

Spatial Distribution of LGBTs in Osaka City, Japan

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Considerable research on the spatial patterns of sexual and gender minorities (gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people; abbreviated as "LGBTs") and enclaves created by them in large cities have been examined within North American and European contexts. However, the spatial distribution of LGBTs in Japanese cities has not been studied. This paper presents a quantitative study of whether LGBTs were unevenly distributed spatially in Osaka City, the third largest city in Japan, using microdata from the random sampling survey on sexual and gender minorities in Osaka City, titled the "Survey on Diversity of Work and Life, and Coexistence among the Residents of Osaka City", conducted in 2019. It was found that LGBTs are distributed unevenly in relation to non-LGBTs. However, when we controlled respondents' demographic and socioeconomic variables, including age, gender, education, number of household members, occupation, and years of residence in Osaka City, logistic regression models showed no significant association between the occurrence of LGBTs among respondents and the distinct region where LGBTs were found to be concentrated. Therefore, we concluded that uneven distribution of LGBTs in Osaka City may not reflect the geographical context of LGBTs concentration but mirror variation in population composition.

keywords: LGBT, spatial pattern of population, minority population, Osaka City