

SUMMARIES

Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women: The Achievement of the Past 30 years

HAYASHI Yoko

The UN Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (“the Convention”) will celebrate its 30th anniversary in December 2009. One may see the most significant development of the Convention since its adoption in the two areas; namely, the issue of violence against women and the individual communication under the Optional Protocol of the Convention. This essay aims to analyze how the Convention has expanded its jurisdiction toward the issue of violence against women. It also examines some precedents of the individual communication and its impact to the women’s rights movement in Japan.

Current Issues of Research on Domestic Violence from the Viewpoint of Mental Health

KONISHI Takako

On various official statistics, support service for DV victims made great advance since “Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims” had validated. However, victims those who appeared in clinical situation seem to get far less support than they need, as ever.

In this paper, the author analyzed data from several recent national surveys and showed that only a small number of DV victims supposed to have got appropriate support in the mental health field. For providing appropriate mental health service, we must examine what victims really need through empirical study.

In the US, they have developed several researches on DV in intense and evidence-based way. Having ascertained the vicimization rate in 1990’s, they researched the impact of DV on women’s physical and mental health through large-scale survey. And then, they empirically verified efficacies of their intervention programs for the prevention of violence or the mitigation of symptoms through random controlled trials, and meta-analyses.

In Japan, we have no such intense empirical study but introducing foreign approved leading programs or small-scale efficacy studies. The reason why DV study is assumed unorthodox is because we have few researchers in this field and systems for empirical studies are not yet fully provided. We should deal with the DV victimization and its impact on family as the serious mental health subject.

The Forgotten Victims: The Children in the Family of Domestic Violence

MORITA Yuri

Children in families of domestic violence have been the forgotten victims. However recently the field of domestic violence prevention has began to focus on the serious damage that children experience whether they are the direct target of the violence or not. In this paper the concepts of “developmental victimology” and “poli-victim” presented by David Finkelhor are introduced to look at the impact of children in domestic violence families. The impact is examined in three developmental stages, infants, school age children and adolescents.

The family dynamics model is discussed to understand why children are severely impacted even when they are

not the direct target of the violence.

In regards to recovery from the victimization, the ways to create a safe living environment where children can express their emotions and be guided in healthy development are discussed.

Empowerment Approach for Survivors of Trafficking after Returning Their Countries: The Analysis from Self Help Organizations Activities in Thailand

SAITO Yuriko

Little has been reported on how survivors of trafficking in persons integrate and rebuild their lives into communities. This article explores how survivors of trafficking in persons were empowered by themselves through the activities of Self Help Organization which are SEPOM in Thailand and Shakti Samuha in Nepal. Then this article conclude that the empowerment for survivors of trafficking needs new 3 R approach which are Respect/Reflection, Rebuild lives and Reform relationship.

Pregnant Women's Health and Well-beings in the Rural Areas and Plantations in Sri Lanka

ISOBE Atsuko, ISEKI Atsuko, ISHIMURA Kumiko

Sri Lanka is well-known as a country that has succeeded in family planning as evidenced by its low death-rate for pregnant women and nursing mothers, and its low death-rate for babies and infants when compared with other developing countries. However, there is a large gap in conditions among urban areas, rural areas, and plantations, and particularly maternal and children's health in rural areas and plantations are not well. In February 2009, We researched the capability (=a variety functioning) of mothers and children in rural areas and plantations in Sri Lanka, through medical health examination of pregnant women and the health of mothers and children. We researched whether they had the capability to keep good health or not, and whether they had resources to enhance their capability or not. From this research, we found that women understood the maternal and children's health systems very well, and we confirmed that national policy in Sri Lanka for pregnant women plays important role in creating their capability for health. Moreover, they had general knowledge about the risk before and after child birth, and about health care for a mother's body. However, they had little opportunity to decide how many babies they gave birth to, and about family planning. Also they had little control over household money, and little motivation to unite and act as a community. The level of education and earnings as well as health on plantations was lower than that in rural areas. National policy and social economic condition regarding plantations were different from those of rural areas; therefore we consider that these factors influence the capability of mothers themselves.

Reevaluation of the "Intoxication Prevention Law" and its Limitation: In an Age when the Concepts of Domestic Violence and Sexual Harassment Did Not Exist

SATO Yukari

The Intoxication Prevention Law (properly referred to as the "Law for the Prevention of Public Nuisances Caused by Intoxication") was established on the basis of legislation introduced by Fusae Ichikawa, Mitsu Kōro, and other members of the Female Diet Members' Colloquium on May 19th, 1961 during the 38th ordinary session of the Diet. This was the first Diet legislation introduced on a non-partisan basis by female diet members. In an age when the

concepts of domestic violence and sexual harassment did not exist, and when the notion that “legislation should not interfere with family life” predominated, an incident in which two sisters killed their drunken father led to this ground-breaking legislation, which included provisions allowing police to interfere in family life to protect families from drunken males. In addition, Tsuya Nakano, the head of the Female Division of the Tokyo Department of People’s Welfare, cooperated at the legislative stage, laying plans for shelter facilities to protect women from harmful situations. With a budget of 70 million yen and space for thirty households, job-centered education for wives and school education for children within the facility, and a policy of refusing to allow husbands inside, the shelters were forward-looking, and were operated until a municipal budget request was refused in 1960.

However, the law was not put to sufficient use, and the legislation the female Diet members jointly created in order to prevent violence toward women was largely forgotten. The following are seen as some of the reasons why: 1) the expectations of the police and the various parties during the establishment process made the legislation into an empty shell, 2) the female Diet members were mainly focused on the Anti-Prostitution Law, 3) not only domestic violence and sexual harassment but also the concept of gender itself did not exist, which meant the associated problems were not regarded as applicable to women as a whole, 4) the Cabinet Legislation Bureau which created bills and the police forces which enforced them were dominated by men, and 5) the mass media approached the issues from a male perspective, treating them either sensationally or derisively. In addition, the plans for municipal shelter facilities were shelved when a budget request was refused on the basis of a policy favoring the Tokyo Olympics which existed at the time.

This paper aims to bring to light and reevaluate the activities of women who fought against violence toward women during this time.

Practical Case Studies of Intervention Programmes for Sexually Traumatized Women in the Former Yugoslavia

TANNO Eriko

From 1990 to 1999, the Yugoslav wars occurred. Under the name of ‘ethnic cleansing’, countless civilian people were killed and huge number of women was raped. In the Yugoslav wars, rape was implemented as an effective weapon for ‘ethnic cleansing’. Some women were raped in front of their family members, or witnessed their mothers or daughters being raped with excessive fear and humiliation. Other women committed suicide or were expelled by their families, relatives and communities. Not only being raped but also they faced various extreme situations in a short time such as loss of family members, witnessed of tortures and murders.

Under these circumstances, it can be said that their level of trauma incredibly high. Countless women must have suffered from trauma, and some of them are still struggling with their past experiences even now. Could they access some mental health support in and after the conflicts? Did NGOs, international organisations, and governments provide such services? What kinds of interventions were useful for sexually traumatized women? In this research, intervention programmes for women who have experienced trauma are introduced based on the information provided by practitioners who had been/ are working for traumatized Yugoslav women during /after the conflicts. They provide a wide variety of obstacles and achievements they had/ have been experience. Additionally, in relation with women’s severe trauma, this study focuses on what made sexually abused women drive into committing a suicide or marginalised life as well as women’s and men’s damage by rape in wartime. The reasons why mass rape occurred during the Yugoslav conflicts are also discussed in this research.

How Volunteering with the Elderly Prepares Individuals for Old Age: Results of Community Volunteering Activities

OHSAKA Hiroko

This study investigated if volunteers can change their own lives through firsthand experiences addressing concerns of the elderly, by analyzing questionnaire data from 46 community volunteers and five complementary case interviews. Two findings are noted. First, half of the volunteers learned from what they observed while volunteering, and this knowledge helped prepare them for becoming old. Additionally, volunteer age affected the experience; the older the volunteer, the more likely they would prepare for old age. Volunteers in their 40s-50s were more disassociated with old age and death, whereas volunteers in their 70s-80s were more familiar with the concerns of those they were helping and employed preventative measures more often. Second, some volunteers reported that when others helped them after they had volunteered, they were able to see the value in the help, and thus, were very grateful to the person helping them because they knew the frustration of not being appreciated when they had volunteered. Thus, volunteering with elderly people taught them good behavior. Through this process, volunteers were able to better cope with their own old age and make a smooth transition into old age.

Research on Women's Facilities in Japan and the Development of a Learning Program

MORI Michi

Since FY 2006, National Women's Education Center of Japan (NVEC) has conducted a three-year research on women's facilities in Japan, which have been playing an important role to promote gender equality.

The first two years projects were carried out to understand the current situation of the women's facilities and issues they faced by conducting a research on introduction of the designated administrator system in women's facilities in FY 2006, followed by "Research on program evaluation systems in women's facilities" in FY 2007 in collaboration with the National Council of Women's Centers. The outcomes of these projects were integrated into a learning program to develop human resources to participate community development from the perspective of gender equality in cooperation with other members of the community. The program was developed in FY 2008 and it was targeted those who have promoted gender equality in the community such as staffs at women's facilities, administrative officers in charge of gender equality and members of women's organizations, groups.

Training and Advocacy Programs on Violence Against Women of the National Women's Education Center: Issues and Challenges

OCHI Masami

Eradicating violence against women (VAW) is one of the most imminent problems to be solved in achieving gender equality in Japan. The National Women's Education Center (NVEC) has conducted training programs for practitioners and managerial staff at Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Center in Japan since 2006. NVEC also organizes "Women Leader Empowerment Seminar in the Asia Pacific Region" and "International Forum for Women's Empowerment" for the purposes of advocacy and capacity development of women leaders in developing countries. The paper highlights achievements of these programs as well as issues to be pursued in future.

Review of the domestic programs shows that they contribute to improve DV counselors' skills and legal literacy and to build network among them. There still exist rooms for maneuver, however, in terms of self-care for counselors and management training. With regard to the international training program and advocacy activity,

issues such as gap between VAW-related law and its implementation and effects of globalization remain as the common problems in the Asia Pacific region. The paper concludes that NWECC is expected to continue developing training and advocacy programs to further promote eradication of VAW.

**Bibliographical Note on “Shio Hamako and Shunju-kai Collection”:
The Birth and Development of “Women’s Class” from 1945 to 1980 in Japan**

UEMURA Chikako

“Shio Hamako and Shunju-kai Collection” is composed of fundamental documents and materials amounted to 1,734 on women’s education issued by Ministry of Education, Local Boards of Education, and women’s organizations. It was collected by Hamako Shio, a staff occupied in administration of women’s education in Ministry of Education from 1953 to 1970’ and Shunju-kai which was organized by the women’s education officers in local boards of education around 1955 when “Women’s Class” became widespread all over the country. The aim of this bibliographical note is to introduce the collection focused on the birth and development of “Women’s Class,” and to make it clear that the collection contains very important documents and materials which can revive how women expanded learning activities and overcame various difficulties at that time.

**Women’s Rights and Gender Based Violence in India:
Issues and Challenges**

SINGLA Pamela

Gender inequality which is of concern to the issue of human development world over is manifested in many forms. Violence against women is one of the forms in which it manifests itself. Global concern over violation of women’s rights particularly violence against women led to the enactment of CEDAW which has been ratified by the member countries including India. However the continuance of the violation of women’s rights despite the very pro-women Constitution of India and the existence of the various legislations favouring women implies the need for strong implementation mechanisms to implement the existing laws and governmental programs. The Parivartan program introduced by the Delhi Police is one such initiative to combat violence against women. Introduced in 2005 it aims at changing the mindset of people and at capacitating the female sex so that they are able to guard for themselves. Professional social workers are an integral component of the program who with their knowledge base attempt at strengthening the foundation of the program. While doing so a lot many issues surface up and many challenges are faced which the paper shares with the readers. The present paper discusses women’s rights and the nature of gender based violence in India and shares a model of preventing violence by generating community participation.