



The Sex Industry In Japan

By: Jocelyn Chavez-Diaz



Why I chose the topic

I chose the topic of the Sex Industry in Japan because I had never heard about anything like it. In the United States I had never heard of Hostess Clubs and I was intrigued by the complexity of what sex workers do. I decided to research this specifically because I am shocked at how much male and female sex workers do for the Japanese society.



Topic Relation to Course Material

This topic relates to Week 6 where we talked about Gendered Labor in Japan. Hostess Girls by Shiho Fukuda and the documentary we watched called The Great Happiness Space a film by Jake Clennell were both an introduction into what women and men do as sex workers. Women especially have a hard time finding jobs in the industry so they resort to sex work.



What are the Main Positions?

Within this topic I am focusing on:

- The origins of prostitution and the Anti-Prostitution Law of 1956
- The necessity of Japanese Host Clubs for precarious Japan
- The types of sex work in Japan
 - Iyashi Sex Work
 - Kyaba-Cula Hostessing



Sources



- "The Prostitutes' Union and the Impact of the 1956 Anti-Prostitution Law in Japan" by Shiga-Fujime Yuki, and Beverly L. Findlay-Kaneko
- "Prostitution and the 1960s' Origins of Corporate Entertaining in Japan" by Norma, Caroline
- "Seduction and the Self: Movements through Precarity, Race and Sexuality in Japanese Host Clubs" by Mahdavi, Pardis
- "Occupational Stigma and Coping Strategies of Women Engaged in the Commercial Sex Industry: A Study on the Perception of “Kyaba-Cula Hostesses” in Japan" by Kamise, Yumiko

How does this topic compare to similar issues in the United States or other countries

Prostitution is controversial. Although there is a law in place there is still ways to find a loop around the Anti-Prostitution Law. The top country with sex tourism is the Netherlands. Prostitution is a major controversial issue world wide. The United States prostitution law varies state by state it is mostly illegal but some rural counties accept it like in Nevada. A few of the most popular countries with legalized prostitution consist of Germany, Dominican Republic, Spain, Malaysia, Kenya, The Philipines, Brazil, Colombia and Thailand.

