

Changing Images of Ageing

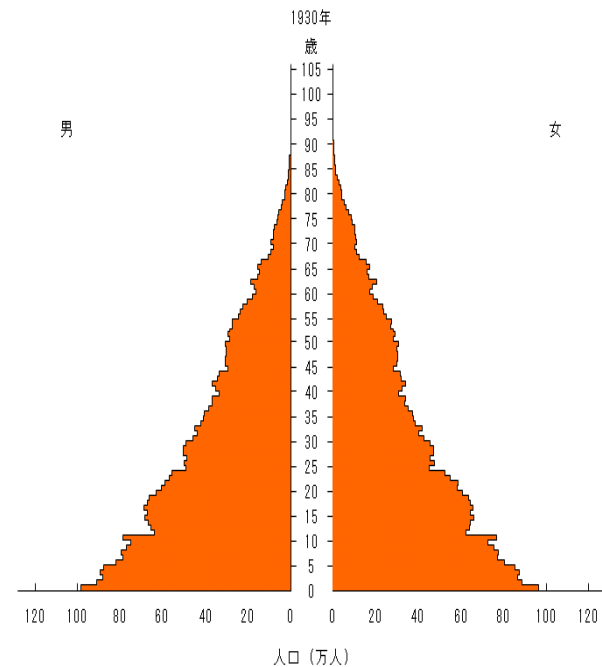
Takeo Ogawa, Ph.D.

Professor

Kumamoto Gakuen University

Images of Ageing

- The bio-medical images of ageing is focus on unhealthy physical conditions of older persons.
- The psycho-social images of ageing is focus on exclusive conditions of older persons.
- Both images are co-related with demographic background.



Happy Longevity

- If almost persons cannot enjoy longevity, happy longevity will be a desirable images of ageing.
- It is the bio-medical approaches that focus on the health expectancy as a result of their efforts.
- It is the psycho-social approaches that focus on centenarians as rare happy cases.



Folklore of Granny Dumping



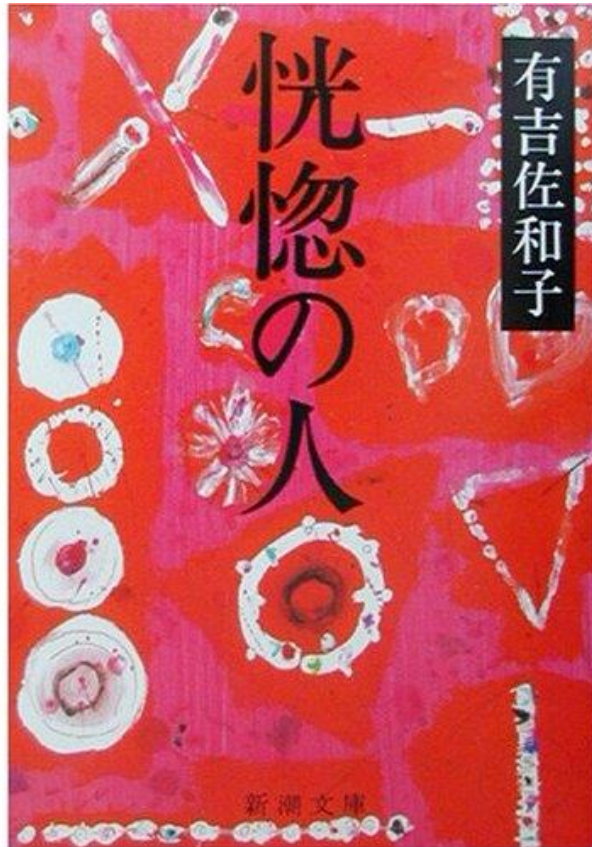
- However, if a society does not age-friendly, people are afraid that older persons cannot be permitted alive.
- The endless ageing will be a terrible situation for a society and for survivors.

Healthy Ageing

- If almost persons can live longer, they will image healthy life in their latter life.
- It is the bio-medical approaches that focus on healthy life expectancy, prevention, health promotion, fitness, nutrition, and long-term care.



Dementia in Trance



- It is the psycho-social approach that focus on healthy mind and relationships with others.
- However, people are afraid that older persons will fall in senile dementia.

Active Ageing

- If almost people can be ageing in healthy life, they will think about what they live actively.
- It is the bio-medical approach that focus on rehabilitation.
- It is the psycho-social approach that focus on social participation.



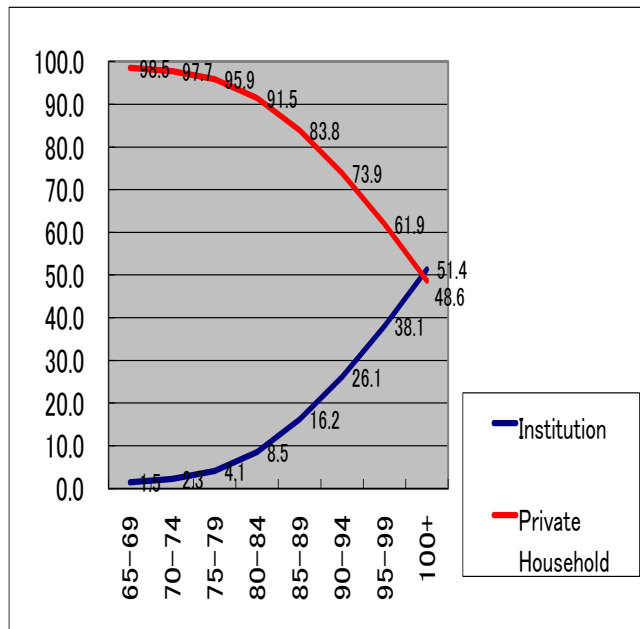
Granny Mischief



- However, active seniors will be tricksters, if they are not included in a society.

Institutionalized Centenarians

Aging in Families or in Institutions



Census 2005

- A half of centenarians are living in hospitals or nursing home already.
- However, about half of centenarians are living in private households still now.
- We will have to learn lifestyle of active centenarians.

Active Centenarians

NHK, "Hyakusai Banzai"

- Since 2002, NHK is making TV programs for introducing active centenarians in a week.
- A director of the programme said that it focuses on portraying centenarians in lovely way.



<http://tv.moshimore.net/program/title/saibanzai>

Towards Active Ageing Society

- 生涯現役
- 生涯 = Lifelong
- 現役 = Service in Active
- Older persons will be able to participate and to contribute in our society not only for profit but also for meaning of our latter life as long as they can. Then the aged society should include older persons as normal members forever.