

ALAN JOE,  
Interviewed by Ken Huynh  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Toronto, Ontario

### **Excerpt**

For the full interview, go to the archives <http://interracialintimacies.org/archives.html>

0:18:58.4 Alan: I think by the time of post-Second World War era came, the people are more enlightened. And because during the war, uh, many Japanese, no, many Chinese have gone, have enlisted in the military, have gone to war. They come back as veterans, in other words, they have contributed to the war effort of Canada. Therefore, I think, they become much more accepted. They were not looked down as much as the older time, during the time that my father came in 1910, or when my, uh, stepmother came in 1920. So, in other words, there were other immigrant that came to Canada, the Jewish people, the Europeans, they call us D.P.'s. Of course, there was a bit of discrimination. 8

Ken What's a, what's a D.P.?

Alan 0:20:08.1 D.P. is a derogatory term, displaced person. So the local people called the new immigrants and the Oriental immigrants like the Chinese, D.P.'s. And we, at school we may be laughed at, and snowball throw at us, and they called us D.P.'s, "Chinky, Chinky, China boy", or such things. So there was some discrimination, although I personally haven't found it to be that bad.

Ken What was the discrimination that you endured, or maybe even the stories that your father had?

Alan 0:20:56.5 Well, besides, Toronto is not as bad as Vancouver. Because Vancouver's really bad because of the local white people, I'm talking the local, uh, white people were very envious and jealous of the Chinese immigrants. And they say, you know, "They take our job, they open, uh, laundry, they open grocery store, they open restaurants, they take away some of our business and, and, and, uh, cause more employment [sic] among us, so I think the discrimination factor was much more prominent in B.C., far less so in Montreal and, and Toronto.