Well, first was _____ talk about Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Yankee was my favorite, favorite team.

MI: Team.

KI: Then when Jackie Robinson was the first player to go getting into major league, Brooklyn Dodgers.

INT: Yeah.

KI: He was my, one of my favorite. Joe DiMaggio, you know, yeah, but I was a Yankee fan.

MI: Tell us how old he is? (laughs)

INT: (Laughs)

MI: It shows how old you are (laughs).

KI: Then when they, when the Dodgers and Giants moved to the west coast, Brooklyn Dodgers was my favorite over there when they came over this way. San Francisco Giants is my favorite team with Willie Mays.

INT: Yeah, so, so you're a Giant's fan now?

KI: Giant's fan.

INT: Yep, absolutely.

KI: Giant's and Giant's and then _____ on that pitcher. Oh gee.

INT: (Laughs) yeah, he's something else yeah.

KI: Never, never heard of him until this, this year.

INT: Yeah, he just got the Gold, Gold Glove. He's something else.

KI: Yeah.

INT: Well, I think, I think we were able to get a lot of goods stuff today. And so, I just wanted to thank you guys for participating and on behalf of the Cal Poly South County Internment Oral Histories, so.

KI: We'll catch all these other fellows.

INT: Yeah, I'm sure.

KI: Doyce, Doyce, the Doyce family is like, Ben Doyce, we play. We play golf, try to play golf once a week. But we're all eighty and over you know. There's a couple of us are nineties.

INT: Uh-huh.

MI: Too.

KI: Still you don't have that on tape, do you?

INT: Oh yeah (laughs)

KI: I'm not. This doesn't concern you, so whatever. Turn it off.

INT: (laughs) get you guys, as long as you guys can able, are still able to get out there you know?

KI: Yeah, that's the purpose of the thing is just to get out there and swing your club.

INT: Swing your club around a little bit if you can, yeah, yeah.

KI: Funny thing is when you go out, go out there and once in a while you'll have a pretty good day, which I consider is a pretty good day you know? I come home and she won't say, she doesn't say anything to me see.

MI: (Laughs)

KI: You know, I'm waiting for her to ask me how I did? And she won't say, don't say anything.

MI: I ask him when he has a bad game.

INT: (Laughs)

KI: When I have a lousy game, she asks me, "How did you do today?" How come you ask me that today?

INT: (Laughs) what about the other day?

MI: Yeah.

KI: She's _____.

INT: She knows (laughs).

KI: Well you can just look at me and you can tell if I.

INT: (Laughs) Keep you with your feet on the ground and out of the clouds.

MI: I wanted to learn to play golf too, but you know I couldn't because I lived with his mother so.

INT: Oh, okay yeah.

KI: Well, she had three, four kids so, you know?

INT: That's a feat unto itself. (Laughs) yeah, but I'm sure that this will not be the last time that you'll be hearing from us just to, because I just think it's really interesting so. (Phone rings)

END OF INTERVIEW