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Section 1

Spectrum of Public and Private Spheres in East Asia

This section analyzes the theoretical ramifications of distinguishing the public and private spheres in the context of East Asia and its cultural and social traditions.

Chapter 1

Spectrum of Public and Private Spheres in East Asia: Theoretical Inspirations from Past and

Present..... 1

Mika Markus Merviö, Kibi International University, Japan

This book helps to transcend all kind of boundaries, including the national boundaries and boundaries of academic disciplines to search explanations to developments in East Asia. East Asia-specific discussions, of course, are linked to developments elsewhere, but there is also a need to analyze the impact of local traditions without becoming blind to changes in these traditions. In this chapter, there is discussion about the significance of cultural traditions for social developments in East Asian societies, in particular Japan and Korea. The chapter treats culture and society in a broad sense in order to find out what makes the East Asian case specific. Moreover, the chapter provides a reinterpretation of Japanese social realities and social model in 2013 when Japanese politics and society are going through the transformation known as Abenomics.

Chapter 2

On the Genealogy of Public and Private: Beyond Market and State to the World of Pluralism 38

Jari Vuori, University of Eastern Finland, Finland

Marika Kylänen, University of Eastern Finland, Finland & Warwick Business School, UK

This study focuses upon identifying the nature and operations of public-private relations influence discursive practices in public-private management, organization, and policy studies. In particular, the authors argue that the new ways of public-private organizing will remain an enigma if we do not ask the following: have we ever defined “public” and “private” in the studies of organizations, policymaking, and social life? The research includes a review of public/private discourses in leading peer-review journals in the fields of policy, management, and organization sciences during the years 2000-10. Among the findings is that in the current literature the definition for private organization has been taken for granted: private refers to private ownership. On the other hand, publicness refers quite often to political and economic authority, but how these definitions are embedded on the citizens’ behavior is still an open question.

Namely, public authority is quite often measured by only analyzing how citizens obey the norms and rules of the society. However, these analyses are not very plausible, because the definition of privacy can manifest itself in the claim of individuals, groups, or institutions to determine for themselves when, how, and to what extent information about them is communicated to others. The authors call for more diversity and different viewpoints in public-private research to get beyond the simple dichotomy of approaches focusing on state and market as opposing ends.

Section 2

Family Institution and the Spectrum of Public and Private Spheres

This section focuses on the family institution in the East Asian context and proceeds to analyze family-related policies and social issues in different societies in the region. Family is the basic institution of any society, but in the East Asian context, it has played and continues to play a particularly important role in social development, often adopting roles that elsewhere belong to other social actors and institutions. Furthermore, in reference to public and private spheres, the family institution in the East Asian context provides a good chance to test how these spheres interact and how East Asian models are evolving.

Chapter 3

The Impact of Global Financial Crises on the Family in Taiwan 60

Lih-Rong Wang, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

Fen-ling Chen, National Taipei University, Taiwan

Family plays an unusually important role in Taiwanese society, and this chapter analyzes the consequences of global financial crises on the family in Taiwan. With its export-oriented economy, Taiwan is vulnerable to global vacillations. In the periods from 1997 to 2004 and from 2008 to the 2009, Taiwan experienced mass unemployment and family suffering. This chapter deals with the effects of the economic recession on family finances and family attitudes involved. The study shows how the anxiety affected the willingness of people to have children and/or support their parents. Furthermore, the victims of financial crises had a greater awareness of the necessity of providing intergenerational support, but they also wanted to have fewer children. The data clearly presents that economic hardship changes the traditional generational contract as well.

Chapter 4

Protective Factors in Family Relationships 76

Ann Buchanan, University of Oxford, UK

This chapter analyzes the importance of protective factors in family relationships. In Confucian societies, where services for older people may be limited, intergenerational family relationships are crucial in providing care for the elderly. Confucian societies are better at recognizing the protective influence of the family, but scholars from these areas suggest that the culture may be changing. As the “One child” norm extends (not only in China) across many Asian societies, the challenges for young people in supporting their parents and grandparents may become overwhelming. This chapter suggests that at every stage of the life cycle, some families will need state support in order to carry out their protective role in mitigating the risks experienced by both the young and the old. A state/family partnership approach is likely to be more acceptable, more effective, and more economic than state care alone.

Chapter 5

Globalization and Transformation of Care in Japan 86

Reiko Ogawa, Kyûshû University, Japan

This chapter deals with the situation of family and care work in Japan, and, in particular, the Conjunction between Family, Care Work, and Immigration in Japan. The chapter is aimed to elucidate the complex interplay between family and care work from both paid and unpaid work. Furthermore, Japan currently does not have an immigration policy that would include social integration policies. Since the care needs cannot be met solely by the families or the domestic labor market, globalization of care will become a salient trend for a foreseeable future. Moreover, the chapter proceeds to analyze the globalization thesis within the Japanese context. According to the author, one should be able to see the convergence of welfare states in many countries, but as in the case of Japan, the process of globalization is not linear but contingent. Instead, what one has seen is a dialectical process of how the domestic factors are differently shaping the well-being of the people within their own institutional histories and strategies.

Chapter 6

Foreign Aid and Family at Risk: Role of Foreign Aid to Myanmar 106

Kana Takamatsu, International Christian University, Japan

This chapter examines how the foreign aid policy should and should have supported families facing risks by using the case study of Myanmar. The chapter starts by addressing the issue of poverty, which continues to be the gravest risk in the developing countries, and how family could be the cause of poverty as well as the solution of poverty in foreign aid policy discussion. The situation of poverty and migration as a risk management tool are then examined in the second section of the chapter. Interviews with migrant workers in Thailand and Japan were conducted. Finally, there is a discussion about the developments of Myanmar and how the foreign aid and international community has inadequately responded to the democratization of Myanmar and to the needs of its people.

Chapter 7

An Analysis of Contemporary Japanese Rural Families: The Changing Balance between Individual Freedom and Responsibility for Unity of the Family 122

Yoshimi Kataoka, Shimane University, Japan

Many Japanese researchers have suggested that both Japanese and Western societies are experiencing individualization of the family; whether or not this is the case in Japanese rural farming villages remains unclear. The purpose of this chapter is to investigate this question using a case study. The research involves interviews of families living in rural areas within the Shimane Prefecture, each engaged in agriculture, forestry, and/or fishery. The emerging picture is that it is increasingly difficult to find traditional *ie* in rural farming villages today. For the rural farming family, individual freedom is important. However, respecting individuals seems to occur for the purposes of maintaining unity of the family as a group rather than for the purpose of individual self-realization. Therefore, emphasizing individual freedom does not mean conflict among family members (i.e., enforcement of competition with other family members or compromises by them).

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Naoko Sôma, Yokohama National University, Japan

Jiyeon Park, Tôyô University, Japan

Sun-Hee Baek, Seoul Theological University, Korea

Akemi Morita, Tôyô University, Japan

While family structure continues to diversify in Korean society, society’s rejection of unmarried mothers continues to be a strong obstacle. However, Korean teenage mothers increasingly are deciding to raise their own children and live their daily lives in communities that hold biases and express rejection towards them. At present, the Single-Parent Family Support Act is central to the development of support policies for unmarried mothers, but as pointed out in this study, it is important to implement detailed, individualized, comprehensive, and continual assistance, not limited to those who opt for childrearing but also towards all unmarried mothers who opt for adoption. While raising one’s own child, it is important to provide long-term and continual support and support that helps the recipient foresee how she can step her way up to independence, rather than short-term and sporadic handouts.

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Pei-Yuen Tsai, Yuan Ze University, Taiwan

In order to extend the understandings of work-family reconciliation patterns and following problems in Taiwan, this chapter reviews the development of employment and childcare trends in Taiwan to show how these changing phenomena affect Taiwanese families and contribute to families’ difficulties in work-family reconciliation. This chapter includes three main sections. The first section demonstrates the changes of household structure and employment in Taiwan. The second section focuses on childcare arrangements to demonstrate Taiwanese families’ decisions between work and childcare. Finally, there is a concluding section to sum up the implications of these phenomena.

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The Social Risk of Low Fertility in Taiwan	178
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Pei-Yuen Tsai, Yuan Ze University, Taiwan

This chapter examines the low fertility phenomenon in Taiwan and argues that the low fertility problem can be identified as a type of new social risk. Existing studies on new social risks tend to focus on the social risks that have negative influences on individuals but ignore those that have more negative influences on the whole society, such as the low fertility problem. This chapter illustrates how the Taiwanese government recognizes low fertility as a social risk and how such recognition facilitated the recent development of policies that support families and children.

Section 3

Health and Care Sector and the Spectrum of Public and Private Spheres

In this section, the book tackles the health and care-related issues and policies. In fact, health and care-related issues often inhabit the grey area between the private and public spheres. Furthermore, families are still very much involved in these issues, as the East Asian examples clearly demonstrate.

Chapter 11

Utilization of Primary Health Services in Hong Kong: Inequality, Risk, and Public-Private Interaction	191
<i>Raymond K. H. Chan, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	
<i>Kang Hu, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, China</i>	

This chapter analyzes the issue of primary health care utilization in Hong Kong and introduces the case of Hong Kong where a special division between public and private sectors has developed in the field of primary health services. The chapter argues that in the foreseeable future, it is likely that the division of health care between the public and private sector will be maintained. In recent years, more and more individuals and families have purchased private health insurance so as to gain more options. The idea of universal health insurance was rejected by the public in recent consultations; the current alternative is government-regulated private insurance. Although private primary health services will continue as usual in the near future, public primary health services should be maintained or even expanded. Given the costliness of private services (especially specialist services), it is recommended that more resources should be invested in corresponding public health services.

Chapter 12

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<i>Raymond K. H. Chan, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong</i>	

Since the late 1950s, Hong Kong's public health services have increased. They are mainly funded by taxes, supplemented by minimal user fees. In the late 1980s, the government recognized the limitations of this financing model and has subsequently proposed alternative methods of funding. Their proposals have been rejected by various stakeholders, who represent different, and even conflicting, values and interests. This chapter describes the development of health services and the debates that have surrounded health financing since the late 1980s. It shows that the health finance debate in Hong Kong is not a simple issue that can be tackled by rational planning; instead, it is a complex consequence of welfare politics in an increasingly mobilized society.

Chapter 13

Meeting the Care Needs of Older People: Long-Term Care Practice in England, The Netherlands, and Taiwan	219
<i>Henglien Lisa Chen, University of Sussex, UK</i>	

To address the risks to families of the availability of care for their older family members, this chapter explores the impact of different care systems on the way that relevant care actors contribute to the long-term care of older people. It focuses on how front-line professionals and formal/informal carers meet the needs of older people who are frail and disabled, since caring for older people has become one of the potential family risks in East Asia and many industrial countries in the West for a number of reasons. On the one hand, the rise in life expectancy and multiple disabilities means the number of older people requiring long-term care has increased. On the other hand, the decreased younger population

with increased female employment calls into question the continued availability of family carers and requires support from public and formal carers to help them to care for their older family members for as long as possible.

Section 4

Risk Society and the Spectrum of Public and Private Spheres

This section deals with modern societies dealing with contemporary social issues and social risks. While societies have modernized and people have become aware of the risks and global connectedness of the modern global society, the particular modes of "risk societies" are rather varied, reflecting various cultural and social traditions.

Chapter 14

Using Social Quality as a Framework for Analyzing Social Development in Taiwan 235

Lih-Rong Wang, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

Yun-Tung Wang, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

Peishan Yang, National Taiwan University, Taiwan

This research applies social quality framework to analyze the current social development of Taiwan by utilizing the governmental database as a secondary dataset and using meta-analysis as a further check in data collection. This study found that the social development of current Taiwanese society keeps progressing along with requirements and indicators of social quality. Among them, Taiwan's performance of social development within the dimension of social economic security attains the best results. Furthermore, in the fields of social inclusion and social empowerment dimensions, the indicators show much progress. However, the biggest room for further improvement and development clearly is in social cohesion.

Chapter 15

Fiji: Violence against Women – Identifying and Combating Structural Discrimination that
Further Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) 248

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Marjory D. Fields, Beldock Levine & Hoffman LLP, USA

Fiji is a very interesting case for studying the bridges between private and public spheres and social and cultural background. Despite its idyllic setting and concentration of resources, Fiji has one of the highest rates of violence against women, outside of conflict zones, in the world. The state, legal system, and society have simply failed to protect the women against different forms of violence and discrimination. The lack of parliamentary democratic process certainly has contributed to the deplorable situation. After analyzing the roots of the problem, the authors introduce comprehensive policy recommendations to help rectify the situation. The problems in Fiji are rather extreme, and there is a lot to learn for everyone about the weakness of state and institutions to perform some of their most fundamental functions.

Chapter 16

The Japanese Model of Risk Society: Challenges to Japanese Public Policy 275

Mika Markus Merviö, Kibi International University, Japan

Japan, two years after the triple catastrophe of earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear plant crisis, is only slowly waking to the new reality of a new kind of reflexive relationship with nuclear power

and, more generally, the use of modern technology and the social risks linked with modern life. In Japan, the idea that Japan's very own catastrophe is, instead, a global catastrophe has not really sunk in. Coping with the disasters may be the most urgent and visible task of the government, but the Japanese society can hardly wait to find solutions to many long-term policy choices. This chapter analyzes the Japanese model of risk society, the risk society discourse in Japan, and the challenges of risk society to Japanese public policy.

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