

## Fukushima: Hawaii-Based Nonprofit Group Says "Every Single Person" They Hosted from Japan Has Had Health Problems

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Interview with Vicki Nelson, founder of Fukushima Friends (nonprofit organization which facilitates trips to Hawaii for Fukushima radiation refugees), Nuclear Hotseat hosted by Libbe HaLevy, Jun 9, 2015 (at 16:30 in):

- Vicki Nelson, founder of Fukushima Friends (emphasis added): We have a home that's open for them to come and experience some time of respite and eat different food. What we've been experiencing also is that every single person that comes has reaction to the change as soon as they come here. There's been people who have vomited, they've been having nosebleeds, they've been dizzy, they've been very ashen in color.
- *Libbe HaLevy, host*: This is once they have left Japan? In other words, it is the lack of the radiation that allows them to then have these reactions?
- Nelson: It's like it is expelling from their body. There's diarrhea, there's nosebleeds— almost every single person has had nosebleeds on their pillow. I find blood, and they don't want to tell me that they have these reactions, they're embarrassed. Tokiko's son [from Koriyama, Fukushima] vomited the whole first week practically, and had diarrhea. We actually took him to the hospital because we felt that he was dehydrated. They did run tests, and they said yes he was dehydrated. So he was kept overnight at the Hilo hospital on the big island and cared for.

<u>Meeting hosted by Andrew Cash, member of Canadian parliament</u>, Dec 2012 — Japanese mother (at 2:12:30 in):

"My home town is Sapporo [northernmost island in Japan]... In my city, no one thinks about radiation. I found a group of escaped mothers from Tokyo and the Fukushima area, and I was very surprised... Most of them had thyroid problems, or eye problems, or nose bleeds... They are very worried about it. In Japan we knew about the meltdowns two months after the meltdowns happened, so we can have no information about radiation. Now the government is telling us to eat food from Fukushima. We can't rely on government. The TV said Fukushima is safe, no problem... Fukushima is good to live. They want to invite a lot of tourists to Fukushima.

Full interview with Nelson here | Watch the meeting in Canada here

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