

JAPSS HAIR SALON

I was very cynical back then. I thought, redress? No way. Never going to remember pretty clearly that in 1985, my brother called me up and said, "What do you think about this hair salon that's calling itself JAPPSS! I'm thinking, are you kidding? I was just incensed! After the camps when we went back to school, the kids would call you names, and on December 7th, they would always remind you that "you bombed us.!" You know, kids can say horrible things to each other and when this hair salon came along, they took it so lightly. --Like you could just put up a sign with this offensive name. It was derogatory and bad it was wrong and I was just outraged! All of sudden, it was like all of my buttons were being pushed. Then my brother told me that we were going to have to picket this place and I thought, picket?



Oh, no, I can't do that! No, no, no! That was just not in my makeup! But it was so important so I bit the bullet and picked up a sign because it was so offensive to have a salon out there called JAPSS! That's when I got involved with NCRR, and I thought, these people are fighting for things that I

believe in, so that started my adventure with this organization.



David Urmston, fellow picketer



Suzy Katsuda

(Oral History Project, 2001)