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DOCTORAL STUDENT NETWORK

DATE
6/ 9 (Tues)

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Retirement Migration in Japan
: Critical Study of Previous Studies for Research Design

This study highlights the needs for further research on retirement migration in Japan, focusing on critical review of previous studies. It is said that Japanese elderly are unwilling to move out or migrate after their retirement, but recently the interest on retirement migration is growing and also the number of retirement migrants is increasing, especially international retirement migration from Japan. However, the researches on retirement migration in Japan are scarce compared to US and UK which have been conducting studies on elderly migration at both domestic and international level from the 1960's. Further, the scarce researches on retirement migration in Japan usually focus on rural or domestic migration and the impacts at post-migration, i.e. psychological wellbeing.

Therefore, the main goal of this study is to create research design for further studies by studying previous reviews on retirement migration in US and UK, considering whether it is possible to apply US and UK's studies to Japan and what are the different characteristics between Japan and US-UK.

Next step for further research is to conduct fieldwork and employ case study methodology to reveal the reasons of migration and migrants' social network to their family. The retired life is more important because of increasing of life expectancy and therefore this further study is more important considering retirement migrant's independence and care problems at both private and social levels.

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