

特集Ⅰ：わが国における近年の人口移動の実態—第6回人口移動調査の結果より—(その1)

## The Impact of Long-Distance Family Migration on Married Women's Employment Status in Japan

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Using the data from the Sixth National Survey on Migration conducted in 2006, I analyzed: (1) whether family migration has made a disruptive impact on married women's employment status, and (2) whether the gender-role perspective explains the relationship in the Japanese context. The results are surprisingly consistent with the studies in the United States and Great Britain. The analyses indicated that both long-distance and short-distance family migration exert disruptive long-lasting effects on full-time employment of married women. The negative effect of family migration is much stronger for long-distance migration which is consistent with the past research. In addition, the analyses show that the effect of long-distance migration is significant for part-time employment also, though the effect is attenuated and does not last as long. The analyses also indicated that wives who migrated to follow a spouse whose reason of migration is employment-related are least likely to work full-time relative to wives whose spouse indicated other reasons. Since women playing a subsidiary role in family migration decision are assumed to hold more traditional gender-role beliefs, the result is considered to support the gender-role perspective.

### I. Introduction

Past empirical evidence clearly indicates that family migration weakens women's labor market status in two-earner households, and that women disproportionately continue to bear the costs of family migration (Boyle, Feng and Gayle 2009; Boyle et al. 2001; Cooke et al. 2009; Jacobsen and Levin 1997; Lichter 1983; Maxwell 1988; Smits 1999). Women are likely to experience lower income (Cooke et al. 2009; Jacobson and Levin 1997; LeClere and McLaughlin 1997; Lichter 1983; Smits 2001), shorter hours or weeks worked (Cooke and Bailey 1999; LeClere and McLaughlin 1997), lower occupational status (Chattopadhyay 1997), underemployment or unemployment (Bailey and Cooke 1998; Boyle et al. 2001; Chattopadhyay 1997; Chitose 2006; Cooke 2001; Lichter 1982; Shihadeh 1991; Smits 1999), and even an exit from the labor force (Boyle et al. 2003; Clark and Huang 2006; Cooke 2001; LeClere and McLaughlin 1997), while family migration is usually associated with positive earnings growth for men.

Much of the past work on the relationship between family migration and women's labor market status is dominated by the human capital perspective (Mincer 1978; Sandell 1977). In recent years, researchers have started to question the gender-neutrality assumption of the human capital