

Young adults in Japan

By Kazuo Takashima, JTA, February 2011

In 1980, 24% of young people aged 25-29 lived at home with their parents, and it exceeded 41% in 2005.

According to a report by the state in 2007, 82 % of young people aged 18-30 lived at home with their parents: men 81%, women 83%, and only 5.3% of them were the married.



As to the average age for a first marriage, it was 28 for men, 26 for women in 1995 , and 30 for men, 28 for women in 2005. Japanese young couples delay their marriage. Many young adults want to stay at home with their parents due to instability of employment and low income under the circumstances of the long-term business depression and lack of affordable and sound rental housing.

A morbid situation of a home in Japan

There are many single, young adults who are called a “hikikomori”(“neet”). They would not like to work, go to educational institutions or do job hunting aimlessly, triggering their failure in work places or schools and are confined to their rooms for over six months ,or over ten years under the circumstances.

Reportedly many young men tend to feminize themselves abruptly. They often have tendency to take a negative attitude toward love, sex and marriage as they are very afraid of being injured in human relations. They are often referred to as “sosyokukeidanshi” (herbivorous men)”

On the contrary some young women are called as “nikushokukejoshi” (raptorial or carnivorous women)”, who are tend to act excessively positively as partners of love, sex and marriage.

The both are in common with the point that they clearly deviate from the ordinary criterion of society.