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Osaka University

## 論文内容の要旨

氏名(佐々木周作)

論文題名

Empirical Essays on Social Preferences and Public Policy (社会選好と公共政策に関する実証研究)

#### 論文内容の要旨

The thesis empirically reveals how social preferences influence people's choices and outcomes in three policy domains. Chapter 2 studies conformity and charitable contributions. We investigate and conclude that when more of other donors give similar monetary amounts, a subsequent donor will likely match that amount. Chapter 3 focuses on social comparisons vis-à-vis health disparities. We investigate whether a rise in social status in an occupational community extends or shortens longevity. Chapter 4 considers altruism and social discrimination against foreigners. We investigate whether differences exist in altruism exhibited toward a family member compared to toward an unknown foreigner; and how the degree of difference therein varies across countries and cultures. The thesis' aims are to offer empirical evidence toward solving these three quandaries by invoking a behavioral economics approach. In terms of impact, we aim to inform political discussion in each field by virtual of our empirical results.

Chapter 2 empirically determines how a donor conforms to other donors. Our analysis uses a large sample of donations from a real online fundraising platform in Japan. The platform's webpage displays amounts of the preceding five donations in chronological order. We use this platform's feature and a dynamic-panel model approach, investigating how presenting multiple previous charitable donations influences subsequent donations. The main findings are that when the two most recent donations are identical, it is likely that a subsequent donor matches the immediately preceding donation. Furthermore, the likelihood increases with the number of the most recent continuous modal donations. We discuss that our findings connect economic studies of charity and social psychology studies of conformity and could aid effective fundraising by charities.

Chapter 3 empirically reveals how a rise in social status in an occupational community influences health/longevity. Our analysis uses a dataset covering Japan's Akutagawa and Naoki prizes for literature and employs a Cox proportional hazard model. As per previous studies, we examine datasets of candidates for prestigious prizes, because recipients and fellow nominees are plausibly homogeneous in multiple respects, and thus, winning a prize can be viewed as an exogenous shock to social status. Therefore, we can exploit a causal effect from heightened social status to longevity, by comparing the life expectancies and mortality rates of recipients and fellow nominees. The main findings are that recipients of the Akutagawa prize for aspiring novelists exhibit lower mortality rates, compared to nominees. The increase in longevity is estimated as 2.4 years. In contrast, recipients of the Naoki prize for established novelists exhibit higher mortality than nominees, a decreased longevity of 5.1 years. These results suggest that both positive and negative causal effects run from receiving a prize to longevity. Furthermore, additional analysis supports the possibility that positive effects are likely to be larger than a negative effect, when candidates exhibit unstable socio-economic status.

Chapter 4 measures a difference in altruism toward a family member and toward an unknown foreigner in Germany, the US, Singapore, South Korea, and Japan. We conduct internet surveys in these five countries, set hypothetical questions in these surveys, and measure a difference in altruism. We call this difference pro-family altruistic discrimination against foreigners, and identity economics indicates that altruistic discrimination lies behind social discriminations against foreigners, where the latter encompasses racial and religious discrimination. Our five-country comparison finds that altruistic discrimination exists in all five countries, although the degree of

discrimination differs across countries. In detail, the degree of discrimination is smallest in Germany and largest in Japan, and the other three countries' locate between the two. Furthermore, Blinder-Oaxaca decomposition analysis shows that the correlation structures of altruistic discrimination and education differ widely between Germany and the other four countries. German people with fewer years in education (or lower vocational education) tend to discriminate against foreigners. In contrast, Japanese people who have spent longer in education exhibit quite low altruism toward foreigners, compared to family members. Japan-type correlation structures are observed in South Korea and Singapore. Interestingly, the degree of altruistic discrimination is insensitive to educational backgrounds in the US.

The thesis reveals particular Japanese behavioral characteristics and Japanese social preferences underlying these characteristics in the above three policy domains. Additionally, the thesis solves and provides new perspectives on problems not yet resolved by existing international studies. That is, the thesis contributes both domestically and internationally by usefully expanding empirical research into social preferences and public policy.

## 論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者

	氏 名	名 ( 佐々木周作		)	)	
No.		(職)		氏	名	
<b>論文審查担当者</b>	主查副查	教授 教授 准教授	大竹文雄 佐々木勝 小原美紀			

### 論文審査の結果の要旨

#### 〔論文内容の要旨〕

本博士論文は、社会選好が人々の選択やその帰結にどのような影響を及ぼすかについて、3つの政策フィールドにおいて行動経済学の観点から実証的に明らかにしている。第1章は、この分野における行動経済学的アプローチの概要と全体の要約を示している。

第2章では、日本人の寄付者が他の寄付者にどのように同調するかを「JapanGiving」という日本最大のインターネット寄付サイトの決済データを用いて実証的に明らかにしている。サイトには過去の寄付者の寄付金額を参照できるリストがある。自然実験アプローチと動学パネル分析で内的妥当性を担保したうえで、過去の寄付者の金額が新しい寄付者の金額にどのように影響を与えるかを検証している。主な結果として、直前の寄付者がその前の寄付者とまったく同じ金額で寄付しているとき、新しい寄付者も彼らの寄付金額に合わせやすくなること、同じ金額で寄付する寄付者の数が増えると、その可能性が上昇することが示された。これらの結果は、社会心理学における同調性の実験研究の結果と一致し、NPOがより効率的な資金調達手法に示唆を与える。

第3章では、所属するコミュニティにおいて社会的地位が上昇することが、彼らの健康や余命にどのような影響を与えるか、を実証的に明らかにしている。芥川賞・直木賞という権威ある文学賞の受賞者・非受賞候補者のデータと、Cox比例ハザード・モデルを使用して分析が行われる。賞の受賞者・非受賞候補者を使用するのは、同質的な候補者の間で、受賞が外生的に地位上昇を引き起こすため、社会的地位から健康という因果関係を捉えやすいという利点があるからだ。主要結果として、芥川賞の受賞者がその非受賞候補者よりも2.4年長生きすること、直木賞の受賞者がその非受賞候補者よりも5.1年早く死亡することが示されている。

第4章では、日本・米国・ドイツ・シンガポール・韓国という世界5ヶ国で、インターネット・アンケート調査を実施し、仮想的質問から家族と外国人の間にある利他性の格差を測定している。主な結果として、どの国でも家族に対する利他性の方が外国人に対するものよりも高いこと、その格差はドイツで最も小さく日本で最も大きいこと、利他性の格差と教育の間の相関は、国によって大きく異なることが得られている。

#### 「審査結果の要旨]

本論文は、インターネット寄付サイトにおける寄付者の同調行動、社会的地位の健康効果、外国人に対する利他性の国際的な差異について、自然実験と仮想的質問を駆使して行動経済学的な分析を行なったものである。本研究で得られた新たな知見は、学術的・実務的意義が極めて大きい。したがって、本論文は博士(経済学)に値すると判断される。