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Class: ARW30

Teacher: D. Ferreira

Due: Friday, November 10th, 2017

Out line

- Introduction (suggested due date: Nov. 6th)
 - Thesis Statement: Japan should address the problem, racial stereotypes in Japan, now.

- Body 1 (suggested due date: Oct. 27th)
 - Research problem: Japanese people still have racial stereotypes and that causes racial discrimination in Japan.
 - Aiyar: How racial discrimination is in Japan.
 - Hurst: How racial discrimination is in Japan.
 - Wesby: Japan sees itself as a homogenous nation.
 - Yuko: Image controlling by mass media.

- Body 2 (suggested due date: Oct. 30th)
 - Wesby: Most of Japanese people recognize any people who do not have pure Japanese blood as people who have different senses.
 - Yuko: Our images to foreigners directly affected by mass media.

- Body 3 (suggested due date: Nov. 3rd)
 - My opinion: Childhood education is the most significant factor to solve racial stereotypes.

- Conclusion (suggested due date: Nov. 6th)
 - Restating the introduction.
 - This situation can be a chance to start to address racial stereotypes in Japan.

Racial Stereotypes in Japan

Introduction

Although issues of race occupy headlines in most developed nations, Japan has yet to address race as a pressing national issue. As a result, many Japanese people still have strong racial stereotypes especially to Black, Chinese and Korean in common. The number of foreign people in Japan is increasing every year as you can see. In fact, according to the research conducted by the ministry of justice, there are over two million foreign people who live in Japan in 2017 (The Ministry Justice). Moreover, Japan holds Tokyo Olympics in 2020, and they welcome a lot of foreign people from different cultures as an international country. Therefore, now Japanese people can no longer avoid addressing this serious topic, racial stereotypes in Japan, and have to understand the causes of the issues and the solutions to live with them.

Body 1

Although UNESCO issued a statement asserting that "race" is not a biological reality in 1950 and an enormous amount of modern scientific data has been gathered to justify this conclusion, Japanese people still have racial stereotypes, and that causes racial discrimination in Japan. In fact, a new survey carried out by Japan's Justice Ministry reveals that nearly a third of foreign residents in Japan say they have experienced derogatory remarks because of their racial background, while about 40% have suffered housing

discrimination (Aiyar). Also one in four job seekers said they were denied employment because of being foreign, and one in five believed they were paid less than their Japanese counterparts for similar work (Hurst).

According to the recent studies, there are two key reasons that cause these situations. The one of them is that Japan sees itself as a homogenous nation (Wesby), and the other one is the image controlling by media (Yuko). On the other hand, some universities in Japan already started to educate about race and racism to the students. This situation is considered in the hopes of understanding ways to address racial stereotypes in Japan. Thus, in this essay, I will explain the causes with the studies and how they should be solved.

Body 2

In the recent discussion of racial stereotypes in Japan, a controversial issue has been that Japan sees itself as a homogenous society of "one race". Even though Japan is already an international nation and there are many Japanese people who have different backgrounds, most of Japanese people recognize any people who do not have pure Japanese blood as people who have different senses even if they are actually Japanese (Wesby). In the other word, Japanese people divide "we Japanese they others" by appearances and prejudge that others have different senses from "we Japanese" have. And then, they use stereotypes to understand the senses other people have even though personality and senses are developed by individual backgrounds, such as education, family, and environment, not races. Other studies say that the image controlling by media is also a big problem that causes to have racial stereotypes for Japanese (Yuko). Their images to foreigners directly affected by mass media, such as TV, news media, and advertisements, because many Japanese people do not have relationships with foreigners in real. Moreover, Japanese media often features negative aspects of news, such as incidents and diplomatic issues,

rather than positive ones. So Japanese people tend to have negative stereotypes to foreigners and to consider there are differences between Japanese senses and foreigners' ones. In the words of one of this view's main proponents, "basically we are taught, every day, who the white people are and the place of the white guy in this society. And who the black is and what place this fellow has in this society by mass media." (Grada).

In sum, then, the issue is whether to get real data by myself or to get wrong information being affected by image controlling of mass media.

Body 3

My own view is that childhood education about race is necessary not to have racial stereotypes because it can make people learn real things before they get a bias for other races by mass media. Though I concede that Japanese mass media should inform truth and academic education is also important, I still maintain that childhood education is the most significant factor because changing mass media takes a long time and it is difficult to get rid of stereotypes once they get it. For example, if they have experiences in communicating with people of other races since their childhood, they can easily understand there are not any differences without appearance between them even if mass media inform wrong information. Although some might object that it seems to be difficult to connect Japanese children and the children of other races in Japan, many communities, such as NPO, and local communities, already support international communication for children in Japan. Thus, if parents want to educate their children, it is easy to find opportunities to connect people of other races in Japan. The issue is important because it is nearly impossible to live the modern world without perception about race and this problem is related to all people around the world.

Conclusion

Now, Japanese people can no longer avoid addressing this problem because Japan already selected a way to live with foreign people and the situation in Japan is changing rapidly. Even if they still Japan is a homogenous country, the number of foreigners in Japan is increasing more and more every year, and they are going to welcome them in 2020 as a host of Olympics. It means, thus, now is the excellent timing for Japanese to think over about racial stereotypes and change a conventional mind. It takes a long time for people who have already racial stereotypes. However, it is easy to make children understand true information about race as childhood education so that they will be able to live with foreigners in Japan in the future. As a conclusion, this issue is a big problem, but this situation can be a chance for Japanese people to start to address racial stereotypes in Japan. (1000 words).

Works Cited

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