

# Asian Breeze

No. **62**  
June  
2011

KITAKYUSHU FORUM ON ASIAN WOMEN (KFAW) June 2011 Triannual Publication

What kind of  
**relationship**  
is  
needed for  
ideal love?

あなたも私も  
大切にすること  
Mutual appreciation

敬愛齊眉  
Mutual respect

TO TRUST EACH  
OTHER COMPLETELY

お互い 😊  
素を出せること  
素直

「ありがとう」と  
思える関係!!

Relating naturally

Grateful for such a relationship

WOMEN TODAY.....p. 1

## Women in the Asia Pacific Region and the United Nations

Ms. Hiroko Hara, Advisor of JAWW (Japan Women's Watch), Advisor of KFAW

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION.....p. 2

White House releases a Groundbreaking Report on Women in American Society

Mr. Michael Chadwick, Consul for Public Affairs at the U.S. Consulate in Fukuoka

CURRENT ISSUES SERIES.....p. 3

Reflections on Dating DV Part 1

Ms. Noriko Yamaguchi, a Representative of Aware

**aw**  
**KFAW**

# Women Today

## *Women in the Asia Pacific Region and the United Nations*

### APWW and JAWW

The Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW), a regional network of women's groups in the Asia Pacific region, meets and identifies the problems related to the empowerment of women in the region. Subsequently, APWW has made recommendations on these problems to the international community including the UN.

The forerunner of APWW is an association of NGOs that was formed in 1993 before the 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. The representative of Japan Women's Watch (JAWW), one group taking part in the APWW, is also on the board of directors of APWW. I served as the APWW representative from July 2008 to June 2010.

When the 53rd United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 53) was held in New York in March 2009, "NGO CSW NY", a coalition of women's NGOs from around the world, through its representative, Vivian Pender, called for women's NGOs in the five regions of the world to plan local meetings prior to the CSW54. CSW54 was then held in 2010 in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the opening of the 4th World Conference on Women.

Immediately after APWW took charge hosting and managing the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing +15, Patricia Licuanan, president of Miriam College in Quezon City (the Philippines) and a former APWW representative, offered the venue and took on the management of the executive committee. JAWW served as the APWW secretariat.

From October 22 to 24, 2009, the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing +15 was held in a lively atmosphere with more than 50 workshop sessions. Half of the participants were women from the Philippines, but worthy of special mention were the dozens of young women from the Asia Pacific region who participated in the sessions and vigorously spoke out. From Japan, students from Kobe College, the University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo, and Ferris University also participated in the sessions.

The declaration statement of the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing +15 was introduced at the end of October 2009 in a speech by Patricia Licuanan at a meeting of senior government officials held by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Yoriko Meguro, representing a delegation of the Japanese government, took on the heavy responsibility of summarizing the final document by ESCAP. Furthermore, the declaration statement of the AP NGO Forum was reported at the World NGO Forum on Beijing +15 held in New York in February 2010. The statement was then submitted to the national



原 ひろ子

Advisor, KFAW  
Advisor, JAWW (Japan Women's Watch)

Ms. Hiroko HARA

governments of countries involved and the UN.

### Advocacy Activities for UN Reform and Participation of Japanese Women

Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the UN, in early 2006 appointed 15 members to a committee on UN reform, setting up an opportunity to listen to the opinions of NGOs.

From spring 2006, APWW quickly launched advocacy activities from a gender perspective, in which NGOs in the Philippines, Thailand, India and Japan took on active roles with women's NGOs from around the world as members of the Gender Equality Architecture Reform (GEAR) Campaign.

### Expectations of the UN Women

In the UN General Assembly on July 2, 2010, the establishment of UN Women (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women) was resolved. Namely, UN Women was inaugurated on January 1, 2011 by uniting the conventional four bodies of the UN Headquarters: the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI). Former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet has played an active role as the Executive Director of UN Women.

Before the establishment of UN Women, chiefs of these four bodies were not attending the meetings on the management of the entire UN. However, I would like to acknowledge the importance of gender issues is now being recognized at the UN, with the appointment of Michelle Bachelet as Under-Secretary-General. The problem is that the size of the budget to be allocated to UN Women depends on contributions from UN member countries including Japan. Our challenges in the future will be to lobby national governments with other NGOs and to promote the understanding of UN Women by civil society.

### Profile of Hiroko HARA

Currently a professor emeritus at Ochanomizu University, and also a professor at Josai International University, she specializes in Cultural Anthropology and Gender / Women's Studies.

She served as the first Chair of Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (2001-2007) and now is an Advisor (2007-present). Chair of JAWW (2002-2010) and board member of JAWW (2010-present) as well as Advisor (2010-present) of APWW.

### WHITE HOUSE RELEASES A GROUNDBREAKING REPORT ON WOMEN IN AMERICAN SOCIETY

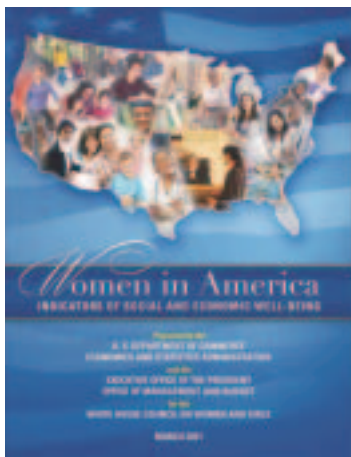
This report provides clear summaries of the Obama administration's policies on gender equality and trends and challenges that affect women in the United States.

Michael Chadwick, the Consul for Public Affairs at the U.S. Consulate in Fukuoka, specially contributed this message to the KFAW.



Michael Chadwick

On March 1, 2011, the White House's Council on Women and Girls released a report entitled "Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being", the first official U.S. government publication to try to comprehensively describe the position of women in American society since 1963. The Council, which was created by President Obama in March 2009 to ensure every part of the U.S. Government takes into account women's needs in policy planning, spent almost a year compiling the report from data sources across the government. The report provides statistics about women's demographics and family structure, education, income, health, and crime, including comparisons to previous years, in some cases as far back as 1950. The purpose is to create a "snapshot" of the position of women in American society in 2011, so the government and the American people can understand where we are, and measure progress in the future.



#### WHY RELEASE THIS REPORT NOW?

The President has made gender equality a signature focus for his administration, because in his words, "the issues facing women today are not just women's issues" but affect all Americans: family members, employers, taxpayers and the society as a whole. The government also recognizes that investment in gender equality pays great dividends. For example, recent OECD statistics have pointed out a close correlation between a higher economic status for women and economic growth in industrialized countries, indicating that raising the living standards of women benefits everyone.

#### JAPANESE AND AMERICAN WOMEN'S SITUATIONS ARE SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS

Many of the trends in the U.S. will be familiar to observers of Japan as well. In both countries, women are marrying at an older age, choosing to have children later, and having fewer children than they did 20 or even 10 years ago. Women who work spend more time each day taking care of their household and family members than do working men in both the U.S. and Japan. Working women also earn less than men on average in America. Although women's average

weekly income remains only 75% of that of men with similar levels of education, it is a marked improvement from 20 years ago. Moreover, young women (ages 25-34) earn 89% as much as young men.

#### SURPRISING DIFFERENCES AND ENCOURAGING TRENDS

Some of the other findings may be surprising to a Japanese audience. For example, in America, 64% of women with children under the age of five are in the workforce, much higher than in Japan. Also, American women now have equaled and in many cases surpassed men in educational attainments. Now 36% of women between ages 25-34 have a university degree compared to only 28% of men and women are more likely to complete Master's and Doctoral programs. In addition, despite what viewers of popular American TV and movies might expect, the rate of violent crime against women has fallen sharply in the U.S. over the last 30 years.

#### AREAS OF CONCERN

This is encouraging, but there are many troubling findings as well. Women are more likely than men to have chronic medical conditions and suffer from depression while the share of women who do not have health insurance has increased over the last 25 years. What's more, around 15% of all women live below the poverty threshold with 40% of unmarried mothers falling into this category.

#### WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

The report shows there has been a great deal of progress for women in the last few decades in America. However, it also makes clear how far we still have to go until true equality is reached. Although this report is descriptive, not prescriptive, our hope is that it will help to spotlight areas for improvement. We also hope it will stimulate new ideas about how to help improve women's lives and society as a whole, not only in America but throughout the world.

#### LINK

The White House's Council on Women and Girls.

(<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/cwg>)

"Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being"

([http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss\\_viewer/Women\\_in\\_America.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/Women_in_America.pdf))



### Reflections on Dating DV

#### Part 1

#### What is dating DV ?



Noriko Yamaguchi

A representative of Aware, Domestic Violence Batterers' Intervention Program & Dating DV Prevention Program, Director, Facilitator, Trainer

#### Profile

She has implemented an educational program for assailants in domestic violence and a Dating DV Prevention Program. She has also trained implementers of the programs.

She has written *Loving and Being Loved-Eliminating Dating DV & 7 Lessons for Young People* and *Work Book for Implementers for the Dating DV Prevention Program*. Also she supervised the translation project for a book *Why Does He Do That-Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men* (by Lundy Bancroft).

#### An Example of Dating DV

A high school girl came to know a boy who was two years older than her, through a friend's introduction. They fell for each other and started dating. They fell head over heels in love, and were always together whatever they did. After a while, she saw her female friend for the first time in quite some time. When he found out, he threw a fit saying, "You did that without getting my permission!" She became scared of him, but she decided not to see any of her friends except for him, thinking that he might have just been jealous, and partly because she loved him. In addition, he placed restrictions on her, saying, "Don't wear miniskirts" or "Don't cut your hair short." In an attempt not to make him angry, she became sensitive to his moods. One day, she received an email on her cell phone from a male classmate. When he found out he questioned her closely, saying, "What kind of relationship do you have with this guy?" No matter how many times she explained the situation, he decided that she had cheated on him, and slapped her on the cheek suddenly. Then he apologized to her for what he had just done, and told her in a gentle tone of voice that he did that because he loved her. She forgave him and continued the relationship with him. After that, he slapped her again for another matter. She then wanted to break up with him but was too afraid to tell him that.

#### DV - a Problem close to Young People

What happened between the two people above is DV (domestic violence). DV is not a problem only for adults. DV against a dating partner is called "dating DV" in Japan. According to the result of a survey announced by the Cabinet Office in 2008, 13.6% of women had experienced some kind of "physical assault", "psychological aggression" and "sexual coercion" from a date in their teens and/or twenties. This means one woman in seven. A survey conducted by Yokohama City in 2008 revealed that 40% of female high school and university students who had dated someone became a victim of dating DV. Dating DV is a problem close to young people and may happen to anybody.

In the U.S., about one in five high school girls has been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner (Domestic Violence Resource Center, 2001). In South Korea, 30% of sexually abused women are abused by a dating partner, according to the statistics of Women's Hotline in Korea in 2007-2009. These examples reveal that dating DV happens

worldwide regardless of language and country.

Among male-female couples, although the majority of the assailants are men, some assailants are women. Among lesbians, gays and transgenders, DV also happens.

#### DV does not only mean physical violence

DV does not only mean physical violence. The types of violence vary as follows:

<Physical violence>
Throwing things at the partner Pinning the partner down Hitting and/or kicking the partner etc.
<Sexual violence>
Forcing the partner to have sex when she/he does not wish to do so Getting into a bad mood when the partner does not agree to have sex Not preventing conception etc.
<Economic violence>
Making the partner work/quit working part-time Making the partner pay on dates Not repaying a debt to the partner
<Verbal & mental violence>
Making insulting remarks (stupid, fat, etc.) or directing profanities at the partner Freely checking e-mails or deleting addresses on the partner's cell phone Threatening the partner by saying "I will commit suicide." etc.

#### DV is "power and control"

DV is not a fight or a quarrel. DV means controlling the partner in an intimate relationship by scaring, frightening or making light of the person. DV is "power and control" and conduct equal to violation of human rights. Physical violence is a criminal act involving injury. Actually however, few assailants or victims are aware of that. That is because assailants tend to blame the victims for the violence. And victims tend to blame themselves or to want to change the assailants' violent tendencies. Either way, the people involved tend to misunderstand the reason as love.

Violence is the assailants' side problem. Assailants must be aware of that, and make efforts to change themselves. Since it is dangerous to leave such a situation as it is, both victims and assailants of DV need support and action from the people around them. To that end, it is important that everyone receives appropriate information on DV.

# KFAW Preventive Education on Dating DV for Future Facilitators

KFAW held a four-lecture program from January 29 to February 19, 2011. Fourteen people, including incumbent teachers and nurses, applied for the program with a quota of 10 people. After eagerly attending lectures on various topics from related laws and regulations to training classes, all 14 participants were awarded certificates of completion.

Dating DV is DV (domestic violence) that occurs between unmarried men and women, especially young couples in their teens and twenties. According to a survey conducted last year by KFAW under contract with Kitakyushu City, at least 80 percent of high school teachers in the city pointed out the necessity of preventive awareness education on dating DV.

KFAW has engaged in surveys and research on DV cases overseas focusing on Asian countries and its impact on families and children. In Kitakyushu Municipal Gender Equality Center MOVE, for which KFAW serves as a designated administrator, KFAW has made efforts to improve the center's consultation system, create booklets for developing awareness and hold seminars.

Lectures this time aimed to train staff members who can take the lead in actually conducting dating DV preventive education classes in civic centers and at school education sites such as high schools.

The practical training program, which was conducted over a short period of time includes learning about many fields' related laws and regulations. For example, these include the Domestic Violence



▲ 1st lecture

Prevention Act, Basic Act for Gender-Equal Society and the Third Basic Plan for Gender Equality. Trainees also heard about current teenagers' philosophy of love. Participants also acquired facilitation methods including the use of visual materials.

The second lecture, "Violence against Women—Actual Situation and Psychology" by Sachi Nakajima, representing the NPO "Resilience," was held as a public lecture which was attended by about 60 people. She explained about the kinds of structures that underly acts by a person in a stronger position hurting a person in a weaker position. She also pointed out that respect for one's partner rather than controlling or pushing one's feelings onto the other is essential for love.

In a questionnaire given to attendees after the lectures ended, while most persons answered that the lectures were understandable, some requested a deeper understanding of gender issues. Others wanted to introduce as soon as possible this information at their facilities.

KFAW will hold follow-up training for persons attending lectures and discuss a system for dispatching trained persons as needed to schools, civic centers and relevant facilities in the future.



▲ 4th lecture: Model lesson by attendees

## Program of KFAW Preventive Education on Dating DV for Future Facilitators

### ◆ First lecture

- Necessity and purpose of preventive education on dating DV
- Basic Act for Gender-Equal Society and the Third Basic Plan

...Yuki Kubota, Professor at Kyushu Sangyo University, KFAW Director

...Yumi Rikitake, Coordinator, Kitakyushu Municipal Gender Equality Center MOVE

- Details and unsolved problems of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act

...Yayoi Kubota, Lawyer, Seiwa Law Office

### ◆ Second lecture

- "Violence against Women—Actual Situation and Psychology" (public lecture)
- Modern Youth—Communication & the Philosophy of Love and Sexual Behavior

...Sachi Nakajima, NPO "Resilience"

...Toshifumi Sakai, part-time instructor, Ube Frontier University Junior College

Yuki Kubota, Professor, Kyushu Sangyo University, KFAW Director

### ◆ Third lecture

- Assertion—Ideas and Works
- Facilitators—their Attitudes and Skills
- Learning and Model Classes for Preventive Education Plans

...Akiko Tominaga, clinical psychologist and women's counselor

Yuki Kubota, Professor, Kyushu Sangyo University, KFAW Director

...Akie Iwamaru, Representative Director of the NPO "Gender and Global Citizenship Project"

...Kumie Kamohara, counselor, Mental Consultation Room "Chamomile" Yoshiko Tomiyasu, acting leader, Kitakyushu Shelter, KFAW Director

Yuki Kubota, Professor, Kyushu Sangyo University, KFAW Director

...Masami Shinozaki, KFAW chief researcher

- Drawing up Plans for Training Classes

### ◆ Fourth lecture

- Advice for Training Classes and Hands-on Training

...Kumie Kamohara, Masami Shinozaki, Yoshiko Tomiyasu, Yuki Kubota, Masako Ota, KFAW senior researcher

# Report on Participation in the 55th CSW Parallel Event

Masami Shinozaki, Chief Researcher, Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW)

In the United Nations, UN WOMEN was inaugurated in July 2010 as part of continued UN reforms by integrating four women-related bodies, including DAW (Division for the Advancement of Women) and UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women). The mission of this new organization is the promotion of equal rights for the empowerment of women. The CSW (Commission on the Status of Women), a commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), has been designated as one of the main works of UN WOMEN.

The 55th CSW's priority theme this year was "Access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology, including the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work."

During the CSW, a parallel event to report on the actual situation in Japan related to the priority theme of the following year. This event was organized by three women's NGOs in Japan under the sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations. The 56th CSW's priority theme is "RURAL WOMEN (women in farming, mountain and fishing villages)." Thus, the theme of the event this time was "Rural Women Empowerment." We arrived in New York on February 27, and participated as presenters in this symposium held on March 1st in the UN North Lawn Building.

After a speech by Hiroko Hara from the JAWW (Japan Women's Watch) as the representative of NGOs, Mihoko Ejiri gave a speech on behalf of 53 organizations. The symposium then commenced under the chairmanship of Mariko Bando, president of Showa Women's University and president of the Rural Women Empowerment and Life Improvement Association.

At first, Shinozaki reported on the general situation of women's status and their problems and various measures for empowerment, which have been particularly implemented since the 1990s to deal with these problems. These problems include aging, unpaid work and significantly reduced pensions after retirement as well as the low ratio of women's participation in decision-making processes. The low ratio is

far from the target "202030," in which female leaders should account for at least 30 percent in all fields by 2020 in farming villages in Japan. Following Shinozaki, Setsuko Furuya from Fukushima Prefecture, who has engaged in farming with her husband and also become an executive of an incorporated company by introducing "factory farming," was well received for her speech on her own empowerment. Then, Hitomi Nakamichi from Ehime University and Yuko Enomoto, JICA's associate expert, reported respectively on the present situation and problems of women in fisheries in Japan (which are not well-known to the world). They gave examples of support through Japan's international cooperation for women in farming villages in developing countries. Questions about rarely known fields in Japan, which were introduced in their reports, came from approximately 70 participants one after another despite the short time allocated for Q+A. In all of these reports, different sides of industrialized Japan, particularly the successful case of Setsuko Furuya, seemed to strike a responsive chord among participants, who are involved in the empowerment of women in developing countries. In addition to the report on women in fisheries, which provided good information, participants from developing countries showed interest in the actual support situation in Japan.

Next year, with these topics being priority themes, we would like to point out the importance of personal efforts and individual resources related to the empowerment of women in farming, mountain and fishing villages. We would also like to emphasize the significance of factors such as economic and informational support for women married to farmers as well as the active awareness raising on gender equality of men in farming, mountain and fishing villages.



## THE FORUM WINDOW

### Women's political participation in rural India

More and more women are entering the world of politics globally. In 28 countries, women represent more than 30% of the seats in parliament, including one country with women in the majority. In Japan too, the number of female legislators is on the rise, but the proportion of female legislators out of the total number of seats remains low: 10.9% in the House of Representatives and 18.2% in the House of Councilors.

In order to promote women's political participation, many countries have introduced a quota system. In the case of India, by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment in

1994, one-third of the number of seats of the panchayat (self-governing body in rural areas) is reserved for women. Some NGOs are working on an increase in female representatives.

One such NGO is the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society (APMSS) which is the implementing body of the Mahila Samakhyas Programme (a national programme) in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The objective of the programme is the empowerment of women through education. It aims to create an environment for women and girls to enjoy educational opportunities. Women are motivated to form groups, learn and take actions to remove various obstacles which stand in the way of the promotion of female education.

From its establishment in 1993, the APMSS has found it very important for women to participate in decision-making. It has encouraged members of women's groups to



## Employment and Gender in Finland

Ryoko Onodera (Finland)



I would like to begin this report by introducing the results of some statistical surveys, which will serve as indicators when you learn about the working environment for women in Finland. According to a survey in 2010, Finland ranked third among 134 countries in the Gender Gap Index, while the country placed 16th (Japan was 101st) in the Economic Participation and Opportunity Index. Meanwhile, while the employment rate of men stood at approximately 68%, that of women was approximately 66%. Moreover, the employment rate of unmarried women and child-rearing women reached 78% and 76%, respectively. By occupation, the ratio of women workers is high among clerks, sales and service staff, medical and welfare staff and teachers.

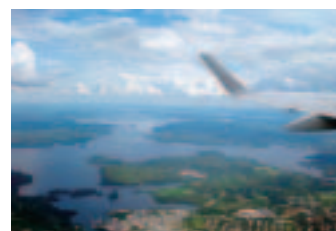
These results may present an image of Finland as one of the world's best countries because of its small gender gap and an environment where women can work easily. Finland was Europe's first country to extend suffrage to women. Moreover, both positions of the president and prime minister are currently held by women. These facts may further strengthen the above mentioned image. The fact that the employment rate of unmarried women is almost the same as that of child-rearing women shows that Finland offers an environment that enables women to continue working. The country features an extensive social security system including a pension system; unemployment and medical expense insurance; child-rearing support; residential security and free education.

As I described in my previous report, one of the factors behind the establishment of such a situation is the country's history. With Finland's harsh natural environment and small population, the female labor force has been traditionally valued highly. Prior to the introduction of the country's social security system, women had already begun to participate in the workplace with men and contributed to the development of the country.

Actually, most of my female friends in Finland are

working after their marriage to maintain their households. I have never met a full-time housewife in this country. Asked "Why are you working?" many of my friends answered, "The taxes are very high. To make ends meet, both my husband and I have to work" or "I want to work to make use of my academic background." The former answer comes from Finland's high tax rates: an income tax of approximately 50% and a consumption tax of 23%. The latter answer is related to the fact that higher education often leads to employment opportunities.

What I find interesting is that, despite such advanced policies and environment for working women, a gender gap still exists through an imbalance in occupation categories and salaries. As I mentioned above, the ratio of women workers is



▲Great nature of Finland

high among clerks and service staff. On the other hand, men are dominant in science and management. They are more male technological engineers and specialists. Women also comprise the overwhelming majority of those engaged in care work such as child-care, nursing and welfare support. The wage for these jobs is low, resulting in the imbalanced income between women and men. One of my friends said, "Men tend to be more serious about pay negotiation than women. In addition, nursing and other care have long been provided by women at home which is not considered special. Unlike manufacturing, such work does not produce something tangible. So it's difficult for work that isn't recognized visually to gain high esteem." In efforts to realize work equality for women, it seems, then, that many problems still remain to be solved.

run for elections and provided training and support for candidates. In 1995, only two years after the commencement of the programme, 63 women were elected as panchayat members. Presently, the number has increased to 1,920.

On the occasion of the visit to the APMSS and women's groups in January, 2011, a question was asked female panchayat members as to why they decided to run for elections. They said,

"We had problems in villages like lack of drainage. We appealed panchayats many, many times, but nothing was done by male-dominated panchayats. We thought we had to become members and change the panchayats. So, women's problems can be dealt with."

Women's groups campaign together with their fellow candidates to send them to panchayats, while the APMSS trains elected representatives to fulfill their new roles and

responsibilities, since some of these panchayat members are not able to read and write.

Women panchayat members have worked on issues in which male members have little interest, such as safe



▲Group discussion in Karni village

drinking water, education for children and health, bringing about visible changes in villages. By seeing the improved situation, people who used to think that "Politics is a world for men" have gradually been changing their view. It is hoped that women's groups will continue playing active roles in promoting education and realizing a gender-equal society.

Masako Ota, Senior Researcher, KFAW

# International Symposium “Intermarriage and Multiculturalism”

ISSN 0918-8266

Concurrently with the World Report “Domiciled Foreign Women and the Local Community,” which was organized by KFAW on October 2, 2010, we held an international symposium focusing on intermarriage multiculturalism under joint sponsorship with the University of Kitakyushu on January 22, 2011.

We welcomed Professor Masaaki Satake, Nagoya Gakuin University, the author of *“Filipina-Japanese Intermarriages –Migration, Settlement and Multicultural Coexistence–”*, and his wife Mary Angeline Da-anoy, a part-time teacher at the same university, as the panelists. They reported on problems and possibilities regarding the understanding of different cultures and multiculturalism. The report was based on results which they obtained from interviewing many Filipino-Japanese couples living in Japan.

We also welcomed Assistant Professor Xia Yi Rong, Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, Taiwan, Province of China. Focusing on the recent increase in marriages between



women from mainland China and Taiwanese men, the professor reported on conflicts and problems entailed by the situation where huge numbers of Chinese women have entered Taiwanese society as spouses.

Lastly, Kim Young Joo, a researcher of Chungcheongnam-do Women's Policy Development Institute, South Korea, reported on the South Korean government's policies and support programs for multicultural families and the rapidly increasing number of female immigrants who enter South Korea. These immigrants come from such countries as the Philippines,

Vietnam and China as spouses of South Korean men.

In this symposium, which was joined by approximately 90 persons, there was an active exchange of questions and answers. Professor Yuriko Saito, Meiji Gakuin University (KFAW's visiting researcher), who participated in the symposium as a commentator, gave an overview of the entire symposium by commenting that we must shift “from 3Fs (Food, Fashion, Festival) to 3Ps (People, Policy, Participants).” In other words, we must change from superficial international exchanges which are currently popular to international exchanges with substantial content.

The reports on each country's efforts, and problems in regard to the current situation of international marriages and multiculturalism provided us with an opportunity to think about how we should interact in the future with the rapidly increasing numbers of foreign immigrants in Japan. Also, it may be time for us to start thinking about how we should receive immigrants in the future at both the governmental and municipal levels.

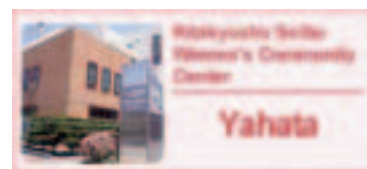


▲MOVE Publication entitled Gender White Paper - Marriage (No.7) includes reports of the symposiasts

## INFORMATION

■ Each panelist's report can be downloaded from the website of the Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women.  
<http://www.kfaw.or.jp/report/cat20/2011122.html>

### KFAW's Management Facilities Designated



(FY 2011- 2016)

〈Cover〉

We interviewed university students in Kitakyushu about Dating DV which are featured in the current issues series.  
“What kind of relationship is needed for ideal love?”

Location of  
Kitakyushu



**Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women**

KITAKYUSHU OTEMACHI BUILDING 3F  
OTEMACHI 11-4, KOKURAKITA, KITAKYUSHU, 803-0814 JAPAN  
PHONE +81-93-583-3434 FAX +81-93-583-5195  
E-mail: [kfaw@kfaw.or.jp](mailto:kfaw@kfaw.or.jp) URL: <http://www.kfaw.or.jp/index.html>

**KFAW**

The Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women (KFAW) was established in October of 1990 with a special government fund for revitalization projects. Subsequently, in 1993, the KFAW was recognized as a foundation by the Ministry of Labour (the present Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare). The purpose of the KFAW is to promote the improvement of women's status through various projects as well as their mutual understanding and cooperation in Asia.