



Episode 5: LATRINES

In this episode, we talk about everything you never wanted to know about latrines in WWII Japanese American concentration camps. Our research may have gone down the toilet, but we promise this story isn't all about poop. We'll look at how incarcerated people adapted to extremely adverse conditions and the unique challenges women incarcerated people faced, including sexual violence and harassment. See the full transcript [here](#).

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the lack of privacy dehumanize people? In what other ways were incarcerated people dehumanized? Can you think of other examples in history or in the present in which detained peoples have been dehumanized?
2. Stories about sexual violence are often left out of the historical record -- why do you think this is the case? Can you think of other types of stories that might be left out? Is it important that we try to uncover these stories? Why or why not?

Lesson Idea:

Think about all the infrastructure needed to accommodate 120,000 people in 10 concentration camps. Imagine that you work for the War Relocation Authority and that you are charged with setting up a camp for 10,000 men, women, and children in the middle of the desert. Working in a small group with other students, brainstorm a list of infrastructure needs for your camp. Think about basic needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter, as well as other needs like health care, sanitation, safety, education, and recreation. How would you meet these needs?