The Acceptance Attitudes of Japanese toward Immigrants from China and Korea

Waseda University Jie ZHANG

1. Aim

This study aims to examine the attitude Japanese citizens have toward accepting immigrants, especially toward immigrants from China and Korea, and discusses the predictors. The central questions addressed in this study are: whether Japanese people would like to accept immigrants from different cultures and countries? What factors shape Japanese's attitude towards immigrants?

2. Data and Methods

For this purpose, this study used quantitative method to analyze "The public survey on political participation of citizens and internationalization" (2013) to examine the level of acceptance among Japanese citizens toward Chinese immigrants by comparing that toward immigrants from Korea. Analysis models are established by using demographic factors and sociocultural adaptation factors.

3. Results

We found that, Japanese citizens tend to accept the increasing of Korean immigrants rather than Chinese immigrants. Gender, education and occupation present positive effect on acceptance attitudes toward both Chinese and Korean immigrants, whereas income and marital status showed insignificance on acceptance attitudes of Japanese citizens. Thus, Japanese citizens who are living in districts with larger number of immigrants are tend to accept the increasing of Chinese and Korean immigrants, and those who showed higher satisfaction with their lives are tend to accept immigrants.

4. Conclusion

From these findings, this study has shown that generally Japanese still keep negative attitude towards immigrants from China and Korea. Data analysis examined the level of acceptance attitudes of Japanese towards immigrants, and discussed what factors shape acceptance attitudes among Japanese citizens. By comparing the acceptance attitudes towards Chinese and Korean immigrants, this research focuses on effects of the demographic status and socioeconomic status of Japanese on acceptance attitudes. By examining the predictors of acceptance attitude among Japanese toward immigrants, this study may help to get better understanding of Japanese society. It also shows the importance of knowledge and information for Japanese society to accept immigrants.

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