



JournalisKICK



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Being Ethical Consumer Makes for Kinder World

Ethical consumption, choosing products that are environmentally friendly or made by justly rewarded workers, is one of the ways to protect the environment and help people suffering from low wages and poor working conditions.

Today, there are numerous environmental issues, such as global warming and the labor conditions of low-wage earners, such as cotton farmers. Cotton requires numerous pesticides to grow without becoming damaged by harmful insects. Yet these pesticides reportedly cause the deaths of about 20,000 farmers a year. One way to help address this problem is to buy T-shirts that have been made under proper work conditions. This is an example of ethical consumption.

To spread the idea of ethical consumption, members of the school festival committee of Ochanomizu University Senior High School incorporated this mindset into running the school festival. They asked that all groups participating in the school festival ensure that the activities took ethical consumption into consideration. Moreover, to show customers at the festival the concrete contents of the ethical consumption each group did, logos were displayed at the venue.

One of the activities was selling original tea bags, called “Ochako’s tea,” at a school festival in 2017. A special package of tea bags was made through collaboration between Shimodozono, a long-established



Photo by Yuzuki Kondo

Ochako's tea

tea company, and “the Ochas,” a cooking club authorized by Ochanomizu University. This tea is not an ordinary tea; it is an organic tea that was grown without using chemicals. As a result, 900 sets of Ochako’s tea were sold and the proceeds were donated to the “Manaberukikin” system, which supports teenagers living in disaster areas.

Another activity was selling gelato in collaboration with Ricca, a gelato company in Nagano. This company uses fresh fruit produced in Nagano and milk made with animal welfare taken into consideration. By

using these ethical ingredients, we can prevent cows from being milked under harsh conditions.

All of these are examples of ethical consumption, which can help address problems the world is facing now. You may think that changing the world is difficult. But there are many ways of doing so, and even high school students can get involved. If you are not one already, why not consider becoming an ethical consumer?

By Ayaka Matsuo, Kanon Yoshimoto, Sae Tatsuno, Yuzuki Kondo, Yuki Momose



Created by Kousuke Fuzisawa, Ayaka Matsuo, Shizuka Kasai, Sae Tatsuno

Ethical category mark

NOTICE TO READERS

This newspaper was created by third-year students in Ochanomizu University Senior High School’s Kiku class. The “Ochakou” school is in Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo. As many cultured people lived here in the modern era, it was named “Bunkyo,” or “city of literature.” Also, as there are many schools here, we can certainly say it was named for being a “center for academics.”

Our school was designated as a Super Global High school

(SGH) by MEXT. The mission of SGH is to cultivate human resources who can succeed in a globalized world. As an SGH, our school holds “Global Geography” as well as “Tankyu I” and “Tankyu II” classes.

In first year, we study global issues, such as environmental problems, energy, and world situations in Global Geography. In second year, we take Tankyu I and learn how to set, solve and communicate projects, based on knowledge

learned in the previous year. We set projects based on individual interests, gather information ourselves, and decide on an approach. In third year, we compile the individual Tankyu I activities and create an English-language newspaper in Tankyu II.

This newspaper reports on an activity at our school festival in 2017 on page 1; SGH activities on page 2; problems of modern society on page 3; and our experience

and mindset regarding trips to Okinawa and Fukushima Prefecture for field work on page 4. The articles cover various themes, from hot topics, such as SNS and gender issues, to school activities. We hope this newspaper helps contribute to the creation of a better society.

By Asa Tomita, Chieno Kurokawa, Kaori Uwaso, Nagisa Komura

SGH ACTIVITIES

Protecting Japanese Food Culture: Eel

As a result of excessive fishing, eel catches have been decreasing every year. Owing to this, the traditional Japanese food culture “Doyo-no Ushinohi,” commonly known as a day to eat eel in Japan, is facing a crisis of survival.

The responsibility of excess fishing lies not only with people who fish, but also with consumers. Therefore sustainable seafood (caught or farmed in ways that consider the long-term vitality of harvested species and the well-being of the oceans) was proposed by a group of students from Ochanomizu University Senior High School.

By adopting such an activity and thinking about sustainable seafood, changes can be expected in consumer attitudes, in turn contributing to eco-friendly consumption, which eventually helps address the problem.

Although sustainable seafood has been suggested as one of the solutions to this problem, there are many difficulties in putting this method into practice.

One of the challenges is how to raise awareness of sustainable



Photo by Nao Nagasawa

“Unaju,” Japanese unagi cuisine

seafood. In a school survey, students asked 356 Japanese whether they are aware of sustainable seafood or not, with 80% answering “No.” This means that 4 out of 5 people are not aware of sustainable seafood.

To overcome this challenge, students have made leaflets, promotion videos and a website. As a result, awareness of an eel crisis and sustainable seafood has increased. Their thinking is that if more people know about sustainable seafood, more people will make eco-friendly choices

when shopping.

Many consumers think that they cannot have a great impact or that they have no choice when sustainable seafood is not on sale. But your choice is very important, as it reflects your message to society. Consumers should thus take sustainability into consideration for the future!

Greater awareness of and interest in sustainable seafood leads to the industry being more aware as well. In this way, more and more parts of society will take eco-friendly actions.



Created by Shiori Akira

Original logo mark

Also, government cooperation is needed to make sustainable seafood popular. For example, in New Zealand, the government cooperates with fishery cooperatives and monitors their fishing. Such activities enable most supermarkets in the country to sell sustainable seafood.

Sustainable seafood will be promoted in Japan, if such movements as those in New Zealand become more popular. Excessive fishing should thus be tackled not by a few people, but rather by the whole of society to preserve Japanese food culture.

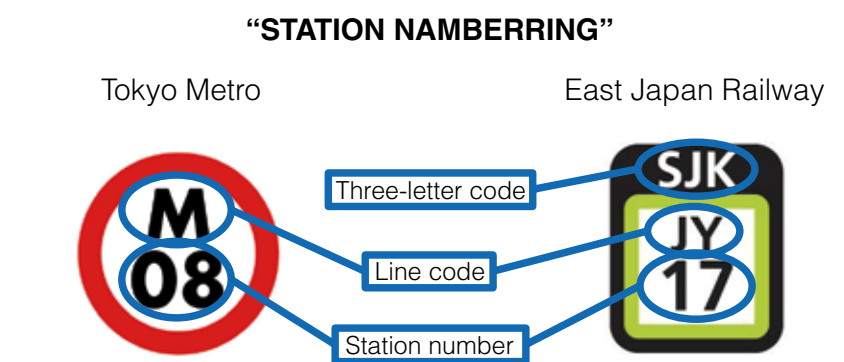
By Aki Hoshino, Nao Nagasawa, Nodoka Yamauchi, Ruka Yokota

Codes Help Visitors Ride the Rails

Tokyo is well-known for its dense network of subway lines that are intricately connected. Today, with the influx of foreign visitors to Japan, the train is becoming more indispensable as a means of transportation. To facilitate navigation for foreign tourists traveling within the capital, railway companies have introduced a so-called signature system. For example, one form of this system is “station numbering.” Tokyo Metro, a rapid transit system in Tokyo, uses specific colors to represent each line and has created easy-to-understand signs with letters and a number indicating the line and station, respectively. For example, in Image 1 to the right, the letter M and the red

color stand for the Marunouchi Line, since its paintwork is red. Eight (08) is the number designated for Shinjuku Station.

Also, East Japan Railway (JR East) uses a three-letter coding system for hub stations where many lines stop. As seen in Image 1, Shinjuku Station on the Yamanote Line can be described using three different codes: three letters, a line code, and a station number. In this case, the three-letter code “SJK” stands for Shinjuku Station, line code JY for the JR Yamanote Line, represented by its green color, and station number seventeen (17) for Shinjuku Station. Other hub stations include AKB for Akihabara Station, UEN for



The logos provided by JR East and Tokyo Metro
Created by Urara Nagumo

Image 1: Example of station numbering

Ueno Station and TYO for Tokyo Station.

Such signature systems with numbers, letters and colors are displayed in eye-catching places. By utilizing information technology, people traveling on trains can more easily understand how and

where to go. This should make access using rail transport easier, regardless of language barriers.

By Ayano Oki, Karen Hamamoto, Soyoko Yoon, Urara Nagumo, Yukari Fuku

Be Aware of Unseen Risks in Era of SNS!

Twitter, Instagram, Facebook—people around the world use various social networking services that make it possible to interact with a large number of other users. These services are convenient, but at the same time there are some risks in being online. Let's try to understand them so that we can use SNS safely.

Some people post images taken at their home or self-portrait pictures on SNS. Such behavior could, however, put their personal information at risk of being leaked online. Once the images are posted, they can spread across the world and be saved and misused by anyone.

Smartphones and tablets have a function of recording the location a photo is taken at. As a result, your address could be identified from an image, whether it is a photo of



Created by Natsumi Hamada

A picture with location information

a dish you cooked or a pet. To prevent such risk, the location information function should be turned off.

Have you ever met a friend you made online in real life? You may meet someone with the same interests and deepen the friendship through SNS. You can also go to events



together, and talk about common interests. However, the character, sex, or age of friends on SNS may be fake. There are

more risks than one can imagine meeting people from SNS in real life. Someone on the other side of the screen cannot always be trustworthy.

There are even more issues with SNS: obsessive use of such services can cause people to lose track of their true self. While SNS platforms can be interesting, users must be careful not to lose sight of who they are and should always take their surroundings into consideration.

Becoming involved with many people over the Internet is a double-edged sword. Users must pay attention to the actions they take on the Internet. Use SNS wisely and have a good SNS life!

By Azusa Iwata, Emma Yamamoto, Nanami Ishigure, Natsumi Hamada, Reona Maezawa

Gender Issues Jam Up Women-only Trains

Groping is a serious social issue in Japan. Surprisingly, many travel books written in foreign countries refer to “chikan” on Japanese trains. In fact, according to a survey conducted with 232 students of Ochanomizu University Senior High School, more than one-third of the students has been groped. (Figure 1). To prevent groping, women-only train cars have been introduced in Japan. More than 80 train routes offer such carriages.

Some people think that men are prohibited from riding in a women-only train. However, it is not a problem in the eye of the law. Such a misunderstanding sometimes causes trouble between women and men. In February 2018, women accused three men who rode in a women-only train on the Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line of groping. Based

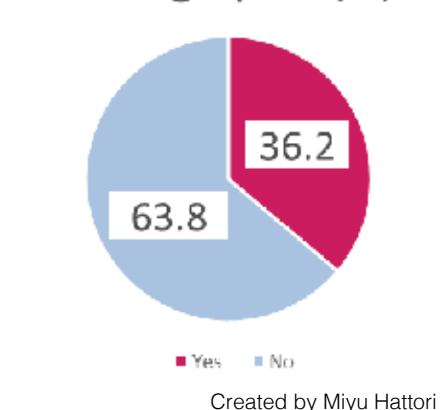
on those cases, it seems the issue involves only combatting groping. Can it really be so?

These days, women-only trains are often associated with gender issues. Gender is not the sex-biological characteristics of female and male, but rather refers to social and cultural definitions of women and men. Moreover, it includes the theory of “SOGI,” which stands for “Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity” and is deeply related to LGBT.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted at the U.N. summit in 2015. Gender equality is one of the goals. Such an initiative will improve unfair standpoints regarding women and sexual minorities.

Based on the above, there are three main problems with women-only trains from a

gender perspective.



gender perspective.

Firstly, women-only trains force gender identities on everyone, even a *cisgender's identity of being a woman.

Secondly, women-only trains hardly accomplish the primary purpose. Such trains tend to be used as a psychological shelter for victims of groping. However, transgender people, who have concerns about their own sex, cannot use the train because they feel that their gender is being denied or that they are being forced to be a different gender from their real one.

Thirdly, women-only trains



【女性専用車ステッカー】

Provided by JR East

Figure 2: Women-only train

discriminate based on being male or female. On the one hand, women are deprived of freedom of behavior and feel that they are confined to a women-only train. On the other hand, men may have the unpleasant feeling of being treated as possible gropers.

It is the threat of groping that we should really eliminate. These problems must now be regarded as issues of the entire society.

* Cisgender: A person whose gender identity matches their birth sex

By Akira Kudo, Ayumi Ogawa, Miyu Hattori, Rin Nakano, Rio Fujinami, Yuki Ogata

Sasukenable: The Spirit of Fukushima

Seven years have passed since the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami struck Fukushima Prefecture. Yet, reconstruction is still ongoing. Students of Ochanomizu University Senior High School visited the prefecture to gather information about the current condition of reconstruction from people engaged in such activities.

All of the people were working on such activities as shelter management, handling of nuclear accidents, restoration of agriculture, and so on. Those involved with reconstruction told students what they feel is important and must be passed on to future generations.

Amano Hiroyuki, the manager of the largest shelter in Fukushima Prefecture, called “Fukushima Palette,” emphasized, “It is significant to supply daily necessities to people rapidly. However, the most important thing is to support their minds. We did our



A game called “Sasukenable”

best to make shelters a place for communication and self-government associations.”

The operating staff of the shelter came up with a simulation game called “Sasukenable” based on lessons learned at the shelter. It is a game that helps people think about how to deal with possible situations. Students

of Ochanomizu University Senior High School were divided into groups and participated in the game along each theme.

By going through “Sasukenable,” students learned that people who lived in disaster areas are generally referred to as “Victims”; however, they are “Humans.” Each person used



Photo by Yuki Fukui

Damage from the 2011 quake

to have, and still has, their own lifestyle even after the disaster. It is necessary for people to keep this in mind when engaged in reconstruction activities. Always remember, victims are not “miserable people.”

By Kasumi Shioda, Kotoko Yabe, Misuzu Akashi, Miu Kawada, Yuki Fukui

Message from Himeyuri to Future Generations



Photo by Sawako Shinogi

The Tower of Himeyuri

Ochanomizu University Senior High School participated in peace learning about Okinawa as part of a school trip to the island in April 2018.

First, the students went to Himeyuri Peace Memorial Museum and Okinawa Peace Memorial Museum. At the Himeyuri site, they visited a

memorial service monument and the Tower of Himeyuri, where Himeyuri students had been laid to rest. The students were shocked by the sad situation whereby girls around the same age who had many hopes and dreams were forced to escape, leaving their classmates behind.

The Okinawa Peace Memorial Museum had models and

photographs through which the students could understand wartime in Okinawa.

Later, the students visited a natural cave called Itokazu Abuchiragama. This cave is located in the south of the main island of Okinawa. During the Battle of Okinawa, it was used as a shelter trench. As the battlefield went south, this so-called gama served as a military hospital. When the students entered, it was too dark to see anything without a flashlight. Himeyuri schoolgirls ran about to help with the treatment of injured soldiers and discarding dead bodies or excrement. After the war, the evacuees and the soldiers spared by the offensive of the U.S. army went to the gama.

The students realized the tragedy of the war and the importance of peace by seeing the scars of war in Okinawa

through this school trip. We must not forget the tragedies of war even when living in a modern society.

By Kumika Endo, Moena Danzuka, Sawako Shinogi, Shono Sakai, Yuika Yasui

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