

Mass Imprisonment in America: The Story of Sam Mihara – Japanese Internment Survivor

Tuesday, September 26th, 2017
3:00pm-4:00pm EST



Sam Mihara is a second-generation Japanese American. His parents were born in Japan and immigrated to the U.S. in the 1920s. Sam was born in the early 1930s and raised in San Francisco. When World War II broke out, the United States government forced Sam and his family to move, first to a detention camp in Pomona, Calif., and then to a remote prison camp in Northern Wyoming, where they stayed for three years. The camp was one of 10 in the United States. Together the camps housed a total of 120,000 West Coast residents of Japanese ancestry, most of them U.S.-born American citizens. Sam's family lived in a single room, measuring 20 feet by 20 feet, for their entire imprisonment.

Sam developed the *Memories of Heart Mountain* presentation to educate people and help ensure such civil rights violations don't happen again. In it, he tells the story of his family and what happened to them, why the camps were created, and the important lessons that were learned from this experience. By combining professional images with his own photo collection, Sam has created an informative and entertaining program that describes the conditions he, his family, and his close friends experienced during the Japanese-American incarceration.

Sam's presentation discusses: his own experiences at Heart Mountain, typical daily conditions in camps around the country, why only Japanese Americans were imprisoned, the release from camp and conditions upon returning home, today's prison camps for Central American refugees, and relationships to registration of Muslims

Location: Ivy Tech Community College - Indianapolis Campus
50 W Fall Creek Parkway N Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46208
NMC Building, Room 438

Free parking in garage off of Meridian and 27th street

Admission is free and open to the public.



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