The 3rd East Asia Gender Equality Ministerial Meeting

Governmental Efforts to Prevent and Eliminate Violence against Women

Keiko Takegawa

Deputy Director General for Policies on Inclusive Society and Gender Equality Bureau, Cabinet Office, Japan

25th June, 2009



The symbol for the elimination of violence against women

Violence against Women

Violence against women

The definition covers many forms, including spousal violence, sex crimes, prostitution, trafficking in persons, sexual harassment and stalking.

The elimination of violence against women is a critical issue to be addressed for formulation of a gender-equal society.

Spousal Violence Cases - 1

Physical assault

Female 24.9% Male 13.6%

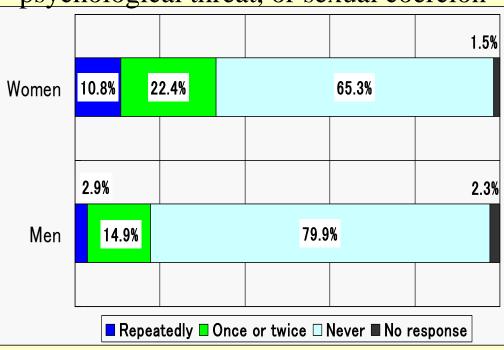
Harassing and threatening behavior and intimidation

Female 16.6% Male 8.8%

- Unwanted or forced sexual activityFemale 15.8% Male 4.3%
- Repeatedly suffered any of the above

Female 10.8% Male 2.9%

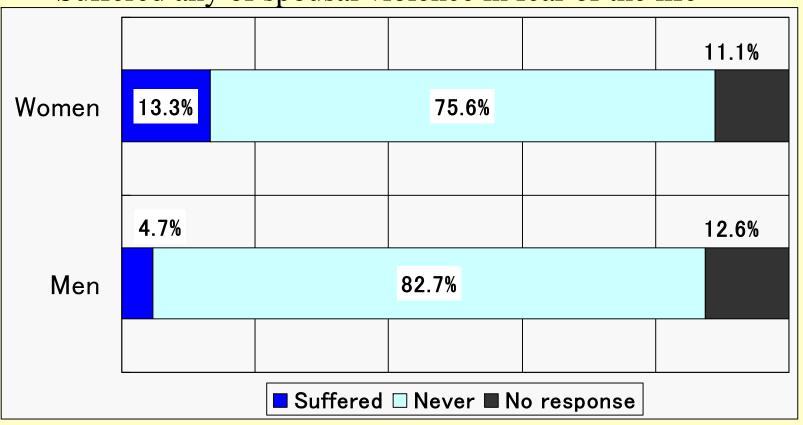
Suffered any of physical assault, psychological threat, or sexual coercion



Cabinet Office "Survey on violence between men and women" (FY2008)

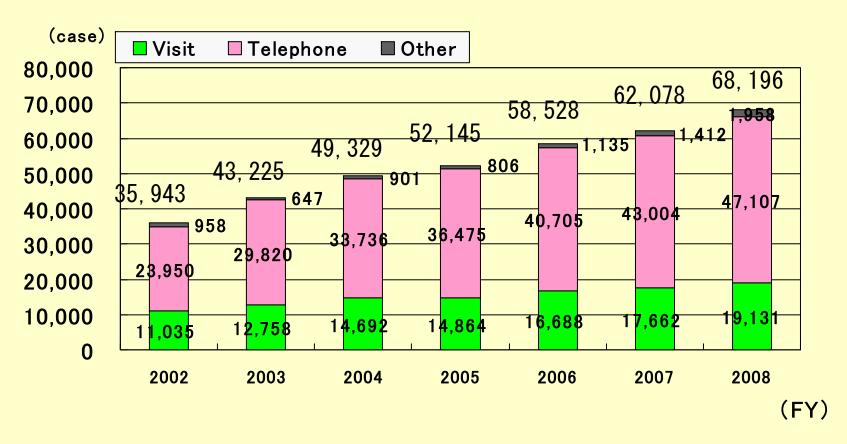
Spousal Violence Cases - 2

Suffered any of spousal violence in fear of the life



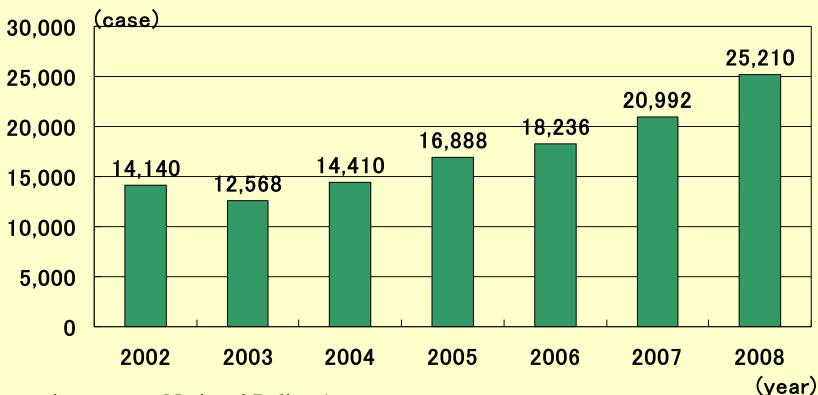
Cabinet Office: "Survey on violence between men and women" (FY2008)

Number of Cases Reported to Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers



Information source: Cabinet Office

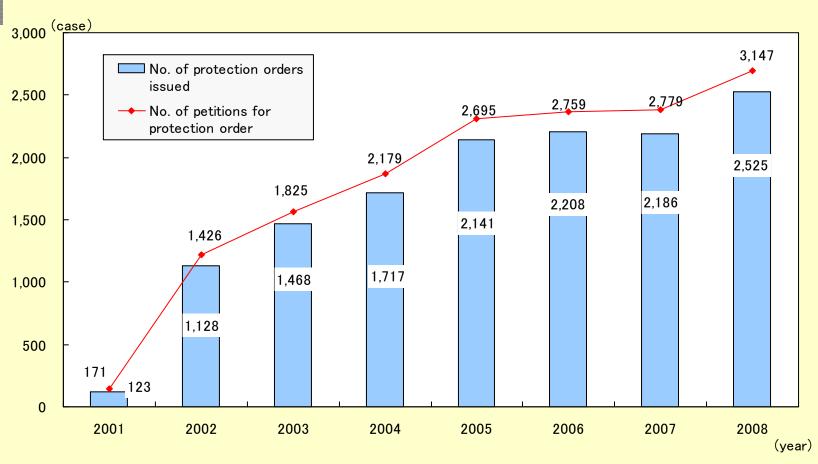
Number of Violence Cases Reported to the Police



Information source: National Police Agency

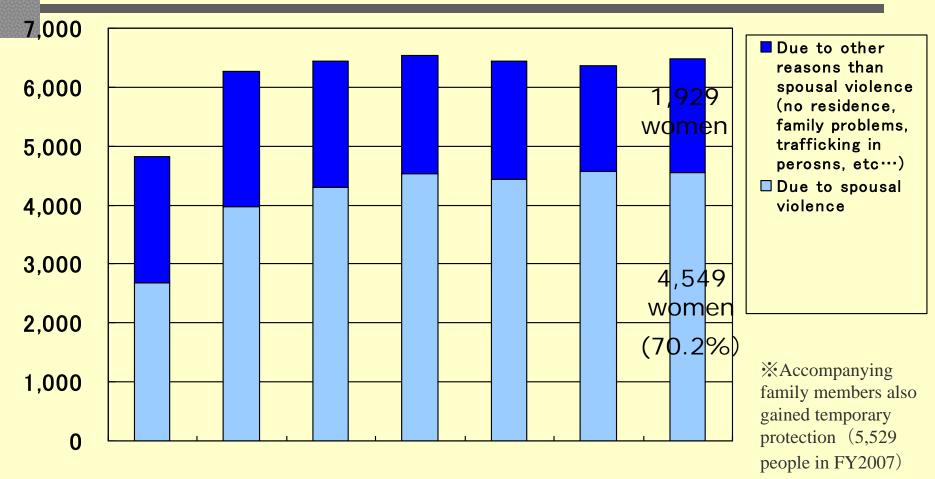
(Note) Number of cases reported includes consulting, request for help, request for protection, acceptance of complaint reports and accusations, and arrests.

Protection Orders based on the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence



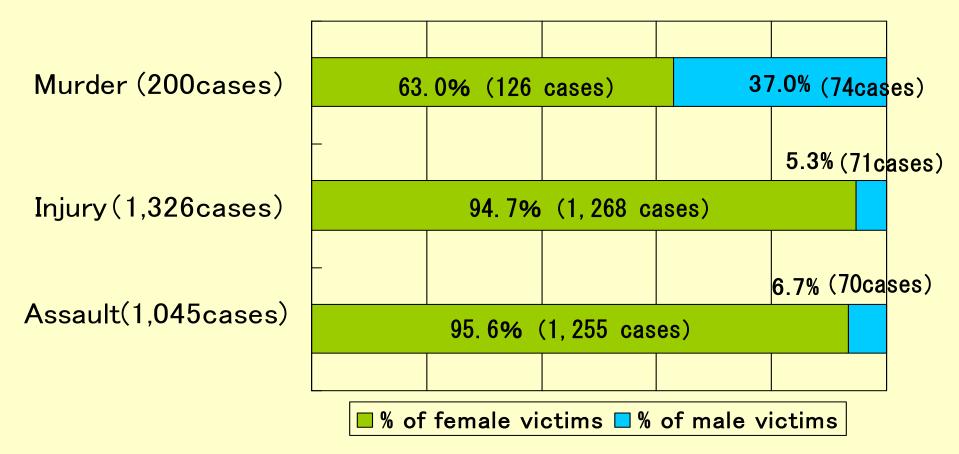
Information source: Supreme Court (Note) since October 2001

Number of Women Gained Temporary Protection from Women's Consulting Offices



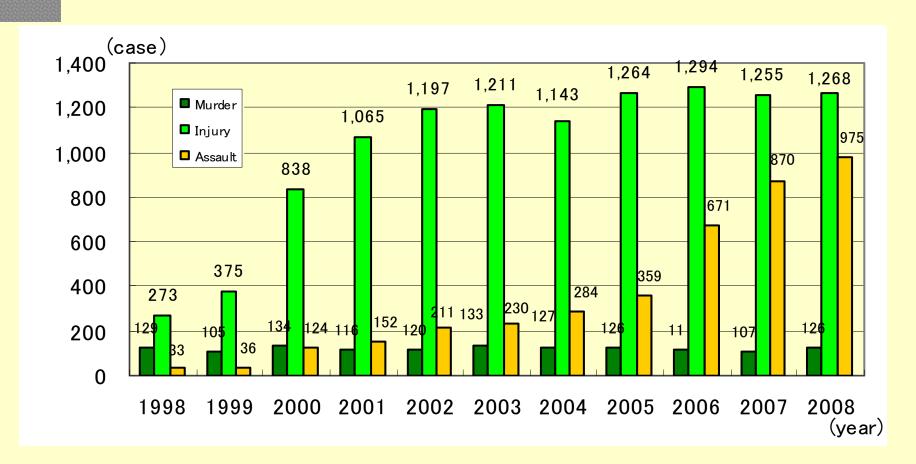
Information source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (Note) including temporary protection request

Number of Arrests Made in Cases involving Murder, Injury or Assault Inflicted by a Spouse (including unofficial marriages)



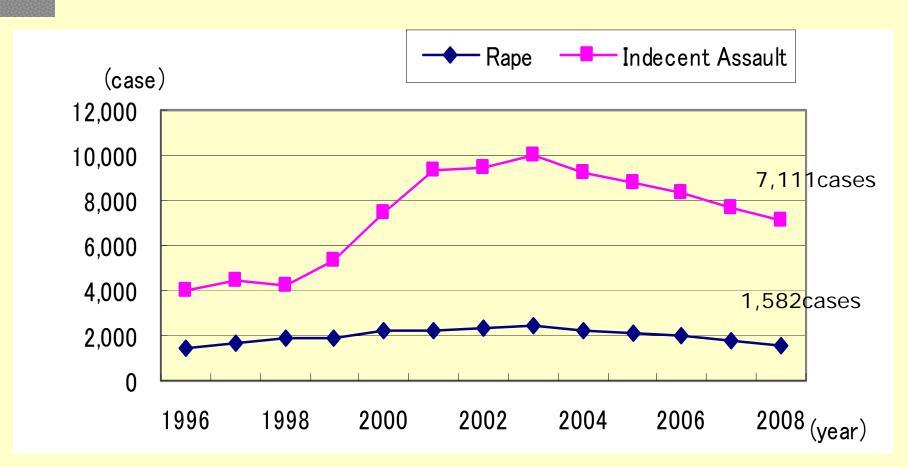
Information source: National Police Agency (2008)

Arrests for Crimes against Wife by Husband



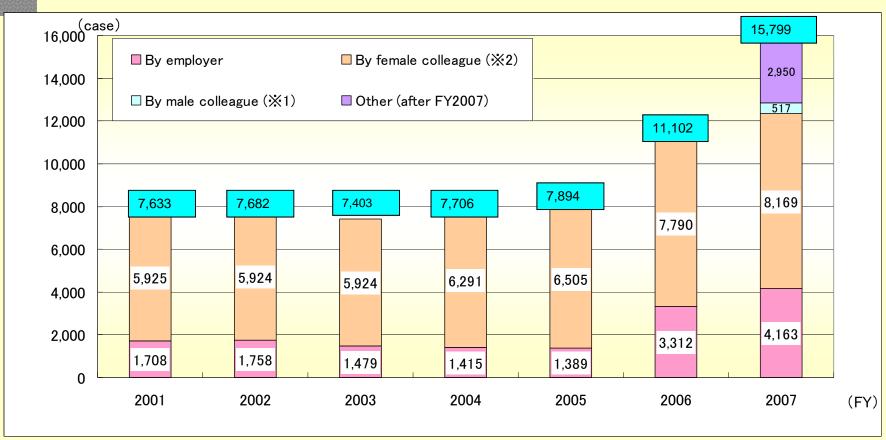
Information source: National Police Agency

Number of Rape and Indecent Assault Cases



Information source: National Police Agency

Number of Consulting Cases of Sexual Harassment Reported to Equal Opportunity Employment Department of Prefectural Labour Offices



Information source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare

*1 The Revised Law on Securing of Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment enforced on April 1, 2007 prohibits discriminatory treatment to male workers.

*2 Before FY2006, "Other" is included in "Female colleague".

Campaign for Elimination of Violence against Women

- **■** Approved by the Headquarters for the Promotion of Gender Equality on June 5, 2001
- **#** Period: November 12 − 25 (2 weeks) every year
 - *November 25 is the "International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women"
- **♯** Promoted by the Headquarters for the Promotion of Gender Equality (President: Prime Minister)

(Members: Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Financial Services Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Ministry of the Environment, and Ministry of Defense)

Contents of the campaign:

Relevant ministries, agencies and local governments implement a variety of activities, including production and distribution of educational materials (posters, leaflets, etc), PR and enlightenment activity using various media, seminars and lectures, consultation for victims, and crime prevention guidance for women.

Campaign for Elimination of Violence against Women -Efforts by Cabinet Office-

- **♯** Production and distribution of posters and leaflets
- **PR** in various media
 Radio, newspaper, website, news mail, etc
- **♯** Telephone counseling for spousal violence

Set up 24-hour DV hotline from November 21 to 22.



Overview of the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence - 1

Official Name: Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims (Enacted in 2001, Revised in 2004 and 2007)

♯ Establishment of Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers

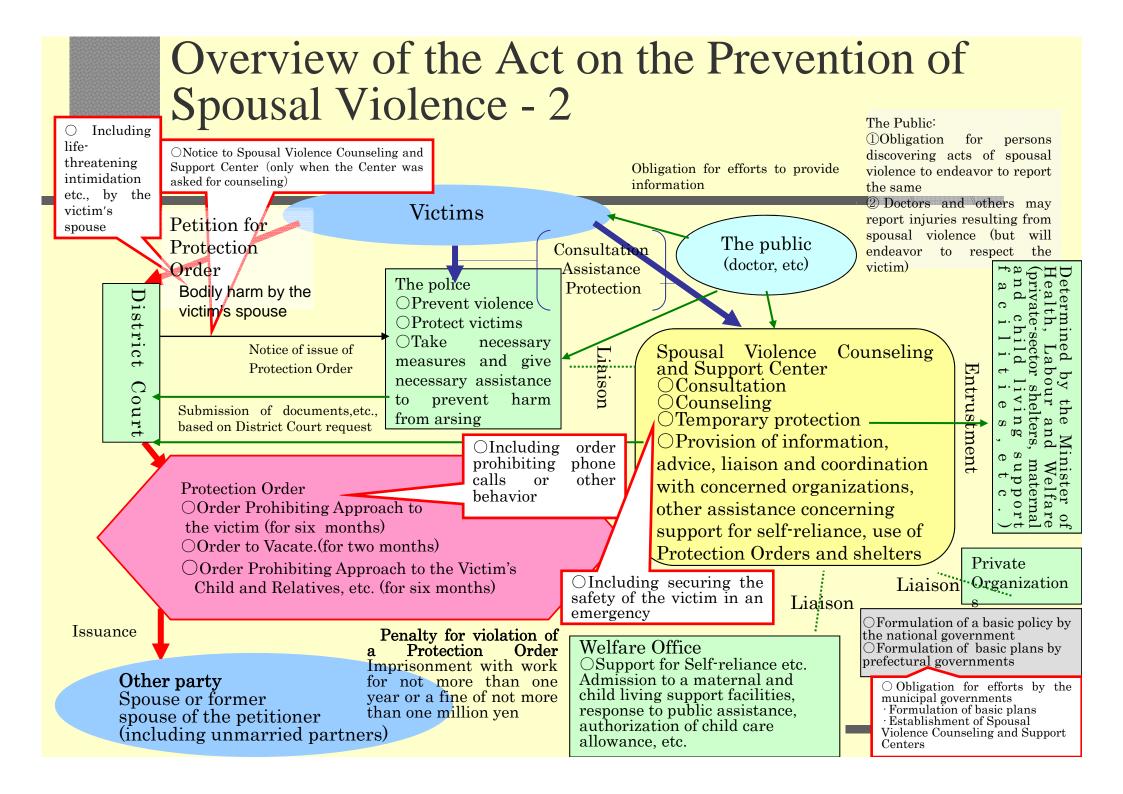
Consultation/Counseling/Temporary protection/Provision of information, advice, liaison and coordination with concerned organizations, other assistance concerning support for self-reliance and use of Protection Orders

Protection order

- Order Prohibiting Approach to the Victim, Victim's Children, and Victim's Relatives, etc
- Order Prohibiting Phone Calls or Other Behavior
- · Order to Vacate

♯ Formulation of basic policy and basic plan

- Formulation of a basic policy by the national government
- Formulation of basic plans by the local governments



Basic Policy

- **♯** Formulated by the Prime Minister, the National Public Safety Commission, the Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare
- # Guideline for the basic plans to be formulated by the local governments (prefectures and municipalities)
- # Formulated in 2005, revised in 2008
- # The points of the 2008 revision
 - Clarifying the roles of prefectural and municipal governments based on the revised act
 - Prefectural government : Core institution for the victims' support
 - Municipal government : Contact point as the closest administrative body to the victims
 - Introducing successful examples of pioneering prefectural or municipal governments as preferable efforts

Reinforcement of Countermeasures against Spousal Violence

Cooperation with relevant organizations

Holding the DV National Conference

♯ Strengthening of consultation system

- *Establishment of the DV consulting navigation system to guide victims to appropriate consulting organizations
- •Improvement of environment for victims to consult or petition easily
- ·Provision of legal advice from attorneys and others at Women's Consulting Offices

Protection and self-reliance support for the victims

- •Implementation of a pilot program to support victims in being independent
- •Increase of budget for entrustment of Temporary Protection to Women's Consulting Offices
- ·Improvement of support for victims after leaving Women's Protection Facilities etc.

Awareness rasing for prevention

• Examination of development of educational materials for the young generation to prevent violence

Countermeasures against Trafficking in Persons

Based on the Action Plan of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons, the relevant Ministries and Agencies shall collaborate to promote prevention and elimination of trafficking in persons and efforts to protect victims.

- **♯** Appropriate regulations by the related laws
- **♯** Enhancement of cooperation with foreign investigation organizations etc
- # Enhancement of protection of victims
- **#** Support to victims in returning home country and society
- # PR and awareness raising

Thank you very much for your attention



The symbol for the elimination of violence against women