

## Abstracts

### GENDA Yuji, *Hope and Individuals (II)*

The attributes of individuals and households possessing hope differed according to such factors as whether they believed their hopes would come true and the kind of hope they espoused. An empirical study showed that expectations of realizing one's hopes and hopes regarding work were most noticeably possessed by younger individuals in their twenties and thirties, who had advanced to higher academic background, and who were relatively healthy. Respondents were less likely to have expectations that their hopes would be realized when annual income was low such as less than ¥3 million while those with high annual income of more than ¥10 million were likely to have hope they expected to achieve. As with realizable hope, those without any income frequently did not have work-related hope, or had a generally negative view of hope.

This analysis suggests that the expanding loss of hope that is felt in Japanese society may have been influenced by such factors as the demographic shift to a grayer population, increase in the number of nonemployed people and low-income earners, decrease in high-income households, deteriorating state of health, and stagnation in the academic advancement rate.

### UNO Shigeki, *SUZUKI Tomin as Mayor of Kamaishi City*

SUZUKI Tomin, who had been known as a journalist in prewar Japan, and as an active leader of labor movement just after the war, served as mayor of Kamaishi City for 12 years since 1955.

This paper aims to reevaluate the work of SUZUKI Tomin as mayor of Kamaishi City from a historical point of view. The main issues for which SUZUKI worked hard were the improvement of infrastructure of local communities, including roads and schools, and the creation of public space for the dialogue among citizens. This paper tries to analyze these policies as “welfare politics based on local community” and “indigenous but open politics.”

The final purpose of this paper is to reevaluate the significance of the work of SUZUKI Tomin as mayor of Kamaishi City in the framework of the modern history of Japan.

**UEKAMI Takayoshi, National Party Realignment and Local Politics in Japan: The Case of Kamaishi City Council Members**

This paper explores the reason why national party realignment does not necessarily penetrate into local politics in Japan. Utilizing the survey of Kamaishi city council members, this paper tests the following hypothesis: the relationship between national and local partisan politics depends on the types of linkage which knit politicians together and the effects of multi-member district system used in the local assembly elections. The analysis shows, rather than the formal party ties, the large part of Kamaishi city council members is tied up with the national diet members by the informal Keiretsu relationships, and the division of votes needed in the multi-member district system coincides with the regional line, not the party one. This is why it is so difficult to find partisanship in Japanese local politics.

**TSUCHIDA Tomoko, Policy for Gender Equality and Hope in a Local City: Efforts and Issues in Kamaishi City, Iwate Prefecture**

Outline: From the perspective that the improvement of gender equality leads the activation of local areas, and also that there is a connection with regional hope, this article will examine gender equal policy and the state of affairs of women in Kamaishi.

First the city's history and current state of affairs of gender equal policy will be examined, then the results from local and national opinion polls will be compared with respect to gender equality. As Kamaishi's peculiarity, while plans for gender equal policy are set, this does not always mean that there is progress, and it becomes clear that compared to other small Japanese cities, Kamaishi's sense of gender inequality is high. Moreover, separating results from interviews and opinion polls, this article will examine the state of affairs of problems confronting the women of Kamaishi such as non-regular employment, nursing of the elderly and domestic violence, and will further offer comments about directions towards improvement in these areas. Lastly, along with expressing the policy background behind the lack of progress in terms of gender equality, this article will introduce the efforts of women's groups as well as investigate things related to local development.

## **SATO Iwao, Justiciable Problem and the Network of Legal Advice Providers: A Case of Kamaishi City**

There is a serious regional inequality among residents regarding the possibility of obtaining legal advice in Japan. Contrary to the big cities such as Tokyo and Osaka, residents who have been involved in troublesome events are relatively unable to obtain legal advice in rural cities because of the very small population of lawyers in rural areas in Japan. By using the data from a survey conducted in 2006 in Kamaishi city which is a typical rural city in Japan, this paper analyses the frequency and the types of problems which the residents experienced and the pattern of their advice-seeking behavior. The analysis shows that the residents in a rural city experienced various types of problems such as money, family, labor and consumer affairs in everyday life and that the strategic disposition of lawyers such as the establishment of a public funded law office in rural cities and the close networking between such lawyers and the other local institutions which have provided various advice and support to the local residents such as the local government, social welfare councils, local district welfare officer, consumer centers, police and so forth will be very effective to improve the quality of the resident's life there.

## **MIYAJIMA Yoshiaki, From a Corporate Team to a Community-Based Club Team: Considering Rugby Football in the City of Kamaishi**

*Shin-Nittetsu Kamaishi*, a renowned rugby team of Nippon Steel Kamaishi Works, after the seven consecutive, legendary victories in the National championship, was reincarnated as a community-based club team, *Kamaishi Seawaves RFC*, in April of 2001. This club team is still faced with many difficulties; however, local governments, companies and citizens have begun to give this team supports and assistances, the degree of which is surely increasing.

For people living in the City of Kamaishi, the rugby seems to have been a local “hope” in the past and present. In the days when the corporate team had a high presence, “hope” came from a kind of “yearning” for that celebrated team or “pride” of living in Kamaishi, a birthplace of that well-known team. However, the community-based club team has come to provide residents of this town with a different kind of “hope,” one which is based on more “actual” feelings.