

# The Impact of Community Awareness Change through Youth Association Activities

Sodikin

Adult and Continuing Education  
Graduate School of Education Tohoku University Japan  
sodikin.5052@gmail.com

**Abstract**—The current community activity in Masubuchi district is part of the previous result of youth association activity in the past. Even society member nowadays still doing some activity ever done by the previous member in the past. The purpose of this research is to describe community awareness change in nonformal education community recognized as a space of learning created by the participation in the activities. This research is to analyze the life story of former youth association in masubuchi district. The subject is the elderly community member around 60-70 years old. The conclusion of this research is through participated actively in youth association, they grown up and support every society event in their local community. Today, although they are already retired from youth association, but they still continue and actively involved in every event in their local community.

**Keyword**—Community Awareness Change; Youth Association

## I. INTRODUCTION

Current society competency for regional development, is a result of experience chain that came from youth association event in every city. Yuji Ohsaka (1994) explained youth association is one of the most important organization in regional development.

After world war II, youth association was one of the strenght to encourage democracy and enhance living standard of local citizen through their experience in society events, culture, etc in every region.

Youth association event in Masubuchi district, generated positive impact for its citizen, especially for those who actively participated. Awareness and sustainability is growing along with youth association events established. Nowadays we can see that socialize relationship and cooperation between Masubuchi citizen is still exist. They keep holding the events that originally started by youth association, even the commitee was once a member of youth association.

This awareness and sustainability in participation encourage researcher to do a study that analyze the change for those who had joined actively in youth association Masubuchi. Based on this background, the formulation of study issue is : “How does participation in seinenkai events impacts the awareness of citizen?”

Generally this research is aims to get a clear description about participation in youth association events impacts the

awareness of citizen. Specifically the aims of this study are to analyze:

- What is the Meaning of youth association events in Masubuchi?
- How the impact of society awareness change through youth association participation?

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. Youth association

Social education is and organized activity conducted outside school education system (Suzuki, 2006). Youth association is a form of social education activity, well known as youth activity for male and female in average 15-30 years old, placed in every city all around Japan. They were established as an important group in each city. Their main role was not only to produce, but also for region security, holding activity amusement, festival, helps of ceremonial occasion etc. Most of them holding an activity together with youth association from other city in youth hall, (Tanaka 1998).

Youth association activity after world war II was started from modern life in early 50 and 60s, peace issue, pollution and any issue from each city up to any integrity effort from all region. From demonstration movement, to actively participated in planning region development and continuously support the activity (Yuji Ohsaka, 1994)

### B. Juridical of Youth Association

Social education law clause number 10 about organization regarding to social education explained that the main goals is to conduct any activity related to social education and not to dominating public interest. Also not to dispute is that the corporation or not. Furthermore organization based on citizen like youth association, women association, PTA, youth education organization private sector such YMCA and YWCA, boy scout, other group activity and several organization that support social education.

### C. Awareness Change

Nasuno Ryuchi on Yuji Ohsaka explained that starting from middle of 1960s everything related to Nagoya youth worker, specifically clubs or organization who made Nagoya youth activity with 「Learning media」 as nurturing learning concept.

Suzuki Masahisa in Kobayashi Bunjin (2013) stated that youth education, focused on self-education activity of youth. In other words this is an organization that related to and support society life.

## III. RESEARCH METHODS

This research is using qualitative methods. Furthermore, this research describe the procedure of qualitative data and focused on Impact of community awareness change through youth association activities. Researcher analyze the data based on interview result that has been described. After closer reviewed, contents of interview was separated and final coding with Maxqda software.

Location of this research is in Masubuchi District, Tome City, Miyagi Province, Japan.

The subject of this research are Masubuchi citizen who formerly participated in Youth Association events. They are elderly between 60-70 years old who formerly participated in youth association events. The number of the subjects are 12 people (3 females and 9 males).

## IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### A. Meaning of youth association events in Masubuchi

The meaning of youth association events in Masubuchi at that time are :

#### 1) Socialize and brainstorming media

Masubuchi had almost no place to socialize media at that time, therefore they are actively followed every seinenkai events. At the end they gain valuable experience, even the member still communicate each other when they were far away apart each other.

I : Yes the socialize at that time was very rare, because we had no media to socialize with others. Therefore I was very happy, because we are together, it seems better. That was what I think.

I : We were together when we have hard time, even our home are far away from different area, but until this time if we met, we will have chit chat.

Moreover they are also still communicate with older and younger friends, this is the other plus value.

L : According to me this is a plus value. We gained a lot of friends, wether they are younger or older. For example we have Kanichi San here the District leader. He does socialize until today.

#### 2) Knowledge Gainer

Youth association Masubuchi has variety of events, one of them is education event. In the opinion of those who not

continued their study, seinenkai is a place for learn. Learning experience that they gained at that time are very useful when they were at work and meet the society.

I : Like I said before, because we are no more studying at that time. We learned how to invite and gathered people into a meeting, how to arrange it, how to make the invitation. These things are very useful. Next if we have problem, we know what to do.

For those who were educated only until Junior High School, they said seinenkai is their school replacement. They done many things like following the general lecturer, pay attention to everything the instructors taught, events, tournaments, etc.

J : Yes, there was variety of study meeting, joining youth association was the replacement of Senior High School. I was always actively followed every events. Fun.

Int : Fun?

J : Yes, because we have so many variety of studying, discussion or hanging out to Sendai or somewhere els, listening to others. Things like that.

Int : Is the study meeting means listening to lectures (public lectures)?

J : Yes, public lectures or also there was tournaments. Listening, watching and finally understanding.

### 3) Cooperation media

In the other hand, with the existing of youth association, all of them did many activities together. If there is no seinenkai they will be working alone.

G : At the time we have seinenkai events, we were gathering and there was solidarity. Now everybody has their own way.

### B. Impact of society awareness change through youth association participation

These are the impact of society awareness change through youth association participation:

#### 1) Self confidence gained

Through every events and organization experience from time to time, gained their self confidence, such as public speaking.

A : every events, I was been the leader of seinenkai, we did many things. At that time they asked me to speak in front of many people. It gained my self confidence, because we keep doing it.

Int : You cannot speak in front of many people before?

A : Yes, it was very hard before, (short) we have so many things to do in youth association. And that was a lesson for me.

### 2) *Decision making skill*

By listening the senior talked, it brings a positive lesson, slowly they understand that everybody has to had a decision maker skill.

D : at the beginning, we have less of decision making skill. By listening to the seniors, slowly I also has to be able to make my own decision. That was what i feel.

### 3) *Ability of communicate*

Through all events with another party, from listening, watching and working. Finally their ability of communicate increasing. It was because they get used to it.

J : the first time I followed youth association, they asked us to this and that. I was understand nothing, cannot talk. After following this event, and various of events, pay attention to others. For me it was very nice. Also gained friends.

J : at the training or study tour with all of youth association in Towachou. We communicate each other and being friends. Even I always told my children that joining people group (organization) is very good. (short) until today when I go to other city, I met my old friend.

## V. CONCLUSION

In accordance with opinion of Robyn Eversole (2010) that participation is ultimately a discourse: a way of speaking,

signaling (in an implicit binary) that we-as-professionals believe that they-as-communities have something important to contribute to the process of social change.

Explicit behaviour change of Masubuchi citizen after they are joined youth association events is personal behaviour change to make their life better as one part of the whole society.

## REFERENCES

- [1] M. Suzuki, K. Matsuoka, "Syakai Kyouiku No Kiso," Gakubusha. Tokyo, 2006.
- [2] K. Bunjin, I. Osakazu, and L. Jeongyun, "Nihon No Syakai Kyouiku • Shougai Gakushu: Atarashi Jidai Ni Mukete," Daigaku Kyouikusha, Okayama, 2013.
- [3] Robyn Eversole, "Remaking participation: chalengges for community development practice," Oxford University Press and Community Development Journal, August 2010.
- [4] Sato, Ikuya, "QDA Sofuto Wo Shiyousuru: Jissen shitsuteki De-ta Bunseki Nyuumon," Shin-yo-sha Company, Tokyo, 2010.
- [5] Social Education Promotion National Council, "Syakai Kyouiku And Shougai Gakushu Handbook, Sixth Edition," Eidell Laboratory, Tokyo, 2000.
- [6] Tanaka, Haruhiko, Seinenki Kyouiku No Rekishi: Gakkou Gai Kyouikuron" Maret 1998.
- [7] Yuji, Ohsaka, "Seinendan Ni Okeru Chiiki Katsudou No Tenkai Katei" 83-110, 1994.