Homesharing in the Japanese Context in 2015

KUBOTA Hiroyuki & SONOHARA Kazuyo
HeartWarmingHouse
1, Growing Interest in Homeshare
2, Municipal Leaders Supporting Homeshare
3, Critiques from the both Sides
4, New Projects in Tokyo
1, Growing Interest in Homeshare

Increasing news on media, including papers, TV, radio and web

“Is it possible for *homeshare* to ease a sense of loneliness among the elderly?”

“Good idea, but I don’t believe students will chose to live with them in Japan”.
1. Growing Interest in Homeshare

Increasing the number of Small NPOs (numbers of matching)
Heartwarming House (3)
Live and Live Together (1)
Maching Hongo (2)
Tasukarisu/Fukui Univ. (3)
Tokyo Little Place (1)
Yokohama Univ. (0)

... Networking each other but Facing Hardships...
2. Municipal Leaders Supporting Homeshare

[Image of two men, one with a red cross over him]
3, Critiques from the both Sides

From the Left
- Priority on the right to “Live Alone”
  - Low social support for youth, families and housing.
  - No universal housing allowance
  - Few low-income public housing
  - Poor financial support and for Students
  - “New type of exploitation of youth labour”
  - Lingering social seniority system, dividing generations
  - Misunderstandings for homeshare that might involve caring labour
  - Distrust for the government, making the young take care of the elderly for free

From the Right/Conservatives
- Familialism
  - Traditional extended family
  - Nostalgia
    - “non-relatives cannot help each other”
  - New tax policies for the young couple living with their older parent (2015.10)

Too Collectivist ! Too Individualistic !
NPO Heart Warming House (hwh)

Owner participatory share life
1, Homeshare NAKAMACHI

Location: Setagaya-ward
Launched: Nov 2009～
Householder: 60’s Female
Homesharer: 20’s Female
1, Homeshare NAKAMACHI
2, Homeshare Todoroki
2, Homeshare Todoroki
3, Homeshare MEGURO
3, Homeshare MEGURO
4, New Projects in Tokyo

   In Japanese
   About homeshare domestic/international
   Not academic
   By Researchers
   Mamiko MIYAHARA (Nihon Women’s Univ.)
   Keiko KATAGIRI (KOBE Univ.)
   Yoshinobu KIKUCHI (FUKUI Univ.)
   Hiroyuki KUBOTA (Nihon Univ.)
   And NPOs
   Heartwarming House
   Live and Live Togather
   Machin Hongo
4, New Projects in Tokyo

2) Domestic Homeshare Congress in 2016

Gathering domestic 6 or 7 major Homeshare NPOs from all over Japan at Nihon univ. Inviting
☐ Setagaya-ward Mayor
☑ Researchers
☐ NPOs
4. New Projects in Tokyo

Stronger Ties between Nihon University + Heart Warming House @Setagaya-ward
(Under negotiation)
Students from Nihon-university
The elderly living in Setagaya-ward
Facilitation by HWH