

Research-data

B. No. 9

Investigation on the Regional Scope,
in which Marriages are made
--- surveyed in 1941 ---

by

Ayanori Okazaki D. Eco.

Institute of Population Problems,
Welfare Ministry

Tokyo, Japan

Investigation on the regional scope,
in which marriages are made -- surveyed in 1941

It is entirely at our disposal to get married any woman in any region. Generally surveying, however, notwithstanding the fact that every man has chosen his wife from the various regions by their own free will, there can be seen a certain natural order in it.

In the population problem Research Institute, we, based upon the marriage-report in 1936, investigated on the regional scope in Nagoya city, where the first marriages were made. Its results will be explained as following:

In 1936, the number of the husbands in their first marriage living in Nagoya amounted to 6869. Among those husbands who got married women in their first marriage in each different regions, 3749 took them as wives who also lived in Nagoya city, 1479 of them, wives who lived at the rural districts, and 1641, the rest of them, wives who lived in other Prefectures. That is to say, 50.46 percentage of those husbands in Nagoya city got married women in Nagoya city, 20.15 percentage of them, women in the rural districts and #20.39% of them, women in other Prefectures. In other words, the majority of those husbands in Nagoya city took women as their wives who lived in the same Nagoya city.

Now Nagoya city being divided into four wards, namely, East, West, South and Middle wards, let us further survey in what proportion and in what regional scope, the husband who once married in each wards got married the women in their first marriages.

Table I

Table I. The dwelling-place of husband and wife in their first marriage living in Nagoya city.

Husband \ Wife	Wife						Other Pre- fecture	Total
	East Ward	West Ward	South Ward	Middle Ward	Rural District			
East ward	(actual number	471	70	40	133	374	410	1,498
	(%	31.44	4.67	2.67	8.88	24.97	27.37	100.00
West ward	(actual number	29	926	20	47	159	153	1,334
	(%	2.17	69.42	1.50	3.52	11.92	11.47	100.00
South ward	(actual number	48	39	762	157	383	434	1,823
	(%	2.63	2.14	41.80	8.61	21.01	23.81	100.00
Middle ward	(actual number	152	127	86	642	563	644	2,214
	(%	6.86	5.74	3.88	29.00	25.43	29.09	100.00

As

As this 1st list shows, the husbands in the east, west of Nagoya got married the women who lived also in the same wards, in the self-same way in which the husbands in the west and middle wards did. According to this fact, though each husband had chosen their own wives from any region of his own accord, when generally surveying, we can see the tendency that even in Nagoya city, the husbands are most apt to take women to wives who live at the same ward where they also live at. The case in which the husbands living at the East ward get married women in other wards are fewer the case in which they took women to wives who are in other rural districts or Prefectures. When taking into consideration the number of the unmarried person who has a possibility of getting married, the wives who are in the rural districts or other Prefectures show a poor rate to the wives who live at each ward in Nagoya city.

The number of the unmarried person who has a chance of marriage in other rural districts or Prefectures must remarkably be greater than that of the unmarried one who lives at each ward in Nagoya city. In short, can we not say that the nearer her dwelling-place is where she lives in, the more she will have a chance to be taken to wife, while the farther she lives, the fewer the chance will be. It can also easily be imagined that either in the case in which she chooses her husband for herself or in the case in which she will be introduced by other people, the nearer the place is, the more chance she will be given to become a subject.

Secondly, in 1936, the number of the wives in their first marriages who made a adoption or took a husband for her family amounted to 419. Among those 416 wives who made adoption from each region, 199 of them took husband who lived in Nagoya city, 100 of them; husbands who lived at the rural districts and 117, the rest of them who were in other Prefectures. This shows that 40.78% of them adopted their

husband

husband who lived in Nagoya city, 20.40% of them, husbands who were at the rural districts, and the 20.80% of them, husbands who were in other Prefectures. In the case of such an adoption, comparing with the usual marriage, it shows somewhat a poor rate in that they live in the same Nagoya city.

On the contrary, the number of the wives who took husbands from other Prefectures are comparatively many. We can imagine that such a results should be due to the fact that they often take into consideration the kinship as the condition of choosing, as there are some differences between the case of adoption and that of usual marriage. Even in the case of adoption, however, it must be admitted that the regional influences should be considerably great, for nearly 50% of the wives and adopted husbands who lived in the same Nagoya city.

Now, let us survey in what proportion and in what regional scope, the wives in their first marriages made adoption.

Table II. The dwelling-place of wife and husband in their first marriage living in Nagoya city.

Wife	Husband							Total
	East Ward	West Ward	South Ward	Middle Ward	Rural District	Other Prefecture		
East Ward	(actual number	15	1	2	4	18	26	66
	(%	22.73	1.52	3.03	6.06	27.27	39.39	100.00
West Ward	(actual number	2	58	-	3	11	10	84
	(%	2.38	69.05	-	3.57	13.10	11.90	100.00

South (actual	1	-	33	5	23	25	87
Ward (number							
(%	1.15	-	37.93	5.75	26.44	28.73	100.00
Middle (actual	16	5	6	48	48	56	179
Ward (number							
(\$	8.94	2.79	3.35	26.82	26.82	31.28	100.00

As it is shown in the 2nd list, the proportion of the marriage in which the wives living at the west ward adopted husbands who lived at the same ward are in great number, as it is the case with the south ward. The percentage of them are 60.9% and 30.8%. The proportion of the marriage in which the wives living at the East ward adopted husbands who lived in other Prefectures are also great in number as it is so with the wives at the middle ward. As it was already stated, this is due to some differences of circumstances between the case of adoption and that of usual marriage. But as the 2nd list shows, it is not unusual for men and women who live at the same ward to get married. Therefore even in the case of adoption, we can say that the tendency of adopting husband who lives nearest is rather strong.

In conclusion, generally surveying, we cannot overlook the following fact that we are most apt to take women to wife who lives nearest our own region, inspite of the fact that it is quite at our disposal to get married any woman in any region. That is to say, the nearer our regions are, the thicker are the regional scope. On the other hand, the farther, the thinner.