

Renting Dilemma for Foreign Residents

1. Motivation behind Research Paper

We conducted research on foreign people who have experience with renting in Japan and isolated the problems and solutions that they face. Global shipments and the number of foreign workers have been on the rise, helping the global economy. Japanese manufacturers, for example, have returned to pre-corona virus levels and shipments are being made in a steady progress. Global shipments have improved the world and specifically changed the way companies, policies, tourist spots, and education. However, there are negative sides to this story. While the Japanese media such as the news has not shown the negative sides to this, I became interested in the topic and decided to explore some of the challenges foreigners might face.

2. Introduction

First, my group and I researched the recent renting problems foreign residents in Japan faced on the internet. Second, we used questionnaires and six interviews of four people. We learned that the main problems that foreigners face are noise, no garbage separation and so on. One of the main problems is that landlords refuse to let foreigners move in solely based on the fact they are not Japanese. So, we decided to interview some people. First, we asked foreigners if they felt renting spaces in Japan was an embarrassing experience. Second, we asked if they had

any troubling experiences during residency. Third, we asked them if they felt it was scary to rent spaces in Japan? Fourth, we asked residents what were some useful things to know? Fifth, we asked what do you think are good things for residents? Sixth, have you ever not known expenses for residents?

3. Results and Analysis

For the first question, 76% answered “yes” and that renting in Japan for foreigners was a troublesome experience. For the second question, only 18% felt inconvenienced during their stay. For the third question, 56% felt that renting a place in Japan was a scary experience. For the fourth question, many participants felt that if the explanations done by realtors were done in their language, it would be a better experience for foreigners. For the fifth question, many participants had good experiences communicating with other Japanese people during their stay. For the final question, many participants answered that they still did not understand garbage separation rules. We felt that a good solution would be to increase the number of languages that can be written in the contract. For the second question, we decided that only some foreigners know and understand Japanese rules. For the third question, we found that it is important to communicate with the landlord and neighbours frequently to find out what is near the house. So, we thought of creating a multilingual website and posting the rental problems and solutions that foreigners are having trouble with on the website. We would then create a post for residents in Nara Prefecture that lists the garbage disposal dates and explains the setting method. Then, we would place the posters around stations and so on, and paste the QR code of the website so that foreigners can have easy access to it. Through

interviews and questionnaires, our aim was to isolate the specific issues foreign residents in Japan face.

4. Conclusion and Future Problems

These problems are not things that can be solved immediately, and they are also problems that arise from the differences in the way of thinking of each individual regardless of the preconceptions between Japan and the other country, so what we can do now is to help foreigners living in Japan. All I can do is create a site for people and disseminate information as much as possible. However, while researching and exploring in this quest, foreigners have various problems such as being plagued by prejudice, and being inconvenient and not being helped even though they have their own circumstances. I'm glad that I was able to learn about it, and my perspective changed, and the way I interacted with it also changed. However, there are still many people like us before who know nothing and unknowingly hurt or offend foreigners. I think I have to.

5. Reflection

Currently, I do not have a dream for the future, but I believe that no matter what kind of work I do, I will have more and more opportunities to interact with foreigners. Additionally, I think that there are times when people feel cultural differences, but this time it is not just the problem of renting, but also the difference in cultures, the difference in perception, which is the root of the problem of renting, and the circumstances of each person. I want to always keep things in mind and perhaps help solve these problems in the future.

6. Work Cited

Sources and data collection: Study Group on Community Development in Globalizing Communities October 29, 2021 Japan Toshi Center.