

科学研究費助成事業 研究成果報告書

平成 29 年 8 月 22 日現在

機関番号：12601

研究種目：研究活動スタート支援

研究期間：2015～2016

課題番号：15H06120

研究課題名(和文) Diverse Young Women's Leadership in Post-3.11 Tohoku

研究課題名(英文) Diverse Young Women's Leadership in Post-3.11 Tohoku

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交付決定額(研究期間全体)：(直接経費) 1,700,000円

研究成果の概要(和文)：少子化・高齢社会は一般地方が困る上、災害後東北では町の復興に持続力の課題も重なる。ジェンダー、世代、国内移民や災害の交差分析により、日本(年上で男性)の街づくりリーダーと違って、「東北グラスルーツアカデミー」の若い女性参加者(40名)の育成を観察、参画やプロフィール分析する研究。東北へ移民(Uターン)する志、個々の夢、仕事と子育ての両立や性別役割分担の「異」文化の相互依存が明確な教訓。専門性高い若い女性市民がすみやすい東北の構築を多分野で目指すモデルケースを先行研究に追加。単純な活躍より、新規範により、若い女性に指導力・経済力とWLBを保障できる雇用を目的とした街の持続力政策を見直すべく教訓。

研究成果の概要(英文)：Threatening community survival, all regions face decreasing birthrates and an aging society. Tohoku also faces challenges of post-disaster rebuilding. This research explores the intersections of gender, generation, domestic migration and disaster reconstruction through profile analysis and participant-observation of leadership training for 40 young women. Problematizing the hegemonic model of senior male leadership, the profiles reveal the interdependence of a) women's motivation to migrate to Tohoku, b) lifelong aspirations for self and community, and c) intergenerational culture shock about traditional gender roles. The findings suggest that young women desire respect for diverse lifestyles and are creating innovative combinations of professional expertise, community leadership, and working motherhood. To be effective, reconstruction and community sustainability policies must stimulate access to empowering employment that normalizes WLB and leadership opportunities for young women.

研究分野：政治学

 キーワード：女性の活躍 東北復興・街づくり政策 国内移民・就職 女性のリーダーシップ ジェンダー・多様性
 市民化プロセス 少子化・高齢社会 地域減少・持続力

Jackie F. STEELE

1. 研究開始当初の背景

Within the international literature on gender and disasters, Enarson and Morrow (1988:8) have asserted that there is a “gendered terrain of disasters” and that much of women’s ability to cope with disaster has been determined by inequalities that exist before it occurs. Ariyabandu (2009) likewise discusses the relationship of both gender and sex with caste, class, age, ability and other aspects of human life as they intersect with disaster risk reduction. At the international level, the UNISDR 2009-2011 HFA Monitor revealed that “62 out of 70 countries do not collect gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity information” and that “only 18% of National Platforms include women’s participation” (UNISDR Pham 2014). Within Japan, due in large part to contributions of the 2008-2013 *Global COE on Gender Equality and Multicultural Conviviality in the Age of Globalization* (Tohoku University), the Japanese research on gender had recently engaged with critical interdisciplinary approaches and feminist intersectional analysis of gender, race, lifecycle/family, class etc. These reflections were only beginning to be applied to studies of disasters and Tohoku Reconstruction.

Aside from a few scholars looking a multiculturalism, conviviality, and/or migrant wives in Tohoku (Sunhee Lee; Kuniko Yamaji), at the time of 3.11, the research on gender and disasters in Japan was both dominated by the natural sciences and lacked broader reflections of diversity and political citizenship. Building on existing research collaborations through the GCOE, in May 2012, at a Workshop in Victoria, Canada, I established the “Japan-Canada Interdisciplinary Research Network on Gender, Diversity and Tohoku Reconstruction” (hereafter, JCIRN). Entitled “Gender, Diversity and Tohoku Reconstruction: Governance Challenges and Opportunities Two Years On” (ISS Research Series No. 53), and co-edited by Jackie F. Steele and Mari Osawa, the 2013 JCIRN Report blended the literatures from critical democratic theory, feminist intersectionality, and disaster studies and build upon the international and existing Japanese literature. It stressed the need for an a) intersectional analysis (Morris 2007) that assumes the full rights of diverse women and men to democratic citizenship (Jasanoff 2010), and b) that reveals the diversity of women’s and men’s vulnerabilities and *strengths*. This nuanced approach and social science method can avoid the discriminatory ways in which ongoing disaster studies often fail to account for women as empowered actors and leaders contributing to grassroots community-building and resilience.

The 2013 JCIRN Report and academic activities 2012-2015 have made three (3)

contributions to the debates on Tohoku Reconstruction. First, it paints a more nuanced portrait of the diverse realities of women and men living in the Tohoku region. Second, it tracks the legislative and policy gaps in Tohoku reconstruction plans. Third, through a series of academic events and policy dialogues in Japan and Canada, it has disseminated Canadian and Anglo-American feminist political science debates about diversity to Japanese and Canadian collaborators.

JCIRN’s activities have helped to broaden the field of gender/disasters in Japan towards the intersections of gender, diversity and citizenship theories. Some examples include NGO events, such as the 2013「ジェンダーと多様性の視点に立った政策を考える」Roundtable hosted by the Japan Women’s Network for Disaster Risk Reduction; scientific conferences such as the 2014「減災の科学を豊かに—多様性・ジェンダーの視点から」hosted by the Japan Science Council’s 東日本大震災復興支援委員会産業振興・就業支援分科会); governmental reports, such as the 2015「JICAの途上国支援における災害とジェンダー・多様性」to name a few. Within the English academic publications led by non-gender specialists, we have also seen the explicit integration of the term <diversity> and/or the inclusion of perspectives from *women and other marginalized groups*, such as in Tom Gill, Brigitte Steger, and David Slater’s 2013 *Japan Copes with Calamity* (Peter Lang) and Paul Bacon and Christopher Hobson’s 2014 *Human Security and Japan’s Triple Disaster* (Routledge). This is a promising trend.

The current project contributes empirical and qualitative case studies on the intersections of gender, diversity and disaster resilience in Tohoku, by tracking the agency, activities, and aspirations of young women leaders (40 women under 40 years old) in the affected areas of Tohoku.

2. 研究の目的

Tracking participants in the UN Huairou Commission’s “Women’s Grassroots Academy in Minamisanriku” (March 2015 UN 3rd World Conference on DRR) over the two years, this research analyses 40 young women (under 40 years) who had been identified as community leaders in the affected prefectures of Fukushima, Iwate, and Miyagi. Analysis of the profiles of the young women, their organizations, and their grassroots contributions aims to reveal diverse models of “leadership” and trace the political consciousness (the personal is political) through the women’s motivations and activities. A correlate goal is to re-think the intersectional policy implications of women’s empowerment, community sustainability, and diverse work/lifestyles, in light of the specific values, perspectives, interests, and aspirations of

young women in Tohoku.

Attention to the realities and policy needs of young women, pre and post-disaster, and on young women's leadership on DRR is an under-researched area of the dominant literatures on a) the sociology of disaster risk, b) disaster management and resilience, and within the political science literatures on c) public policy, d) inclusive democratic decision-making, and e) multi-level risk governance from local to multilateral levels.

3. 研究の方法

Justification of the 40 selected Cases: The “Grassroots Women’s Academy in Tohoku / Minamisanriku” was the first partnership between a UN organization and Tohoku-based women. The Huairou Commission is a global membership and partnership coalition that empowers grassroots women's organizations to enhance their community development practice and to exercise collective political power at the global level. However, it targets women in developing countries, so Japan and other OECD countries are traditionally ineligible for funding for these “Grassroots Women’s Academy” events. Due to proactive efforts by the Tokyo-based NGO, *Women’s Eye*, for the first time the Huairou Commission sponsored a Grassroots Academy for women in Tohoku in conjunction with the UN Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai in March 2015. A pre-Academy training session was held in Sendai for the 40 young women from Tohoku to help them prepare for exchanges with the women from developing countries, who also attended the official Grassroots Women’s Academy in Minamisanriku.

The current research project allowed for the following:

- Compilation and analyze of the profiles of the 40 Japanese women from affected areas in Tohoku;
- Categorization of the main objectives/activities pursued by the women/their organizations;
- Assessment of the women’s personal aspirations and hope for the community
- Interrogation of relationship between community-building/sustainability, young women’s contribution to post-disaster Tohoku, and holistic thinking on community resilience and women’s empowerment.

This research evaluates the activities and aspirations of young women leaders (aged 20-40 years old) in Tohoku and documents the specific kinds of leadership roles and contributions they are making at the grassroots. To complicate the portrait of gender and diversity from the perspective of the young

generation, it offers key insights on the constraints young women face, qua women/mothers, but also the existing empowerment of these young women in Tohoku. Moreover, it documents the connections between young women’s individual, family, and community-level aspirations and how they are contributing to reconstruction (sato-kaeri, U-turn) to achieve these interdependent personal goals. As such, it will also document the ways in which (and why) these young women are motivated to support gender equality, economic recovery and regional reconstruction of their hometowns. **This research offers an alternative portrait of the important agency of young women in Tohoku, their roles as community leaders, their differing degrees of awareness of gender inequalities, and their efforts as concerned citizens engaging in community-building and nation-building, from the grassroots up.**

4. 研究成果

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS

I completed profile analysis to generate empirical and substantive analysis of the 40 young women’s demographics and activities. This revealed various intersections of complex policy issues impacting on gender, generation, women’s employment, domestic migration patterns, and disaster reconstruction.

Domestic Migration of Young Women

Domestic migration in Japan has been explained by several dominant patterns. U-turn describes a process where young people leave their rural Tohoku homes seeking education or employment opportunities in the city and then return to their rural hometowns. I-turn refers to people born in the metropolis who decide to re-locate to a rural community and in this group, they were choosing locations in Tohoku. J-turn refers to a person who leaves Tohoku for the metropolis only to return to a larger city located near their hometown in Tohoku. Our research sample included 10 U-Turns, 4 I-Turns, 19 J-Turns, and 7 Other who had not determined their settlement at the time of the profile writing.

A variety of activities can be delineated to describe the young women’s engagement in their communities, and in particular, in services to marginalized or vulnerable demographics in need of access to education, care, and support services where there is a governmental policy failure or gap in service. The participants do not describe their activities in silos so there is overlap, straddling more than one category. Roughly 17 are engaging in “education,” such as leading training, learning facilitation, or information sharing within the community. “Care” was an umbrella

description for one-on-one consultations, targeted counselling, community and public healthcare work, and creative ways of addressing the needs of mentally or physically challenged residents. Finally, “support for childrearing/young people” captures activities addressing the needs of parents with babies/small children, and also engagement of youth and young women’s realities within the community.

Leadership of Young Women

To complement the broader analysis, I also completed 6 in-person qualitative interviews to provide case studies of specific women’s realities in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima and the specific ways in which selected women are exercising pioneering leadership.

Leadership in Japan are influenced by patriarchal (senior male) hierarchies of gender and age that make it particularly difficult for young people, and notably young women and young mothers, to speak out within their families and communities to have their needs met. They often provide informal support networks to one another and that fall outside of the established political networks, democratic decision-making channels, policy frameworks, and service provision programs. The post-311 response overlooked the caregiving needs that women inevitably shouldered for their families and communities, both within evacuation centres, in pre-fab housing communities, and for families who remained in their private homes.

This research attests to how these young women’s leadership and initiative served to fill the void, where a policy gap or service provision failure left crucial needs unmet post disaster. In many cases, the women demonstrate entrepreneurial innovation and simply created new groups and organizations to address these needs and realities in the short-term, and have developed over the past 6 years as appreciation of these unmet needs have become better understood within the broader society. Young women are not often identified as leaders, entrepreneurs, or the heart of innovation, and further research must explore the policy frameworks that might better support the entrepreneurialism, empowerment, and leadership of young women in Tohoku and across Japan as it is a source of economic and political vibrancy, and the collective disaster resilience of Japan.

Personal Aspiration of Young Women

Regarding the women’s personal aspirations and hopes for their community, certain of the findings were surprising. None of the 40 young women bring experience in political activism, gender equality policy matters, nor have they been

involved in any women’s organizations or feminist advocacy. The majority of them convey commitments to women’s right to greater freedom and choice, and the broader value of respecting diversity within their communities in Tohoku.

Given their experiences of the disaster, their awareness of the policy failures and policy gaps in governmental services post-disaster to support young people and to support women in particular, the 40 women’s assessment of what was needed for Tohoku were as follows:

- greater gender equality in Tohoku to make it easier for working mothers (22)
- increasing opportunities for youth to prevent further out-migration (17)
- greater economic improvement and autonomy for Tohoku so there is a choice to stay and revitalize the region (14)
- a more diverse and “sumiyasui” Tohoku that accommodates different cultures, ages, and abilities (12)

Citizenization of Young Women

Using the political philosophical concept of “citizenization” (Tully 1995), the research findings confirm a sense of emerging political consciousness among the young women. Through the devastation and dramatic experiences of 311 and the aftermath, where they found that their voices were often not heard, nor invited to the decision-making table, the women have become aware of the deep dependence of their personal freedom and happiness upon the collective society and political decision-makers. In particular, the availability of flexible employment opportunities, childrearing supports for mothers/families, are policies areas that they understand to directly curtail/expand their lives in Tohoku, and that affects their capacity and their desire to remain in Tohoku to contribute to the sustainability of their communities and region.

Echoing the feminist political philosophical tenet whereby women’s lived experiences of oppression lead to politicization of their identity as women within the political community, the young women under study bring increasing awareness and insight on the interconnected nature of economic opportunities for young people to seek empowering jobs within the region and greater and more equal opportunities for young women who reject traditional gender norms and desire to have both a paid employment while raising children.

While the triple disaster of March 11st devastated the Tohoku region, it has also been a window for opportunity for young women’s leadership to find a place and for young women to become more politically conscious of the structural inequalities in society. Young women

bring accessible leadership styles, horizontal communication skills, and egalitarian values to foster a different kind of community relationality and machizukuri in Tohoku. If women are to choose to stay and be empowered in Tohoku, alternative structural economic frameworks, gender norms, and reconstruction planning is needed to support diverse ways of working/living (WLB). Policies that support a more democratized view of households and communities can allow for greater equality, co-parenting, and respect for diversity, all of which are vital resources for vibrancy and long-term economic resilience of Tohoku to future disasters.

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

International Outreach

In February 2016, I organized an International Symposium featuring a policy dialogue on these themes, entitled, “Women’s Leadership, Diversity and Risk Governance: An Intergenerational Dialogue with Women Pioneers of DRR”. Co-hosted by the Institute of Social Science, this featured domestic and international participants:

- Dr. Jackie F. Steele, ISS, University of Tokyo
- Mio Kamitani, Oraga Otsuchi
- Dr. Hiroko Hara, Josai International University
- Megumi Ishimoto, NPO Women’s Eye
- Dr. Lucy Jones, U.S. Geological Survey
- Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu, International IDEA, Stockholm

Preliminary findings were presented in a paper presented at A and B.

A) Japan Studies Association of Canada Annual Conference in October 2016

and at the

B) Metropolis International Conference held in Nagoya, Japan in October 2016.

Further analysis on women’s citizenization and the key findings of this participatory action research report were presented in English and also in Japanese at two events held in the US and in Japan that opened up a broader policy dialogue between international and Japan-based academics, with professional women, grassroots women leaders, and NPO Women’s Eye. These two events are listed as C and D.

C) A Roundtable at the University of California in Los Angeles. on the theme, “Disaster Resilience in Japan and America: A Dialogue on the Role of Women’s Leadership and Diversity.”

Panelists included :

- Dr. Jackie F. Steele, ISS, University of Tokyo
- Ms. Megumi Ishimoto, Executive Director, Women’s Eye, Miyagi, Japan
- Dr. David Eisenman, UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters
- Dr. Lucy Jones, Seismological Laboratory, Caltech
- Mr. Doug Erber, President, Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC)
- Ms. Hiroko Tatebe, Executive Director/Founder, Global Organization for Leadership and Diversity; and Member of the Board, JASSC

D) 科研報告会と政策対話

発表者

- 石本めぐみ 東京大学大学院総合文化研究科・人間の安全保障プログラム 博士課程、NPO 法人ウィメンズアイ 代表理事
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- 申キヨン お茶の水女子大学 准教授
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NEXT STEPS

The case studies and analysis of the 40 profiles will be displayed in a dynamic poster session and photo display to be featured at Los Angeles City Hall (TBC) and at the UCLA Centre for Public Health and Disasters in February 2018 during the Tohoku Grassroots Academy in Los Angeles, which will be attended by 10 of the young women participants in this study.

5. 主な発表論文等

(研究代表者、研究分担者及び連携研究者には下線)

[雑誌論文] (計 0 件)

[学会発表] (計 4 件)

International Conferences and Presentations

- 1) 主催・司会 : Jackie F. Steele. International Symposium on “Women’s Leadership, Diversity and Risk Governance: An Intergenerational Dialogue with Women Pioneers of DRR”, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo, 2016年2月6日
- 2) 発表 : Jackie F. Steele and Natasha Fox, “Young Women’s Citizenization in Post-Disaster Tohoku: Reconstructing Hope, Equality, and Inclusive Community through Diverse Women’s Empowerment”, Japan Studies Association of Canada Annual Conference, UBC, 2016年10月15日
- 3) 発表 : Jackie F. Steele. "Young Women’s Migration and Citizenization in Post-Disaster Tohoku: Community Reconstruction in Pursuit of Hope, Inclusion and Equality," Metropolis International, Nagoya Congress Centre, 2016年10月26日。
- 4) “Diverse Young Women’s Leaders in Post-Disaster Tohoku”, Disaster Resilience in Japan and America: A Dialogue on the Role of Women's Leadership and Diversity, UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters, Los Angeles, 2017年2月3日

Domestic Presentations

- 5) 発表 : スティール若希 : 「被災後の東北の若い女性シティゼナイゼション : 多様な女性の力で希望、平等、共生地意識の復興」
東京大学社会科学研究所、「ウーマノミクスは東北の救世主? 少子化、若い女性の市民化、コミュニティのサステイナビリティにおける政治」をテーマとした科研報告会と政策対話、2017年3月21日

パネルディスカッション

発表者

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[図書] (計 0 件)

[産業財産権]

○出願状況 (計 0 件)

○取得状況 (計 0 件)

[その他]

ホームページ等

ジェンダー、多様性、東北復興に関する日加学際研究ネットワーク、招集者 Jackie F. Steele

<https://e.jimdo.com/app/sde9f6d6f1df3a2dd/pd233639568e2fd12?cmsEdit=1>

Ms. Natasha Fox, UBC

Dr. David Edgington, UBC

Dr. Lucy Jones, United States Geological Survey

Ms. Ishimoto Megumi, NPO Women’s Eye

6. 研究組織

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