

Rainbow Times

Report of the Children's Rainbow Center 10th Anniversary Symposium

Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect: The past and future decade



One hundred twenty eight people attended the memorial symposium for the 10th anniversary of Children's Rainbow Center. This is a brief summary of the symposium:

PART1 What we see from the Children's Rainbow Center's past ten years

CRC staffs reported what we have been doing in these 10 years. Our **Training Division** started providing 10 training programs in 2002. We had 27 programs running last year, which adds up to 12,992 participants. About half of the applicants were not able to attend the program due to our capacity, which shows the increasing awareness and needs of such training. We have published more than 50 research reports in our **Research · Information Division**. We are also gathering and sending out information, including Rainbow Times. The inquiry to our **Professional Counseling Service** increased six fold to 448 since the launch in 2003.

PART2 The next ten years of child abuse and neglect prevention

The first symposiast Mr. Yoshihiko Iwasa, from **judicial perspective**, pointed out that we cannot deny that the revisions made in these years are patchy. He concluded that we need to revise the foundational principle of "child welfare" itself. Also says that judicature should be taken not as the absolute conclusion but one of the approaches of case working practice. The next symposiast Mr. Jun Saimura reported the detail of "**Child Death Review**" in Japan. He points out that we are shorthanded, and need to spend more cost to child welfare and at the same time need to discuss how to increase the quality of the workers. The third symposiast Ms. Tomoko Tsukane, from **Kurashiki city**, Tottori, reported the local Childcare Support Services. In Kurashiki city with a population of 50,000 people, the programs were successful in making lifetime strong bonds in the community. Mr. Minoru Yasukawa, from Seirei **children's home**, was the last symposiast. He started with the phrase "children has been and still remain the same". He says that he learned the importance to secure the place the child can feel belonged, and the importance of the staffs' attitude facing children from his own experience, and that his basic policy hasn't change a bit.

CRC will continue to think what we can do to prevent child abuse and neglect, and will continue to make progress. (Minamiyama)



Colum

Laws named after children victim

Did you know that there is NO law, act, legislation nor bill named after children, both official and unofficial in Japan? In the US, there are Megan's Law, Jessica's Law, Amber Alert, Chelsea's Law... etcetera. I know that there also are laws named after children in EU, Canada, and Sweden. However, it's impossible to imagine in Japan. Why?? A name could be too particular because Japan is one of the countries with most name variety, or could be the cultural tendency to hide one's mistake? I was discussing with one of my supervisors, Mr. Takashi Mazsuzawa and he came up to a question "won't you be unpleasant if your name became a law? I would." I can imagine most Japanese would.

Thinking of it, I never heard my friend Jessica complaining about it. Both are a popular name in each country. Or the origin of the name? Jessica was the name of an ancestor of Jesus Christ's parent, Takashi means high and/or success. Japanese parents often give their children a name they hope the child to be, so we kind of see our name as "something that shows yourself", which is different from "a given name" in Christian culture. I'm thinking this could be a hint to the question... what do you think? (Yamabe)

★Acknowledgement★

Please let us know if you have any change or wish to cancel receiving CRC information.

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