

Two Girls From Sakai

Japanese Women Becomi

By JEAN JERNIGAN

Hopes and dreams, men, clothes, and children are universal "girl-talk" and the day two young women from Sakai visited the Gazette was no exception.

Hideyo Tojino, 21, who is majoring in English Literature at Tezoukayanagakuin University, and Sashi Miyamae, 20, majoring in Japanese History at Tokyo Keiko

University, and Sashi Miyamae dress for both men and women, particularly youth is predominate in Japan today.

"I wear this today," Hideyo said of her Japanese Ukata, "because I was asked to do so. Normally I would wear a dress or a sweater and skirt." For parties and formal wear, Japanese women don their Kimonos still, particularly the older

women. The young, however choose western garb for school or work. Both girls said they wear jeans to school.

"Jeans and sweatshirts are getting popular with the young men," Sashi said. "It is getting the custom as in America." Sashi also said of the young men that dating is the same as in America. "The most difference," she said,



DEMURE visitors from Sakai, Sashi Miyamae, left, and Hideyo Tojino, right, shared their thoughts on customs, clothes, youth and Women's Lib, the day they came to the Gazette. Sashi is wearing western garb, and Hideyo is wearing a Ukata.

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"is that parties close at 10 or 11 p.m., they do not last late as they do here."

Jobs for girls in Japan are limited, according to Sashi, with opportunities limited to that of waitress, department store, secretarial and general office work. More young women are going to colleges and universities now than in previous years, and more are interested in professions.

Women's Lib was a familiar term to Sashi who said, "It's not only women in Japan, it is all young people, boys and girls both. There is a sense of dangers in the present political situation. Some try to fight the government, they want to get pure freedom, especially in Tokyo."

"Many new things happen in everyway. Young people are sensitive to everything around them." Of her own future family Sashi said, "I want my children to have free spirits, to do powerful, passionate things."

Hideyo and Sashi, although both from Sakai, were as different from each other as east from west. Possibly it was a language problem, but Hideyo appeared to be less liberated from the old customs of Japan than Sashi. Hideyo said of her future children she would teach them "not to be so shy."

Yosemite National Park was the highlight of Hideyo's trip to America, and the thing she wants most to do before returning to Sakai, is to visit the library here. "Next semester I must have a report on Truman Capote," she said.

Hideyo makes some of her own clothes, mostly skirts, and she likes to cook, sushi in particular. Skiing is her favorite recreation. Of the difference between American and Japanese women she said, "American women are very clear, Japanese women not so clear, but the young women are becoming more clear, not so shy." Translated, "clear" means outspoken, expressing an opinion.

Sashi said of her trip to America, "I like the people the most, because they are frank, active and talk with everybody. Is very good custom. All of them are kind to everybody." The most interesting thing that Sashi has seen while here, she said, was the IBM plant in San Jose.

Asked what she most wanted to do before returning to Sakai, Sashi said she wanted to talk to the hippies because they are the symbol of present America. "I want to know what they think, what they want to do, what they hope to be," she said.

Hippies exist in Japan, but in Tokyo only, Sashi said. "They are very Americanized. Although there are many kinds of people most of them are college or university students."

Sashi hopes to become cartoonist when she completes her studies at the University. "I want to express my thoughts by cartoon," she said.

Both girls expressed satisfaction and pleasure in their "experience of America."