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E. Divorces

1. Regarded with sympathetic view-point
2. Personal pride
3. Hesitation in having it legalized
4. Causes
 - a. Expectation of too much pleasure
 - b. Wrong thinking

III. Conclusion

- A. Improvement of yourself
 1. Useful citizens
 2. Change in psychology
- B. Mutual understanding
- C. Optimistic view point
- D. Think in terms of community welfare

Family Life in Tulelake

As the social life in the outside world changes rapidly, more rapidly because of the present war, we who are in relocation centers also have to meet many social changes. The basic social institution is the family, and I shall discuss that family life in Tulelake Project.

The adjustments we have had to make to fit ourselves into this colony have been a major change in our normal family life. Many of us have never lived in a concentrated group of our people before, and our association with them is difficult. The nearness of the families, the limitation of rooms per family, the eating in mess halls, the use of public bath-houses, laundry rooms, ironing rooms, the handicap of not having running

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water within the home, the simplicity of home, are several of the alterations in everyday living we had to face.

The family is in a way made a closer unit here than before. Children will have much more opportunities of participating in family discussions. Family discussions are likely to be held more often here than the outside because we have more time and are in closer contact with each other. In the outside, family members were sometimes too busy with other relations and had little time to devote to the family meetings. Take for example the grocery businesses that were run by Japanese. The family ran the store in shifts and there was seldom a time when the whole family met because of the long working hours. The parents have more time to devote to the children now and for this reason there should be more opportunities for them to study their children and try to understand them.

Family friends are good things to have. In this colony where people from all along the coast are gathered, we have a wider choice of friends. These friends may become life-long friends, and may some day be of great help to us.

It is true that in this colony one can see the innermost character of a person, whereas, if we were outside we would be able to conceal that part which we didn't want other people to know. And too, when we are here we do things we would not do ordinarily. People become selfish and think in terms of "first come, first serve," or "if we don't grab for anything, we'll never get it."

Many people are doing the same type of work here as they have been doing, for an income incomparable to those they earned back home. This has caused many to think in the idea of "what's the use of working your

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head off for nothing?" There is also the attitude of that property of the government is yours also. These ideas have great influences on the part of children who see or hear their parents act or talk in that manner.

The character of the parents and the family training they had extended to their children can be readily perceived by the actions and attitudes of the children.

The mothers of children whose fathers have been taken to internment camps have a great deal of responsibilities on their shoulders. I know a little girl five years old whose father is away (in an internment camp) and has asked her mother continually where Daddy was. Her explanation was a difficult one. She (the child) sometimes comes to a state of meditation and would suddenly start crying. Her mother told us that this has happened several times and was very worried about this affecting her future character. According to Mr. Adler "the whole life of an individual is determined during his first five years; that is, the attitudes and interpretations of incidents during one's life time." Of course, all parents have great responsibilities in the bringing up of a child, but I am referring to a special case where the mother especially has greater duty.

From previous paragraphs we can see that a rather democratic form of family exists in this colony. Of course, the paternal domination exists to a certain extent as a tradition of the Japanese families, but it is dying out. The mother usually has as great a role in the family events and businesses as the father. The children are the center of attention in most of the homes. They are free to give their opinion in family concern. In a survey made in the size of family in my block the average family is four members.

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The go-between marriages still prevail in this center. To one advantage they look back into the prospective newlyweds' families a couple generations back, thus constructing the foundation of a eugenic family. I have heard that the go-betweens even inquired to Japan about their ancestors if they were not certain, and they held the marriage until a reply came back. These marriages are more for the people who have lived in Japan for most of their lives, and they seem to last most of the time.

The young people brought up here usually will not stand for such a union; they make their own choice and the parents will have go-betweens at marriages only to be in accordance with the Japanese marriage customs. In a census taken in July it was found that there is a surplus of men. Of the single adults there are approximately one and a half men to one woman. This would mean a wider choice of mate on the part of the girls to find one to suit her.

Divorce is regarded on the whole with more of a sympathetic viewpoint now because people have begun to realize that some marriages join wrong persons. In this camp I have heard of several divorces which have not as yet been legalized. Having it legalized would let everybody know that their marriage was a failure. People have their personal prides. They hesitate a great deal in this matter. In the outside world people can divorce quietly and live in separate towns where they will not come in contact with each other. Here, it is difficult to get outside and they have but one place to go and that is their parents' homes.

One of the reasons for a divorce for newlyweds is that they expect it to be too much of a pleasure. Probably in the outside it is. The wife can prepare meals that would please the husband after a hard day's work, they would have a lot to talk about, or occasionally they would go

to movies. Here, they have this disadvantage of a dull, camp life; that is, if they are not happy, they will eventually look at it in that way.

Many of the divorces have been said to have been caused by the husband's looking on to other women as better than their wives. They have but looked to only the bad side of their wives and neglected all the good sides. I think this is true to everyone. We are more conducive to think in the bad way than in the good way.

In conclusion I would like to mention some possible constructive improvements of the family. First of all, we should try to improve ourselves. Whether we will be able to take our places in normal American society and become useful citizens after we get out of here is a great question. It is going to require a tremendous change in the psychology of niseis. For those little children especially, the responsibility of training them to meet this requirement lies in the family.

Mutual understanding should prevail in all families. The parents should seriously and fully understand the situations of the children and the children in turn should give thorough understanding and cooperation to their parents.

Also, we should learn to look at things a little more optimistically. The incidents prior to the present has been taken too pessimistically. If we choose to interpret things unfavorably, there is no end to it. We must learn to acquire the good side of everything. Too, we must learn to think in terms of the welfare of our community rather than in terms for your own selfish desires. Therein lies a duty of the family--to stimulate the growth of the personalities of their children.

With these points in mind I think that family life will bear much good fruit.

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(Female)

Aspects of Human Life in Camp

People in this world are prone to be selfish and unsympathetic; they do not know how to love and respect each other; they argue and quarrel over trifling affairs to their own harm and sufferings, and life becomes only a dreary round of unhappiness.

Here in camp, among many thousands of people, there are the rich, poor and the well-to-do. Regardless of whether they are rich or poor, they worry over money affairs. They suffer from poverty and they suffer from wealth. Because life is controlled by greed, we are never contented and satisfied.

Because this is a world of suffering, people ought to have more sympathy for each other, respect each other for their good traits and help each other in their difficulties, but instead they are selfish and hard-hearted; they despise each other for their failings and dislike them for their advantages.

Fortunately, these feelings of dislike do not often eventuate in acts of violence; but they poison life with feelings of hatred and anger that becomes so deeply carved into the mind that people carry the marks of it to the hour of death.

Nothing in the world is permanent or lasting. Everything is changing, momentary and unpredictable. The quiet and beautiful homes we left behind were not meant to be permanent. For when the time for evacuation arrived, though dreary and lost, we arrived to our destination which was delightful and pleasant. But the best things in life were meant to change. So today, here we are at Tulelake, ignorant and selfish, only concerned with the desires and sufferings of the passing moments.

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Religious services are held throughout the colony with colonists who for the first time in their lives are attending these services, only to find a new slant toward life in camp. As the days go by, many people realize how strongly they are bound by greed, habit and suffering; they become sad and discouraged. Often in their discouragement, they quarrel and sink deeper into sin and give up trying to be better. Often their lives come to some untimely end in the midst of their wickedness.

It is true that everything in this life here in camp is transitory and filled with uncertainty, but it is lamentable that everyone cannot ignore the fact and keep on trying, when democracy will once again enable us to live the lives we desire.

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(Female)

Outline

- I. Family life of the Tule Lake Project
 - A. Evacuation
 1. Brought about many changes
 2. Adjustment in life
 - B. Family ties have been broken
 1. Because of insufficient activities at home
 2. No meal time discussion
 - C. Disadvantages for children
 1. Children
 - a. Take advantage of their parents
 - b. Become bad
 2. Lack of recreation
 3. Not enough home training
 - a. Etiquette
 - b. Home tasks
 4. Difficult for students to study
 - D. Advantages for adults
 1. Many opportunities offered to them
 2. Prepare themselves to face society
- II, Life outside of Tule Lake Project
 - A. Difficulties
 1. Rationing
 2. Priorities
 - B. Why we should be thankful we are here

Family Life of the Tule Lake Project

Approximately one year ago, the Japanese people had to face a problem which we hope no one would have to face again. Our parents went about their work with a feeling of insecurity. No one knew what the future had in store for them and their families. Rumors about evacuation went around from one person to another. We tried to deceive ourselves by thinking that it was just a rumor, and nothing which could actually take place. We went to school as usual, but somehow everything seemed to have changed. Few of the Caucasian students looked at us with hatred and scorn in their eyes. Even the little ones sensed a change and knew that everything was not the same. Finally we received the news which we all had hoped would not come. We were all torn away from our businesses, schools, and homes. We have had to make a great adjustment in trying to lead a normal life in the Tule Lake Project.

Attitudes of family life in Tule Lake have changed immensely from the life we once lead outside. Members of the family have drifted apart instead of becoming more closely united as they should. They have drifted apart because of the insufficient activities in the home. They tend to spend their leisure time at their friends' place more than at home. In many families meal time seems to be the only time when the family is together. During this time they discuss various family and personal problems which they would not care to discuss with others. Unless our meals are served in the family style, many family ties will be broken.

Camp life is a great disadvantage for children. Youngsters are taking advantages in many respects. They get into all sorts of predicaments, and get out of it without being punished for what they have done. Parents do

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not scold their children as they did at home, because of the lack of privacy. They are afraid that the family next door would hear all that is going on in their home. The child knows that he can get by without being punished; consequently, he will commit more offenses which later develops into a serious problems.

Many teen-age boys are spending their time smoking, card playing, gambling, and other ways which they would not do under normal conditions. Lack of good recreation has hardened them, and made them conduct themselves in ways which are not quite satisfactory to society.

In a one-room apartment our daily tasks are limited. We have no kitchen work, or the five or six rooms to clean. Mothers who are not working usually do all the housework in order to keep herself busy. This is the chief reason why children are given very little home training. Different sloppy table manners are often overlooked at the mess hall. The parents do not bring the child's attention to his poor etiquette, because they feel humiliated to be corrected before their friends. Children become rude, untidy, and lazy which eventually leads into bad habits.

Students neglect their school work because of the unfavorable condition in which to study at home. It is difficult to study in a room while one member of the family has the radio on and another is conversing. Although studies are more important than radio programs, we cannot deprive from them their only means of recreation. A great many of the students have lost interest in education since evacuation. They think that they are just wasting their time trying to get education in such a place as this. To make matters worse, these people influence other students who begin to get the same opinion. They should have special study halls in

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each wards in order to let the students study without any disturbance, and also without having to walk to the end of the camp just to study.

Camp life has been a benefit to the adults. Adults who are taking adult education and other courses offered to them, will find that they are a little prepared to face the outside world again.

Although camp life has been of some disadvantage to many families, the outside world is probably facing a more serious situation than we are. They have been struck by the rationing of different products and priorities of different articles. Juvenile delinquency has increased since the outbreak of war. We should be thankful that we are properly fed and housed, and away from the mob violence outside.

Living Together in Our Community

I. Introduction

A. Altered living

- 1. Life of a normal American to that of an enemy alien for the Isseis

II. Body

A. Advantages of living in a community as Tule Lake for the Isseis (first generation)

1. Creative time

- a. Hobbies
- b. Choice of desirable employment and recognition
- c. Adult education

2. Security

- a. No housing, food, clothing problem
- b. Medical care

3. Little worry

- a. United family
- b. Excellent schooling system for the children
- c. Diversified recreation for all

4. Post-war stability

- a. Present cooperative life essentially important

B. Some advantages of this community living for the younger generation

1. Social stimulus

- a. Friendship
- b. Growth of the mind through contacts with life and environment

c. Opportunity of leadership in schools and organizations

2. Education in---

a. Progress of life and in developing unique personality

b. Opportunities of relocation into colleges or employ-
ments

c. Diversified recreational program

C. Disadvantages of community life--Isseis

1. Concern over the future of the Niseis

2. Smug attitude toward relocation on parts of some

D. Disadvantages of community life--Niseis

1. Unbalanced home living

2. Sudden social frenzy

3. Financial disable to relocate

III. Conclusion

A. Aided by youth

1. Aid to growing youth and parents

2. Creating a harmonious family life

a. Prevention from becoming easily swayed by agitators

b. Family discussions--democratic form

LIVING TOGETHER IN OUR COMMUNITY

It was a year ago on this December 7, 1942 that the lives of the Niseis and the lives of their parents were altered overnight. These parents were suddenly swept up from a life of a normal American into that of an "enemy alien." Many a question has confronted the second generations often as, "Has my family relationship changed since those days before December of 1941?"

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The community life of the Isseis has many advantages. Here they have found time to create their hidden talents. The intricate wood carving, flower shows, and other cultural exhibits display such articles that were made by the Isseis who have never had the opportunity or the time for hobbies of this nature. Their choice of employment here may also have been their "secret ambition"--in that they have acquired a position which would have been but a remote possibility in the days before the evacuation. Secondly, security is a fundamental which everyone cherishes and here they have it in the form of housing, substantial food, clothing, fuel for the winter months, and primarily the excellent medical care. Thirdly, they are free from worries and care of the children's welfare who are undergoing an excellent system of education. Their worries are replaced by diversified recreation for these parents who had little time for enjoyment during their years of toil. Many also realized that this cooperative community living will be essential for post-war rehabilitation in the case that communities similar to this will be set up.

The second generation or the Niseis of the community are undergoing a rapid social stimulus. This potpourri of people from these three Pacific Coast states has given the young people an opportunity of ever increasing their friendship circle. Through these contacts with people and the unusual environment, it is giving the mind an opportunity to grow--for the good, the hope of many. Also through these contacts these Niseis are able to develop leadership in their groups as well as in the schools and other youth activities. Instead of a stagnant community life, they have the opportunities of relocating into schools and various employments throughout the United States.

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Many a thoughtful problem arise before the Isseis too. Primarily, they are concerned over the future of the Niseis. Secondary, some carry a smug attitude toward relocation--an air of "Oh, what's the use, there will be discrimination anyway!"

A few of the problems confronting the Niseis is for one, this unbalanced environment of home living. By this it is meant that private homes have been turned into public homes. Then there are these youths who have been swept under a rapid social frenzy. Some of these youths whose lives were closely restricted are now in a whirl which usually stops in the wrong hole, the bad one. But other Niseis who have a desire to relocate are financially disable or the family is wholly dependent on him.

Some pessimists will say that this life we are leading now will sooner or later break the bondage of relationship between the Isseis and the Niseis which will be the same as destroying that precious tie of family relationship. Therefore it is an important responsibility of the youths of today, whether they be here in this colony or in the other communities of America, to create a harmonious family life. The Niseis must also restrain themselves as well as the older generation from becoming easily swayed by agitators. The second generation also must endeavor to aid the younger generation in their needs so that they will not jump to early maturity. Of utmost importance is the assistance to the parents whose lives will be much shorter than the second generation. In this family life they must be able to bring about the problems of each and everyone in the usual democratic form and to discuss what may be important as to the welfare the future of the family.

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(Male)

Outline

- I. Family life on the Tule Lake Project
 - A. What is its aspect?
- II. Introduction
 - A. Problems of post-war reconstruction
 1. Evacuee resettlement
 - B. How are Niseis going to fit into post war world?
 1. Personality, attitudes, and ambitions determining factors
 2. Family lives in relocation centers determine these factors
- III. Advantage of family life in relocation centers, namely Tule Lake
 - A. Advantages in relation to children
 1. Less chance of "spoiling" children
 2. Dangers of juvenile delinquency lessened
 3. Learn ability to cooperate
 4. Housing conditions promote closer relations between parents and children
 - B. Young people of junior, senior high school age
 1. Fewer advantages
 2. More grown up, miss advantages through restlessness, dissatisfaction
 - C. The Issei
 1. No particular advantages or disadvantages
 2. Inclined to resign themselves to conditions
- IV. Disadvantages
 - A. Collapse of young peoples' ambitions
 1. Inclined to set back and accept confined life
 2. Turn cynical towards life