医学部保健学科

小論文 I 問題

注意事項

1. 試験開始の合囲があるまで問題冊子を開いてはいけません。
2. この冊子のページ数は 2 ページです。落丁、乱丁、印刷不鮮明の箇所等があった場合は申し出てください。
3. 問題冊子の余白は下書きに使用してもかまいません。
4. 解答は所定の案内用紙に記入してください。
5. 案内用紙は持ち帰らないでください。
6. 問題冊子と下書き用紙は持ち帰ってください。
A recent poll has found that 40 percent of both men and women in their 20s to 40s believe husbands should work full time while their wives stay at home. The poll, taken by a major Japanese insurance company, is a startling challenge to the push by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to increase the number of women in the Japanese workplace. What’s more, 65 percent of male and 71 percent of female respondents said women should concentrate on parenting while their children are very young.

This traditional view of gender roles is becoming increasingly outdated despite its persistence. The poll did not make clear whether the respondents were thinking of (1) the current situation, where parents have trouble finding affordable and convenient child care, or whether they were thinking of some improved situation in the ideal future.

The polls clearly reveal how (2) ingrained concepts of male and female roles are in Japan. However, the poll also reveals the degree to which economic and social conditions lock traditional ideas in place. When there is no possibility of change, old ideas persist. Actual conditions often have to change first before social attitudes and opinions can open toward new realities. In Japan, it seems, those conditions are beginning to change, slowly but steadily.

A recent report from the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) reported that 60 percent of leading companies have set targets for promoting female workers to management, as an important part of achieving sustainable growth. Business leaders seem to realize the importance of women working, even if a large percentage of average workers do not.

The central government ministries, too, have worked toward hiring a larger percentage of women to revitalize the economy and the bureaucracy. The hiring has not yet reached parity, but has been improving year on year. The current Abe administration is also considering a bill to promote women to senior positions in the public and private sector. After these changes are given time to take hold in the daily experience of workers, it is likely that ideas of what is best for men and women will also change.

The Japanese mindset in difficult times tends toward making personal attitudes fit given social conditions. With the tough economic situation for many people, the traditional attitude toward men’s and women’s roles must seem safe and comforting, and so continues.

But as conditions change — when women have access to child care so they can keep working, when more women are in senior positions in business and government, and when working conditions become flexible and supportive enough for both parents to help raise children and stay working — the poll, in some future year, will find very different results.

(The Japan Times, July 19, 2014 および一部改変して引用)
注） poll 世論調査  
respondent 回答者  
affordable 手頃な、利用可能な  
ingrained 深くしみこんだ、根深い  
revitalize = to make ～ stronger or more active  
bureaucracy 官僚主義、お役所主義  
parity 同等、同格  
mindset 考え方、物の見方  
tough 難しい、厳しい

問１ 日本の大手生命保険会社が最近行った世論調査では、どのような結果が示されたか。2つ挙げなさい。

問２ 下線部 (1) は具体的にどのような状況のことか、説明しなさい。

問３ 下線部 (2) は具体的にどのようなことを述べているのか、説明しなさい。

問４ 政府の中央省庁における女性の雇用状況を説明しなさい。

問５ 将来どのような変化が訪れれば、この世論調査も異なる結果を示すであろうと考えられるのか、説明しなさい。