

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

May 2, 2016

Dear President & Mrs. Obama:

My name is Hideko Tamura. I am writing to you as a child survivor of the Hiroshima bombing: I survived with injury but my mother and many others in the family did not. This singular event has inspired all the work and the endeavors of my life.

I came to the United States on an academic scholarship to Bennett College at a recommendation of Dr. James H. Robinson, of Harlem, NYC. His message was rising above hardships by identifying with greater good of mankind. I went onto the College of Wooster and completed graduate studies at the McCormick Theological Seminary and at the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration.

I remained here for most of my professional career in Human Services. My work in the Radiation Oncology Department of the University of Chicago Hospital was an especially restorative experience, affirming the life saving aspect of radiation. I have since retired and now live in Medford, Oregon.

I was deeply moved by your Prague pronouncement and greatly encouraged by your decision to visit Hiroshima this year. I am currently the Peace Ambassador for the City of Hiroshima and have authored books based on my memories.

Mr. and Mrs. President, this is a most crucial time in history when the greatest leadership must be sought to establish the sanest nuclear policy. I have heard your call to “actions”. Mr. President, this is that time, for us to value the policy of anti nuclear proliferation over arms races among nations.

If you have any questions that you would like to ask a survivor personally, or require any support in preparing for your trip to Hiroshima please feel free to contact me.

Please accept the enclosed gift of my latest publication, *When a Peace Tree Blooms*.

Sincerely yours,

Hideko Tamura-Snider