

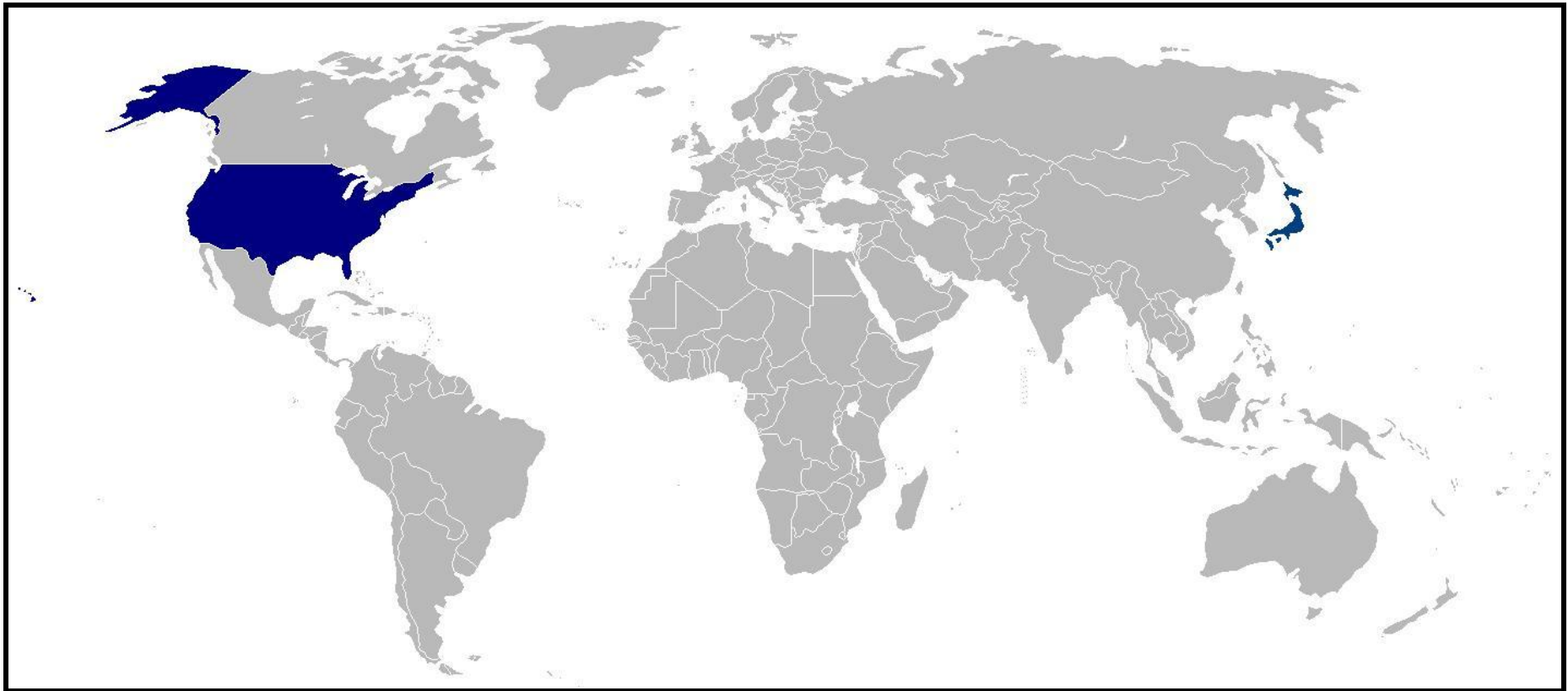


Family

Japan

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Why Focus on Japan?



Why Focus on Japan?

Facts

- One in every two Americans who marry live together first, compared to one in every 10 Japanese.
- In the United States, one in every four households is headed by a single parent; in Japan, one in every 50 households is considered single parent.

Why Focus on Japan?

Facts

- About 17 percent of U.S. households provide some type of care to an older person that usually lives in a household separate from the caregiver; 50 percent of elderly individuals in Japan live with their adult children, usually a son and daughter-in-law, who care for them.

Why Focus on Japan?

- A. The family is an ever-changing entity.
 - 1. Personal decisions influence the variety of family arrangements that exist in any country.
 - a. Whether to have children and, if so, how many to have
 - b. When to have children, and how to space them
 - c. Whether to marry and, if so, when
 - d. Whether to work for pay
 - e. Whether to become a caregiver to dependent relatives

Why Focus on Japan?

- A. The family is an ever-changing entity.
 2. Personal decisions are shaped and constrained by larger forces, such as average life expectancy, employment opportunities, and social norms.
 3. A comparison of family life in Japan and in the U.S.; based on indicators that seem to be associated with family well-being and stability
 - a. People in the U.S. seem more optimistic about marriage and children than people in Japan. The U.S. has a higher marriage rate, a smaller percentage of never married women, a higher teen birth rate (41 live births per 1,000 females ages 15-19), and a higher total fertility rate.

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 - b. Both the U.S. and Japan have an aging population; that is, the percentage of the people ages 65 and older is increasing relative to other age groups

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 - 2. A comparison of family life in Japan and in the U.S.; based on indicators that seem to be associated with family well-being and stability
 - c. Japan has one of the oldest populations in the world due to several factors: a low total fertility rate, long life expectancy, and low immigration.

Official U.S. definition of family is
a social network of people linked together
by

Blood,

Marriage, or

Adoption

When sociologists study the family, they focus on the many factors that affect its structure.



Sociologists view the family as an ever changing entity.

Millions of seemingly personal decisions shape the **structure of** family life in a society.

Structure of Families

- **Family Household** (members related by blood, marriage, adoption)
- **Nonfamily Household** (includes single and people unrelated by blood, marriage, or adoption)

Structure of Families

- Married-couple household
- Male-headed (no wife) family household
- Female-headed (no husband) family household

Structure of Families

- Presence of children
- Absence of children

Structure of Families

- Two-generation
- Three-generation+

U.S. 100 years of change

Living Arrangement	1900	1950	2009
Average household size (persons)	4.8	3.4	2.6
Percent of households with 7 or more people	20.4	4.9	1.0

U.S. 100 years of change

	1900	1950	2009
Living arrangements of children by family status			
% Two-parent farm family	41	17	2
% Two-parent nonfarm family	45	79	64
% Father breadwinner, mother homemaker	43	56	32
% Dual-earner parents	2	13	60
% Single-parent	9	8	28
Not living with parent	5	6	4

U.S. 100 years of change

	1900	1950	2009
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	99.9	29.2	6.0

Decisions about...

(1) **whether to have children** and if so,

(a) **how many,**

(b) **when** to have them, and

(c) **how to space them**

Total fertility - the average number of children that would be born per woman if all women lived to the end of their childbearing years.

Highest total fertility: Niger **(7.6)**

Lowest total fertility: Macau **(.92)**

The teen birth rate in Japan is **4.6 per 1,000** females age 15–19 .

The teen birth rate in the United States is **41.9 births per 1,000** females age 15–19.

Decisions about...

(2) **whether and when in life to marry**

(3) **whether to divorce, remarry or remain divorced**

28 percent of U.S. households with children are headed by a single parent.

In Japan **1.4 percent** of children live in a single-parent household.

Percent of males in Japan who never married
by age 35 **42.9**

Percent of males in United States who never
married by age 35 **32.0**

Percent of females in Japan who never
married by age 35 **28.1**

Percentage of females in United States who
never married by age 35 **14.0**

Decisions about . . .

(4) **whether to become a caregiver to dependent relatives.**



In the United States **13 percent** of those 65 and older live with their children or some other relative.

In Japan **50 percent** of persons 65 and older live with their adult children.

Other Factors that Shape Family Structure

Death (structural terms)

When can we “expect” family members to die?

- Infant mortality
- Maternal mortality
- Life expectancy

Infant Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year old per 1,000 live births per year

Highest: Angola (175.9 per 1000 births)

Lowest: Sweden (2.7 per 1000 births)

Maternal Mortality

The number of deaths of per 100,000 women giving birth per year.

Highest: Sierra Leone (2000 per 100,000 births)

Lowest: Sweden (5 per 100,000 births)

Life Expectancy

The average number of years expected to be lived by a group of people born in the same year

Highest: Japan (82.3 years of age)

Lowest: Angola (38.7 years of age)

Other Factors that Shape Family Structure

Death (structural terms)

How do family members die?

- Infectious disease
- Degenerative disease

Other Factors that Shape Family Structure

Work (structural terms)

- how much time engaged in paid work?
- what kind of work?
- where do family members work? (in relation to home to sustain the family's standard of living)

Percentage of population engaged in agriculture

Highest: Niger (90%)

Lowest: Sweden (1.1%)

- **55 percent** of women with infant children work for pay in the United States.
- **67 percent** of married women in Japan leave work when first child is born.

Functionalist View of Family

- Family performs five functions
 - Regulating sexual behavior
 - Replacing the members of society when die
 - Socializing the young
 - Providing care and emotional support
 - Conferring social status

Conflict View of family

- Sometime family have competing interest
- And some families exercise their will over others
- Family incomes affects the kinds of investments they can make in their children
- Racial Divisions and boundries

Changing Family Structures

- 1900, 80% of children lived in two-parent home which the mother worked on a farm or in the home.
- Today 32% of children live in two-parent homes in which the father is the breadwinner and the mother is a full-time homemaker.
- Decline of the Breadwinner system
- Increase of Life Expectancy
- Increased Employment Opportunities for Women

Key Forces Changing family Structures

- Recent change of Economics
- Decline in Parental Authority
- Status of Children
- Dramatic Increase in Life Expectancy
- Caregiving
 - One and four Americans age 65 and older requires assistance.