Social Stratification In Contemporary Japan

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Social Class in Contemporary Japan is the first single volume that traces the dynamics of social structure, institutional socialization and class culture through this turbulent period, all the way into the contemporary neoliberal moment. In an innovative multi-disciplinary approach that include top scholars working on quantitative class structure, policy development, and ethnographic analysis, this volume highlights the centrality of class formation to our understanding of the many levels of Japanese society. Written by a team of contributors from Japan, the US and Europe this book will be invaluable to students and scholars of Japanese society and culture, as well as those interested in cultural anthropology and social class alike. Excerpt. Hiroshi Ishida and David H. Slater. Social Stratification in Contemporary Japan Link dokumen ProQuest Abstrak (Abstract): "Social Stratification in Contemporary Japan" edited by Kenji Kosaka is reviewed. Teks lengkap: Social Stratification in Contemporary Japan. Edited by KENJI KOSAKA. In the introduction, Kenji Kosaka reviews the historical background of social stratification in Japan, emphasizing a modern "tendency toward a leveling among people and classes" (p. 10). Studies of class and stratification in Japan date from at least the 1920s. The SSM surveys, repeated every ten years since 1955, have examined class structure, stratification and consciousness, social mobility, and in the 1985 survey, women's status and consciousness.
Social stratification is a kind of social differentiation whereby members of society are grouped into socioeconomic strata, based upon their occupation and income, wealth and social status, or derived power (social and political). As such, stratification is the relative social position of persons within a social group, category, geographic region, or social unit. This article describes how two seemingly contradictory concepts of social stratification in contemporary Japan—“fluidization” and “stabilization”—can be understood and explained in a coherent manner. A classic example of “fluidization” is an increase in non-regular workers, while that of “stabilization” is an increase in the rigidity of the intergenerational social mobility of a particular stratum. We hypothesize that fluidization has not necessarily occurred in all strata; some strata are still under the umbrella of protective institutions, while othe