

Secret of successful intergenerational community: Japanese style

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Historical change of multi-generational living in Japan

Before 1925

Multigenerational living was standard.

- Large family living together in one house



After 1925

Rapid industrialization accelerated people's moving from rural area to big cities



As a result: From multi-generational to **nuclear** family



After 1990

Multi-generational separate living under ONE roof

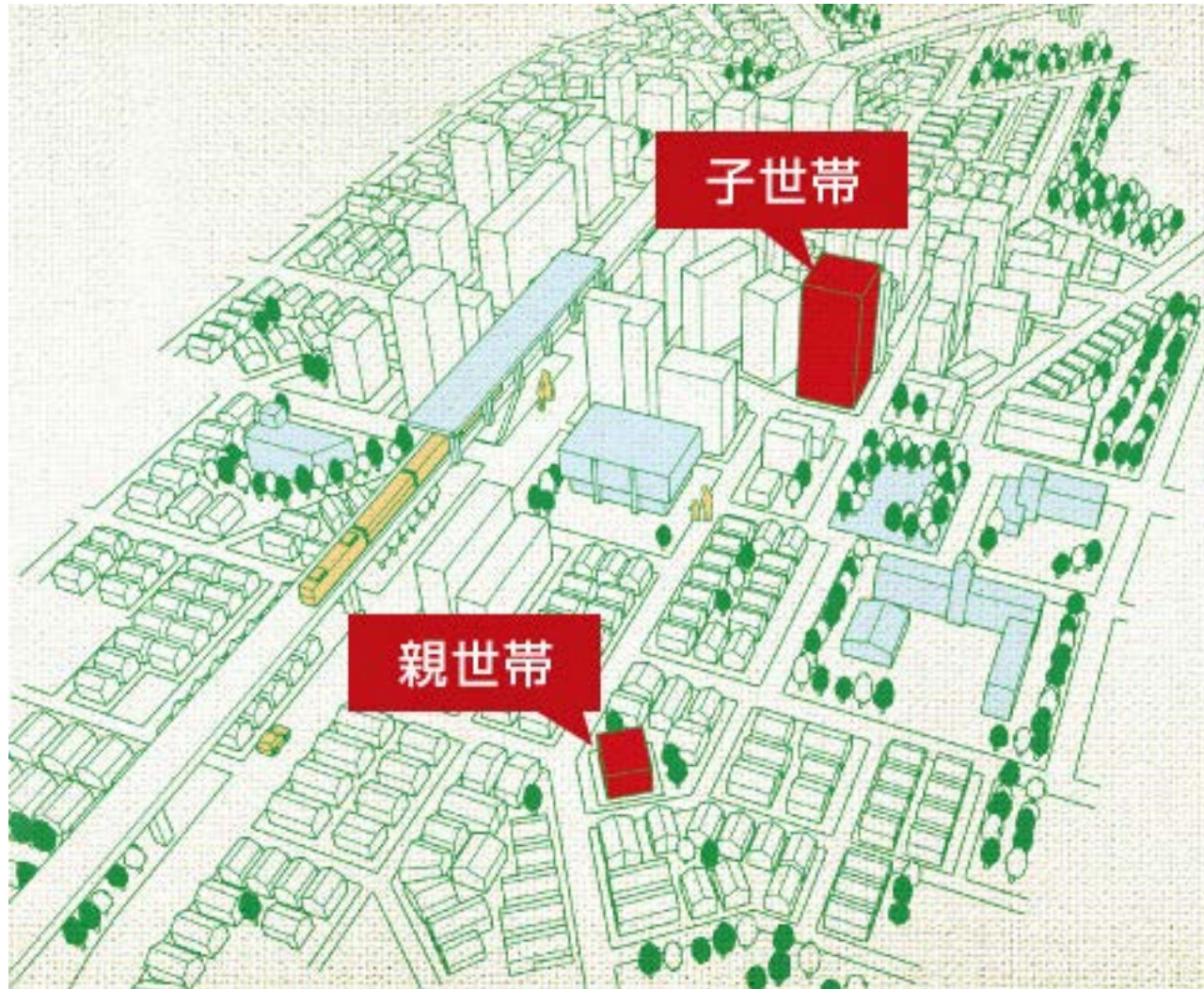


**These are results of expensive house cost
due to the “Bubble Economy”**



After 2000

From “Multi-generational living” to “Living-nearby”

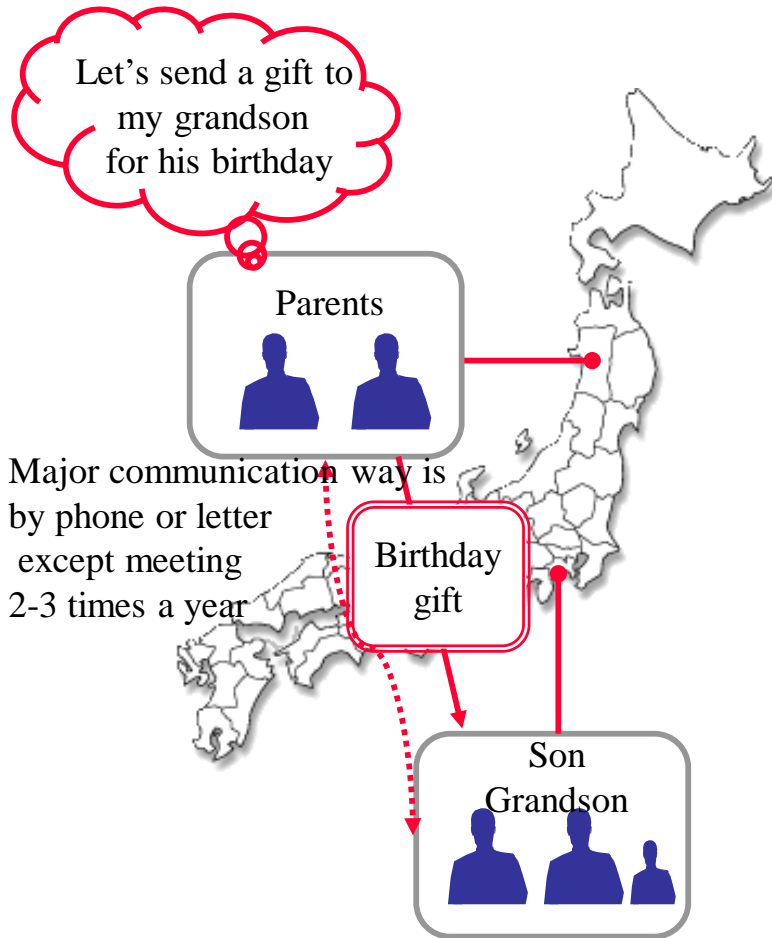


“Living-nearby” created “Loose-Tie-Big-Family”

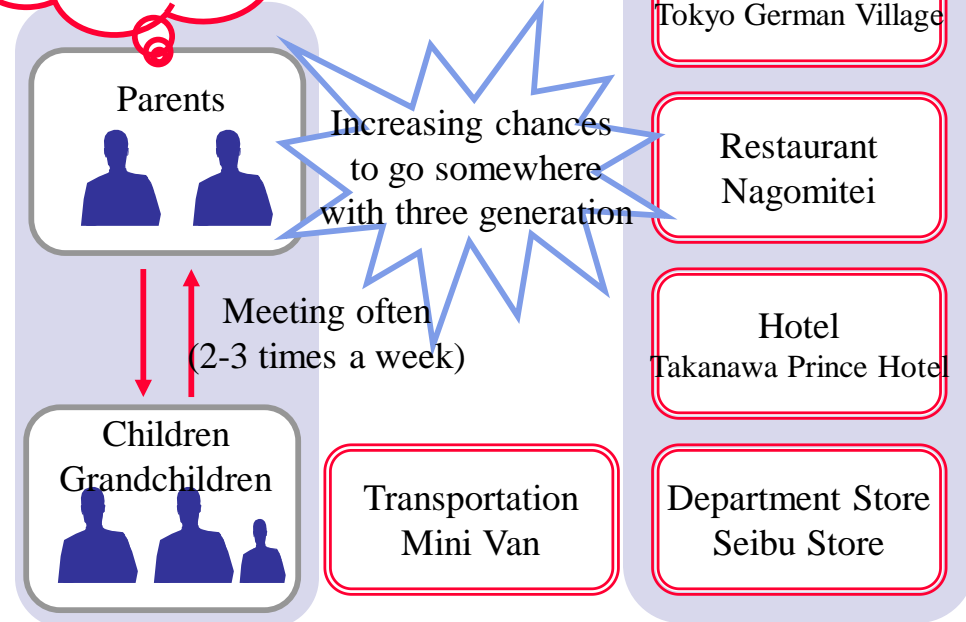
Living-Long-Distance



Living-Nearby



Let's go somewhere with my grandson for his birthday



Loose-Tie-Big-Family

Mini-Van: Example of product for Loose-Tie-Big-Family



Mini-Van can support multi-generational events

Example of Loose-Tie-Big-Family service “Tokyo German Village”

遊び方自由自在。
広々とした自然を
ごゆっくりお楽しみください。



園内はお車で自由にご移動できます。



After 2015

Importance of **multi-generational** community is recognized again.



Becoming “hyper-aged society” demands decreasing “**social isolation**”.

What is the secret of successful intergenerational community?

Case study

Case1: Smart-Aging College at Tohoku University



1. Intergenerational class: participants' age 32 – 82
2. Class topics: How we should solve challenges due to ageing such as family care, inheritance, etc.
3. Protocol: 15 minutes presentation by participants, then discussion how to solve challenges

Challenges

1. **Some don't want to talk private issues in front of other participants.**
2. **Older men tend to lecture and scold younger.**
3. **Older men tend to brag own past experience.**



Lesson learned

1. **Assembling right facilitator who can manage communication among different generations**

- ① Expertise about family issues is advantageous
- ② Academic background may be useful

2. **Selecting mutually beneficial subjects**

- ① How we should find and select senior housing?
- ② What we should do when your elderly needs care?
- ③ How we should solve the inheritance problems?

Case2:Good Time Living Nakamozu(Osaka, Japan)

University
Students
Dormitory

Nursing Home
“ GOOD TIME LIVING ”



Clinic

Source: Good Time Living

Land Area

2,965m²

Nursing Home

68 Units

Dormitory

59 Units

Intergenerational activities with dorm students

□ Mahjong



□ Cooking Cake



Intergenerational activities with dorm students & internship students

□ University Festival



□ Internship



Intergenerational activities with children & high school students neighborhood

□ Halloween



□ Round-Table Talk about War Experience



Challenges

1. Older men tend to lecture and scold younger.
2. Older men tend to brag own experience.
3. Younger students cannot understand their talk due to the generation gap or cognitive decline



Lesson learned

1. **Selecting common interest**

- ① Playing mahjong
- ② Cooking cake
- ③ Farming vegetables, etc.

2. **Creating mutual learning opportunities**

- ① Elderly want to learn how to use smartphone, IT devices
- ② Younger can learn calligraphy, flower arrangement, etc.

3. **Understanding the changes due to ageing**

- ① How does cognitive decline change the behavior?
- ② How does physical inconvenience affect the daily living?

Case3: Aoi Care (Fujisawa, Japan) Community-based Dementia Care



Otagaisan

おたがいさん

おとなりさん

Otonarisan

Idobata

いどばた

Yui: Group home

結

Small-scale
multifunctional
home care

Source: Aoi Care



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When elderly came to Aoi Care, they were suffering from severe dementia

After staying at Aoi Care, demented elderly recovered their cognitive function and health.



Demented elderly can serve for other elderly and younger women with children



Source: Aoi Care

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Challenges

1. All users or residents at Aoi Care were suffering from severe dementia before they came.
2. Many users took much poly-pharmacy.
3. Family gave up their older parents care.



Lesson learned

1. **Keeping users or residents involved in the dairy life action in normal life environment.**
 - ① Cooking using kitchen knife
 - ② Serving foods for other residents
 - ③ Folding the laundry
2. **Trying to get the best out of users or residents based on detailed personal assessment**
 - ① He used to be sushi cooker → Ask him fish cooking
 - ② She loved farming → Ask her kitchen gardening
3. **Keeping doors open**
 - ① Residents never do wandering as they feel comfortable.
 - ② Children neighborhood are easy to come into

Demented elderly can cook, sewing, etc.



Source: Aoi Care

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Demented old women enjoy kitchen gardening



Tadasuke Kato, CEO, Aoi Care and Hiro Murata

