

Sociology for Social Discrimination and Social Movements :

A Case Study of Social Movements for anti-discrimination in the Underclass of Kyoto City

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This paper uses a sociological approach to analyze anti-discrimination social movements in Kyoto City. The paper consists of three sections: the first discusses methodological problems; the second and third sections are a case study of a social movement by people in lower levels of society who have been discriminated against. These people are "Hisabetsu-Buraku" and Japanese Korean "Zainichi" who live in a cluster in Kyoto City and have been socially confrontational.

The first section critically examines how the experience of discrimination tends to be minimized by the methodologies of ethnomethodology and life story, because they overlook the viewpoints of structure, movements and policy. Thus, there is a need for a general discussion about research into discrimination. In social movement theory, there are few descriptions about anti-discrimination movements. However, the residents movement against discrimination in lower levels of society can be objectified, referring to residents movement research in the 1970s. Moreover, the interaction of the group and individual can be approached through life history research.

The second section examines the relation between Buraku and Korean residents as day laborers, yakuza, and residents, and it clarifies that the subject and intentionality for anti-discrimination have been made collectively. Their practices have improved the possibility of the social movement though interactions and tense relations with existing movements.

The third section focuses on government administration use of "Dowa district, "slum and squatter area as forms for reproducing discrimination, and it analyzes the subject and strategy of the residents. It reveals the strategy of the organization and consciousness against discrimination and how the commonality of the local residents in the local region has lead to demonstrating the power of the resident subject. And it shows the possibility of a regional community that becomes independent from the administration by crossing the borderline immobilized.