

ABSTRACTS OF THE ARTICLES

SOME METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS UNDERLYING URBAN STUDIES

Masaji Chiba* and Kazuhiko Takeuchi*

Comprehensive Urban Studies, No. 3, 1978, pp. 3-9.

The authors summarize their discussions with the other collaborators.

Chiba describes the availability of the "code of urban problems," to be heuristically framed following the ethnographic codes of G. P. Murdock. He further suggests three basic problems. One is how to define a city as "an independent variable" or "an urban system." Next is how to apply the historical method to contemporary urban studies.

A third problem analyzed by Takeuchi is the complex nature of the subject in urban studies. People living and working in a city are usually regarded as the subject, while natural and social environments the object. In reality, however, any organism, whether an animal or a plant, may be the subject in an urban system and the people may be observed as an object in the system by those who are making research of urban affairs.

* Center for Urban Studies, Tokyo Metropolitan University

PROBLEMS AND FACTS AMONG THE COLLECTIVE HOUSING DWELLERS IN TOKYO

Shogo Koyano*

Comprehensive Urban Studies, No. 3, 1978, pp. 11-23.

There has long existed a strong desire to own a "detached house with private yard" among citizens in Japan. The dream was reinforced with the high level of economic growth after 1960. Since then, "Danch-Zoku", a name given to collective housing dwellers, has gradually fallen into disuse. However, this high growth has made houses "expensive, cramped, and remote," as a result of increasing land prices as well as the concentration of population. Under these circumstances, demand for public, collective housing has risen, intensifying the trend to high rise.

Applying the findings of our field research conducted at two collective housing areas in Tokyo, this article attempts to clarify how the public, collective, and high rise housings can contribute toward solving the housing shortage in the metropolitan area. To this end, we deal with to what extent the residents tolerate high rise and adjust their social

activities and daily association in and around the collective housing areas.

Contents are: introduction, 1. public housing, 2. collective housing, 3. multiple-storied housing, 4. "danchi" and the surrounding society, and 5. findings of a field survey (i. formation of subjects for survey, ii. physical perspectives, iii. social behavior, iv. consciousness and attitude, and v. concluding remarks).

* Center for Urban Studies, Tokyo Metropolitan University

THE VIEW OF CITY LIFE BY YOUNG PEOPLE OF OKINAWA

Taketoshi Takuma*

Comprehensive Urban Studies, No. 3, 1978, pp. 25—32.

The problem of young people returning to their home towns after several year working in urban districts because of their maladjustment to social conditions is called "phenomenon of the U-turn". In recent years there has been an incase in such. Years before, young people of rural areas used to come to big cities such as Osaka or Tokyo after graduation from high school to work and live the rest of their lives. These days, however, it is said that the number of people who would like to stay and contribute to their hometown development has increased.

This study attempts to reveal how senior high school students of Okinawa actually regard large cities. Among the twelfth grade students of 5 different senior high schools in Okinawa, 1213 students (M=599, F=614) were administered a questionnaire, concerning the above problem. In regards to the question as to where they would like to work after graduation, 573 students showed the desire to come to the main land of Japan. This group is called group A. Then 510 students, called group B, revealed their desire to stay in Okinawa. The others stated no particular preferences to where they might work.

Some significant differences between group A and group B are as follows:

1. More of the parents of group A than those of group B experienced city life and therefore desired their children to work and live in large cities.
2. In group B, there were more of the first born children than those of group A.
3. The students of group A regard the city life as pleasant, enjoyable and convenient. In group B, the students regard the city life as difficult and unhealthy due to pollution and crime.
4. More student of group B than those of group A, see their personality as dependent and childish.

It should be added, besides those differences, that even in group A there are few who are planning to stay in large cities for the rest of their lives, and most of them are planning to return to Okinawa in 3 years.

It may be said that almost all of the students in this research had a strong kinship

and tie to their home towns and families.

* Center for Urban Studies, Tokyo Metropolitan University

A BASIC STUDY OF THE MOTHER-CHILD RELATIONSHIP IN A CITY

Shigetoshi Mori*

Comprehensive Urban Studies, No. 3, 1978, pp. 33—47.

In this paper we deal with the problems in the parent-child relationship and the character building of children.

In order to analyze the main factors of the mother-child relationship which has a great influence on character building of children, we gave the Test of Parent-child Relationship, which we standardized in Tokyo in 1970, to the pupils of elementary school in Okayama City and their mothers in 1975.

In 18% of the families studied, there were problems in the relationship. These are examined with respect to various factors and age groups.

* Center for Urban Studies, Tokyo Metropolitan University

RECENT GROWTH OF THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN REGION

Yoshio Watanabe*

Comprehensive Urban Studies, No. 3, 1978, pp. 49—76.

PART I (written in 1972)

Population increase of this region in the later half of the 1960's is distinguished from that in earlier years, for it was mainly caused not by the younger immigrants from outside areas of the region as before but by the natural increase of earlier immigrants.

The modes of areal expansion of the metropolis were also changed. The main cause of suburbanization in the starting stage was overflowing immigrants from built-up areas which had been occupied by earlier immigrants in addition to original residents. The expansion of central business quarters likely resulted in dispersion of nearby residents toward the suburb. Suburbanization in the later 1960's was wholly resulted from the reformation of residential quarters in the built-up areas which had been more compacted. Younger immigrants and children of original residents tended to move suburbs when they

got married or had children. Improved service facilities as a result of earlier suburbanization accelerated subsequent population movement into neighboring suburbs.

Those phases of the metropolitan growth were requiring new perspectives on urban problems, for example, on the problem of transportation system for daily pendulum traffic flow.

PART II (written in 1978 to supplement Part I)

The growth of the metropolitan region was further modified in the earlier half of the 1970's, when the striking expansion of Japanese economy stagnated. Population increase by immigrants almost disappeared. But, the region still continued transformation. Along with continuing outflow emigration from residence of apartment style in the built-up areas, reversal flow of population from suburbs increased to build new style of residential quarters that were vertically expanded or furnished with agglomeration of mini-scale independent houses. Natural increase of population kept going down among others in built-up areas by reason of decreasing inflow of younger immigrants.

Children of new residents in suburban areas consist of larger part of population increase in the metropolitan region.

* Center for Urban Studies, Tokyo Metropolitan University