

SHIZUOKA SPEAKS INTRO - ENGLISH

Everyone has a different experience with education. The question is, how does one's culture and background affect that experience? Because let's face it, the world is getting smaller. People are traveling and living in different places, and carrying multiple ethnic identities.

My name is Sonia Paul, and I work as an Assistant Language Teacher for English in Shizuoka City, the capital of Shizuoka Prefecture. In 2010, I received a research grant to create a radio project investigating that question.

I talked with many teachers and even more students. Japanese students and ones from other countries. All the interviews were conducted right here, in Shizuoka City.

And that is how we have "Shizuoka Speaks." In this limited duration podcast series, we focus on a specific theme every week, and the personal experiences of ten people. Different countries, different identities, different views--and some surprising revelations--all in the same place. A typical city in Japan...but a changing city. Shizuoka City.

Are you curious about Japan? Education? Or languages in a globalizing world? Or do you just like stories? If so, then give Shizuoka Speaks a listen. I think you'll enjoy what you hear. And thanks for listening.