An Encouragement of Learning... <u>Minority</u>



Introduction

Chihiro Masui

- AFAB (assigned female at birth) / Gender identity: female
- **pansexual** (could be open to people of any sex or gender identity)
- **demisexual** (being sexually attracted to someone only when I have an emotional bond with them)
 - Managing a blog about sex, gender, sexuality... so on (<u>https://gendercooking.com/</u>)

Today's discussion:

- In this world, there are lots of inequality, intolerance, and injustice about gender and sexuality.
- What kind of inequality, intolerance, and injustice are there? For example?
- Why such inequality, intolerance, and injustice exist? What are the demerits of the inequality, intolerance, and injustice?
- what can we do to improve these situations?

I think there are few things we can do to reduce the demerits of inequality, the intolerance, and the injustice

What is majority/minority?



→It changes based on time, place, occasion, country, era...

For example: women

⇒Minority at the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare
⇒Majority in the field of childcare

➡ Everyone has both majority-ness and minority-ness (No one is complete majority or minority)

Point 1: Investigate minority-ness in yourself

An ENCOURAGEMENT of LEARNING

Yukichi Fukuzawa

Introduction by Shunsaku Nishikawa Translated by David A. Dilworth



All men are created equal

People say "all men are equal". But...

Actually, there are rich men and poor men, or wise men and stupid men in this world.

Yes, there are superiors and inferiors.

→So, we should learn and overcome other people

if we want to become happy!



1 I have suffered from being female a lot



2 I have tried living as "male" so hard











Many people are trapped in the small box of gender.

I want to become "beacon of hope" for those people.

You can think outside of box! That's what I want to tell by doing drag.





Maybe you are demisexual!

I am lesbian, but there are also other sexualities like "pansexual" ...

In the USA, there was the series of protests called "the Stonewall riots" in 1969 which led to the fight for LGBT rights.

...this is... and that is...





(6) I can now look into my minority-ness

【必読】同性婚実現活動パンフをすぐに読むべき7つの理由





and encourage others to be happy!

But, then my colleague said...

I've never thought of anything like that. I know discrimination is bad, but as I'm ordinary Japanese, I think I don't have any minority-ness.



Point 2: Investigate <u>majority</u> characteristics in yourself

By living with Candice, I noticed...



Everyone can be majority/minority

Majority

- Has Asian-features
- No tattoos
- Non-vegan

Minority

- Being female
- demisexual
- pansexual
- having same-sex spouse

Becoming conscious about your majority-ness can be difficult than you think...

To be conscious about your Majority-ness

- Level I : Not conscious
- Level I : Gradually becoming conscious, feels sense of guilt and anger
- Level III : succumb to pressure to maintain the status quo
- Level IV : Becoming conscious again, having doubts about society
- Level V : Learn about why you are majority
- Level VI : Make an action to change the situation

To be conscious about your Minority-ness

- Level I : Not conscious
- Level II : Experience discrimination

- Level III : Learn about why you are minority
- Level IV : Becoming positive about the fact that you are minority
- Level V : Make an action to change the situation

If you don't have any disadvantage, you can live without thinking about it

However, what comes around goes around



Q:If you want to bring your child up to racist, what you should do? A:You should **talk nothing about discrimination**.

(Cherry Steinwender)

Minority/Majority is two sides of a coin





How to make an action



朝日新聞デジタル > 記事













鏡を見るのが苦手だった。写真にも、でき る限り映りたくなかった。「私じゃない誰か になりたい」と、思い続けてきたから。

<u>厚生労働省</u>職員の桝井千裕さん(32) は、かつて、自信を持てずにいた。



Kishida apologizes over LGBTQ slur



Japan's Prime Minister Kishida Fumio has apologized to lawmakers over "outrageous" anti-LGBT remarks made by one of his top aides. Kishida fired Arai Masayoshi, a secretary who claimed last week he would not want to live next door to a same-sex couple, or even see them.

Japan passes controversial LGBT law: 5 things to know

Sexual minorities and critics say legal framework has no teeth

https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Gender/Japan-passescontroversial-LGBT-law-5-things-to-know



Participants march during the Tokyo Rainbow Pride parade, celebrating advances in LGBTQ rights and calling for marriage equality, in Tokyo on April 23. © Reuters



Why a lawsuit?

In order to legalize same-sex marriage, amendments need to be made to Civil Law and Family Registration Law. For this, the Diet (the legislature) where laws are passed, needs to take action and this is the most direct way to make them do so.

However, Diet members are elected by the public and represent the majority view, and they do not appear to be interested in amending the law for so-called "sexual minorities" anytime soon. If we are just waiting for the Diet to take action, there is no telling

when they will actually do so.

This is where the cour, the judiciary, comes into play. The role of the court is to say "even if it is something decided by the majority, when it infringes upon the rights of the minority we cannot allow it." One can say the judiciary is the last line of defense for individual rights.

We have filed lawsuit in the hopes that the court will fulfil its role and determine that it is an "unconstitutional violation of human rights" to deny marriage to same-sex couples.

https://www.marriageforall.jp/en/plan/



Your action influences someone



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Thank you for listening!