

Jocelyn Chavez

Professor Wright

Japn 311

September 30, 2020

Please reflect on this week's material and post a question.

Be sure to answer at least one of your classmates' questions in the discussion.

This week's topic of gendered labor in Japan has to be one of my favorites. I connected with the readings and resonated with a lot of the topics mentioned. To begin with, in the article by [Nanako Yamamori](#) she writes, "Nevertheless, Kato argues that more attention must be paid to men's attitudes: no matter how loudly Japanese women speak out, nothing will change unless male attitudes do too" (Yamamori). Women in Japan are demanding change, but if change doesn't come from the males who hold positions of power then nothing will happen. Women need to be heard, and the social norm that surrounds women needs to be reformed. Japan is ranked 121 in the [Global Gender Gap Index 2020](#) compared to the United States ranked 53 and Yemen ranking 153. The Tokyo Medical University took matters into their own hands on the belief that women don't do as well as men in the medical profession, and they decided to systematically reduce the chances of women's admission ([Szendi](#) 2017). The university was eventually penalized for this action, but the simple act of rigging the system is unacceptable. Women have become so independent that as doctors 76.5% of mothers still work full time compared to female doctors without children working full time is 88.8%. Women in Japan and all over the world have so many responsibilities some of them describe their husbands as a big baby ([Rich](#) 2019). Men in Japan do fewer hours of household chores and child care than any of the wealthiest nations. According to an analysis of government data by Noriko O. Tsuya, an economics professor at Keio University in Tokyo, women who work more than 49 hours a week typically do close to 25 hours of housework a week. ([Rich](#) 2019). In comparison to their husbands who do less than five hours of housework a week. The husbands have to stay late hours at work, are the breadwinners of the household, but sometimes die of "karoshi" which is death from overwork. Husbands do have it difficult, but women in Japan especially carry so much weight on their shoulders. Women and men take part in unpaid reproductive labor, but Japanese women especially have it difficult when it comes to the household. I feel that husbands should play a bigger role in the household and the government should implement new ways for fathers to also stay home. If there wasn't such a high gender gap then possibly women would be able to become the breadwinners and share the weight of being the breadwinner with their husbands.

My question for this week is "Are hosts at clubs like the ones in the documentary *The Great Happiness Space* which was released in 2006 still as popular or are they less popular?"