Worlds Apart In Many Areas

American women are more inclined than their Japanese counterparts to express unease about aspects of their status—more inclined, for example, to say that there are more advantages to being a man than being a woman. On social issues, like abortion, Americans seem more conservative than Japanese.

Question: All things considered, in our society today, do you think there are more advantages in being a man, in being a woman, or no more advantages in being one than the other?

- More advantages in being a man: 33% (Japanese women) vs. 35% (Japanese men) vs. 52% (American women) vs. 51% (American men)
- In being a man: 6% (Japanese women) vs. 3% (Japanese men) vs. 4% (American women) vs. 3% (American men)
- No more advantages in being one than the other: 60% (Japanese women) vs. 61% (Japanese men) vs. 82% (American women) vs. 63% (American men)
- Don't know: 1% (Japanese women) vs. 0% (Japanese men) vs. 2% (American women) vs. 4% (American men)

Question: In today's family where the woman is both a working woman, a wife, and a mother, which one of the three do you think gets slighted the most—the job, the marriage, or the children, or don't you think any of them get slighted?

- Job gets slighted: 12% (Japanese women) vs. 13% (Japanese men) vs. 16% (American women) vs. 16% (American men)
- Marriage gets slighted: 21% (Japanese women) vs. 24% (Japanese men) vs. 29% (American women) vs. 29% (American men)
- Children: 17% (Japanese women) vs. 20% (Japanese men) vs. 44% (American women) vs. 39% (American men)

Question: Do you consider the work you do to be a career or just a job?

- A Career: 57% (Japanese women) vs. 53% (American women) vs. 78% (Japanese women with college education) vs. 78% (American women with college education)
- Just a job: 41% vs. 53% vs. 21% vs. 20%

Consider work to be...

- Japanese women: 57% vs. 41%
- American women: 45% vs. 53%
- Japanese women with college education: 77%
- American women with college education: 78%

Note: Twenty-four percent of Japanese women, compared to 14% of American women said they didn’t think anything got slighted.

Question: Do you consider the work you do to be a career or just a job?

Consider work to be...

- A Career: 57% (Japanese women) vs. 45% (American women) vs. 78% (Japanese women with college education) vs. 78% (American women with college education)
- Just a job: 41% vs. 53% vs. 21% vs. 20%

Consider work to be...

- Japanese women: 57% vs. 41%
- American women: 45% vs. 53%
- Japanese women with college education: 77%
- American women with college education: 78%

Note: Twenty-four percent of Japanese women, compared to 14% of American women said they didn’t think anything got slighted.

Question: Now let me read you some statements. For each please tell me whether you tend to agree or disagree...

- Premarital sexual intercourse is immoral:
  - Japanese women: 40% vs. 29%
  - 18-39 years: 19% vs. 16%
  - With college education: 24% vs. 24%
  - Japanese men: 74% vs. 75%
  - 18-39 years: 75% vs. 75%
  - With college education: 75% vs. 75%
  - American women: 56% vs. 46%
  - 18-39 years: 63% vs. 34%
  - With college education: 67% vs. 40%
  - American men: 59% vs. 38%
  - 18-39 years: 61% vs. 31%
  - With college education: 63% vs. 37%

- Legal abortions should be available for women who choose to have them:
  - Japanese women: 70% vs. 74%
  - 18-39 years: 74% vs. 75%
  - With college education: 77% vs. 75%
  - Japanese men: 74% vs. 75%
  - 18-39 years: 75% vs. 75%
  - With college education: 75% vs. 75%
  - American women: 56% vs. 63%
  - 18-39 years: 63% vs. 61%
  - With college education: 67% vs. 61%
  - American men: 59% vs. 59%
  - 18-39 years: 61% vs. 61%
  - With college education: 63% vs. 63%


As we enter the 1990s...

Think there is a need for a strong and organized women's movement to work for further changes for women, or do you think changes will occur as a matter of course without any organized effort on the part of women?

As we enter the 1990s...

- Think changes will occur as a matter of course:
  - Japanese women: 26% vs. 71%
  - U.S. women: 37% vs. 58%