

“Empowerment Through Peace”

Aki Kurose

ME: You have had a wonderful life and I'm... the nature of the Densho archive, is it's preserved, for hopefully generations and generations to come. Is there anything that you would like to say to future generations? Anything that you learned along the way that you'd like to share?

AK: I want them to always realize that, not to get involved when you should get involved is an act of violence. And that you should always work for peace. Peace does empower you. Peace is the most empowering and productive way to go. And... I wish that there would be peace for all people in all nations.

ME: What about special messages to great-great-great-grandchildren that are not even born yet, that you might not get a chance to see?

AK: Peace is the most important message, yes. I want them to always work for peace. And without peace, real learning cannot take place, real interaction with others cannot, you know... meaningful interaction cannot take place. You have to respect people, and be peaceful with people. I think respect is very, very important. Respect for yourself, respect for others. And if there is anything I would like to leave with my grandchildren, is to have them learn to respect themselves as well as others, and to work for peace. Because peace is what empowers people.