

Elder Abuse in Japan: An Innovative Approach to Prevention and Evaluation

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Part 1

Introduction

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Example

Physical abuse



Psychological abuse



Background

- **Cases of elder abuse in Japan on the rise**
- **Refusal to communicate with social workers**
- **Lack of skilled social workers**
- **The need for a new approach**

Purpose

- **Proved usefulness of this approach**
- **Possibility for not only Japanese cases but also non-Japanese families in a similar situation**
- **Possible application for Americans living together with or without financial pressure**

Part 2

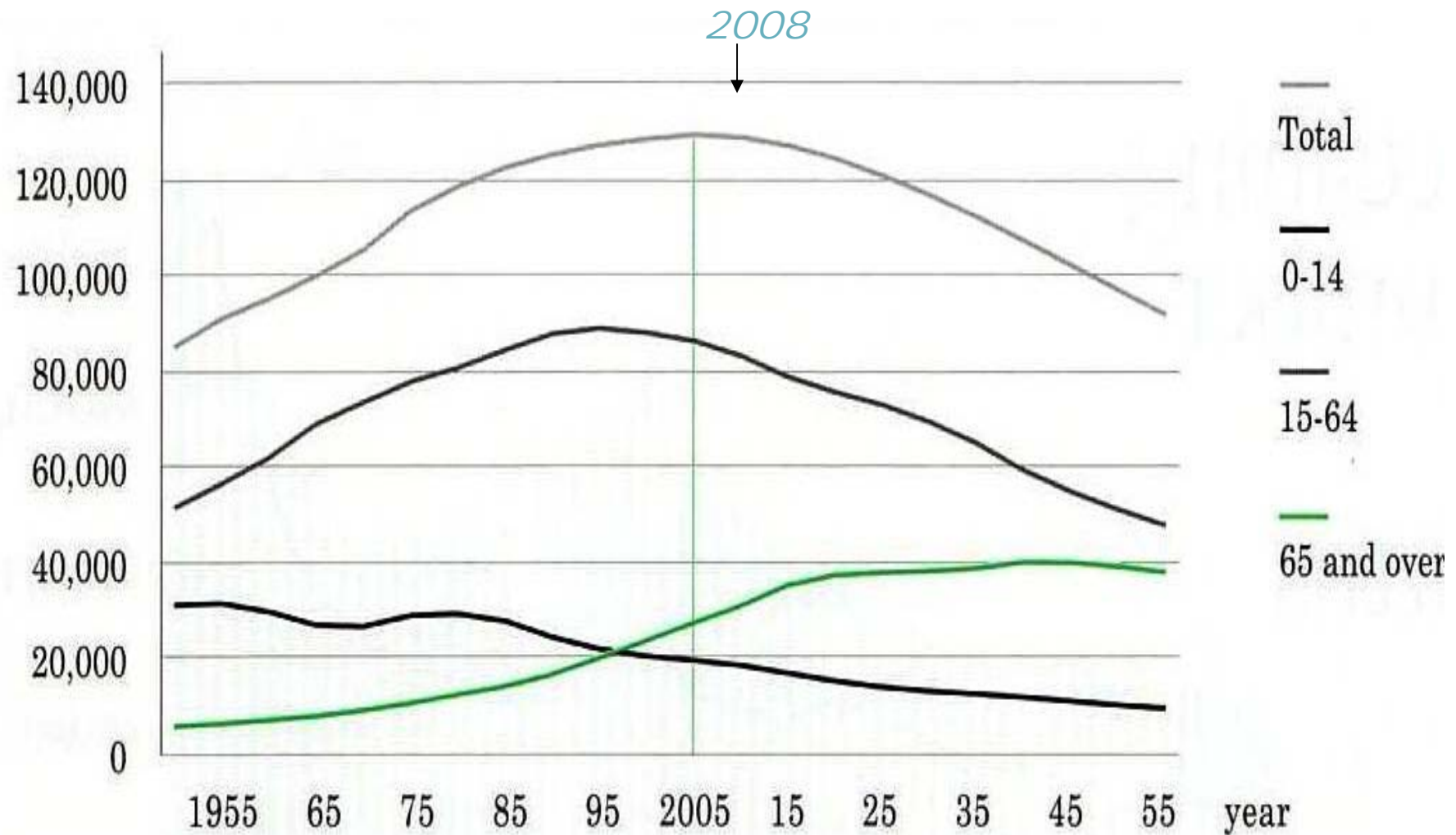
elder abuse in Japan

Hanae Kanno

A Rapidly Aging Society in Japan

- The greatest longevity in this world
- The population over 65 years old
→ About one-fifth of the total

Population Trends with in Japan (1,000 people)

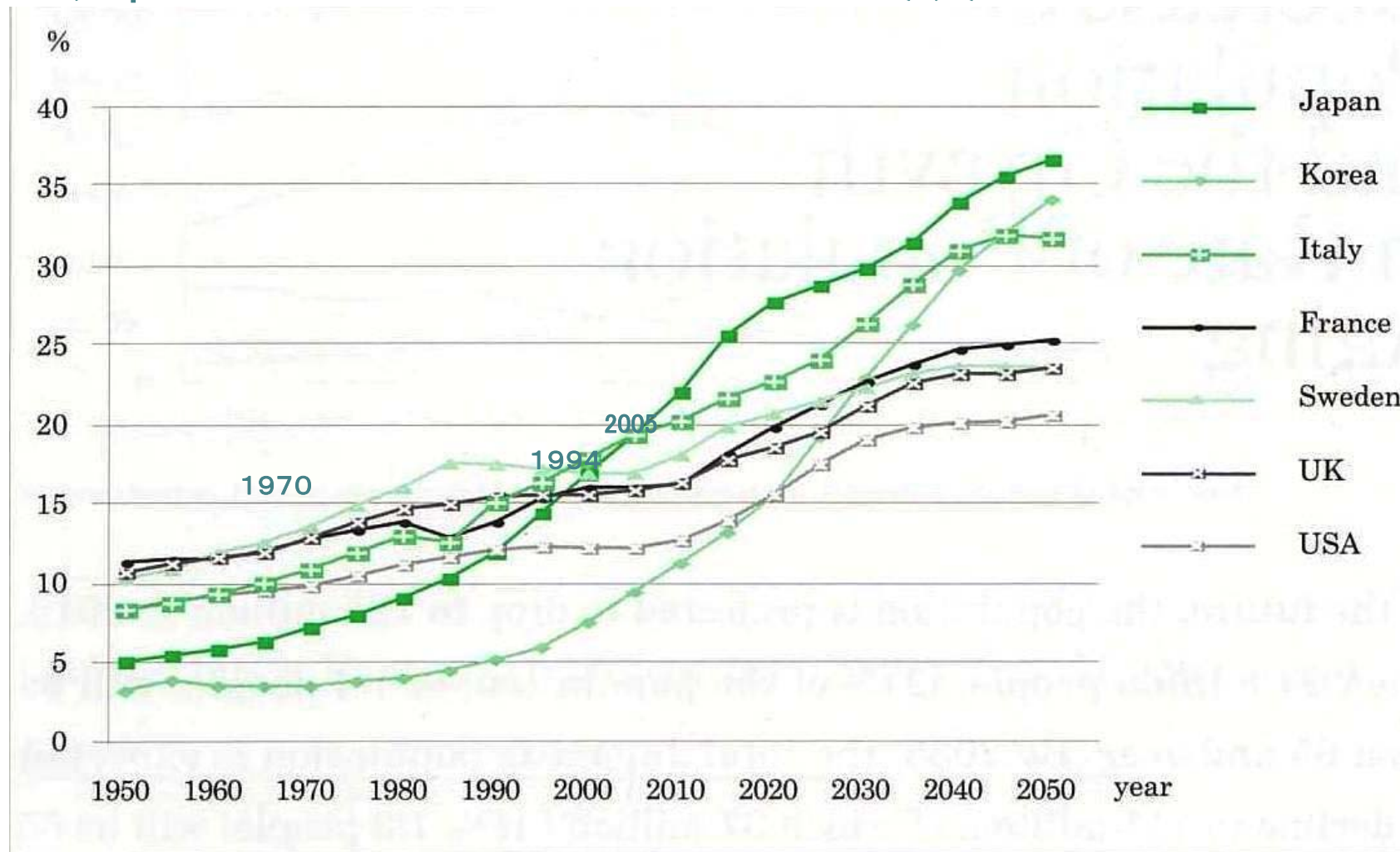


Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, *Population Statistics of Japan*, 2008

Average life expectancy

year	men	women
• 1947	50.06	53.96
• 1950	58.00	61.50
• 1960	65.32	70.19
• 1970	69.31	74.66
• 1980	73.35	78.76
• 1990	75.92	81.90
• 2000	77.72	84.60
• 2009	79.59	86.44

Trends of Population Aging (Population 65 and over, Medium variant)(%)



UN, *World Population Prospects: The 2008 Revision*

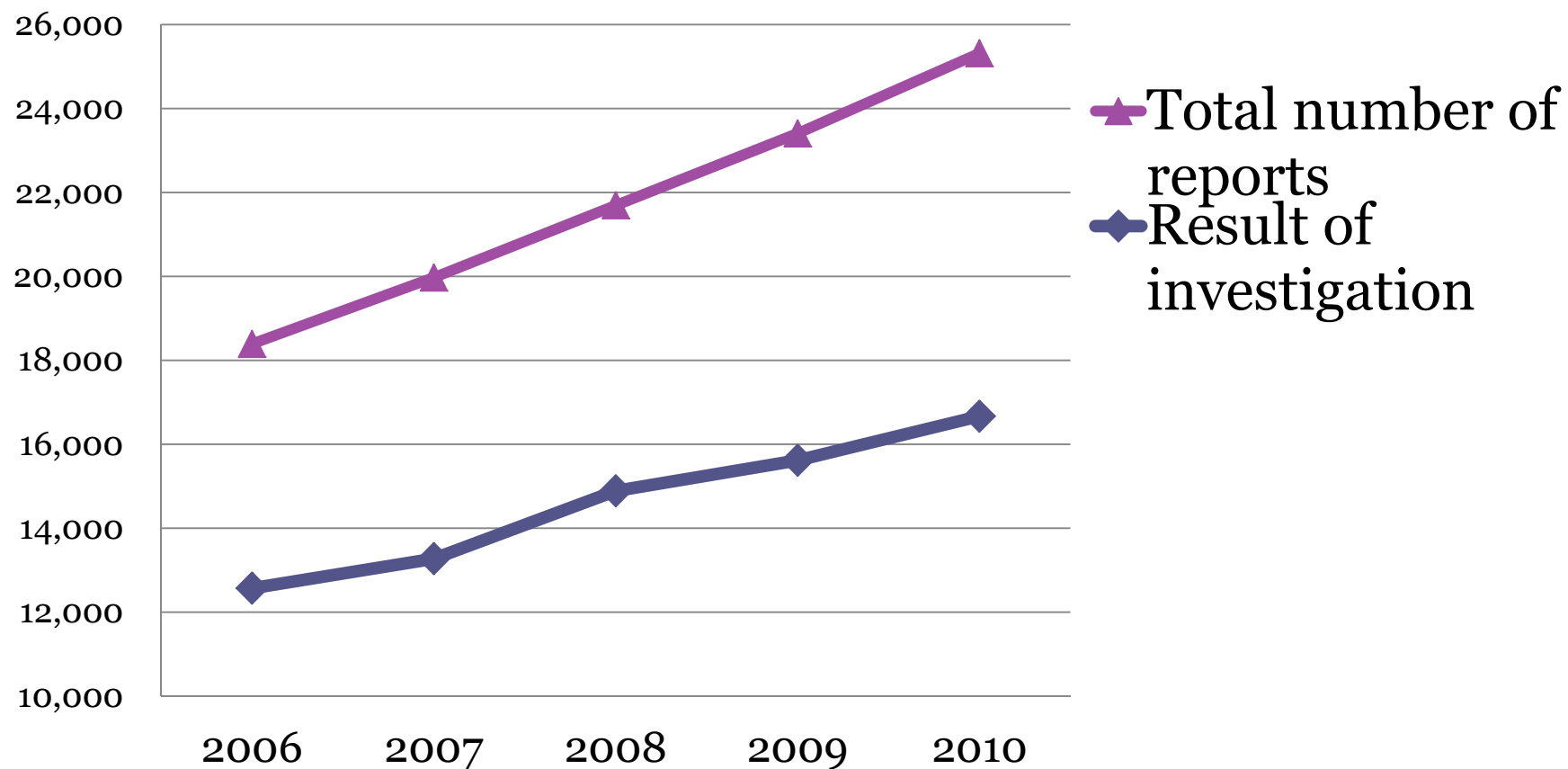
Elder Abuse in Japan

- Elder abuse has **not received much attention untill the end of the 1980's**.
→ In 1987, a groundbreaking study documented elderly abuse (Kaneko, 1987).
- **In 1990's**, more elderly abuse cases were discovered by researchers.
- **In 2006, the “Act on Elderly Abuse Prevention and Support for Caregivers of the Elderly etc” (Elderly Abuse Prevention Act)**

“Act on Elder Abuse Prevention and Support for Caregivers of the Elder etc” (Elder Abuse Prevention Act)

- **The first national law** regarding elderly abuse prevention in the world
- **“Support for caregivers of the elderly”** is valued and looked on as equal to “elderly abuse prevention”.
- The intended beneficiaries: **people over 65 years old.**

Total number of reports and results of investigation



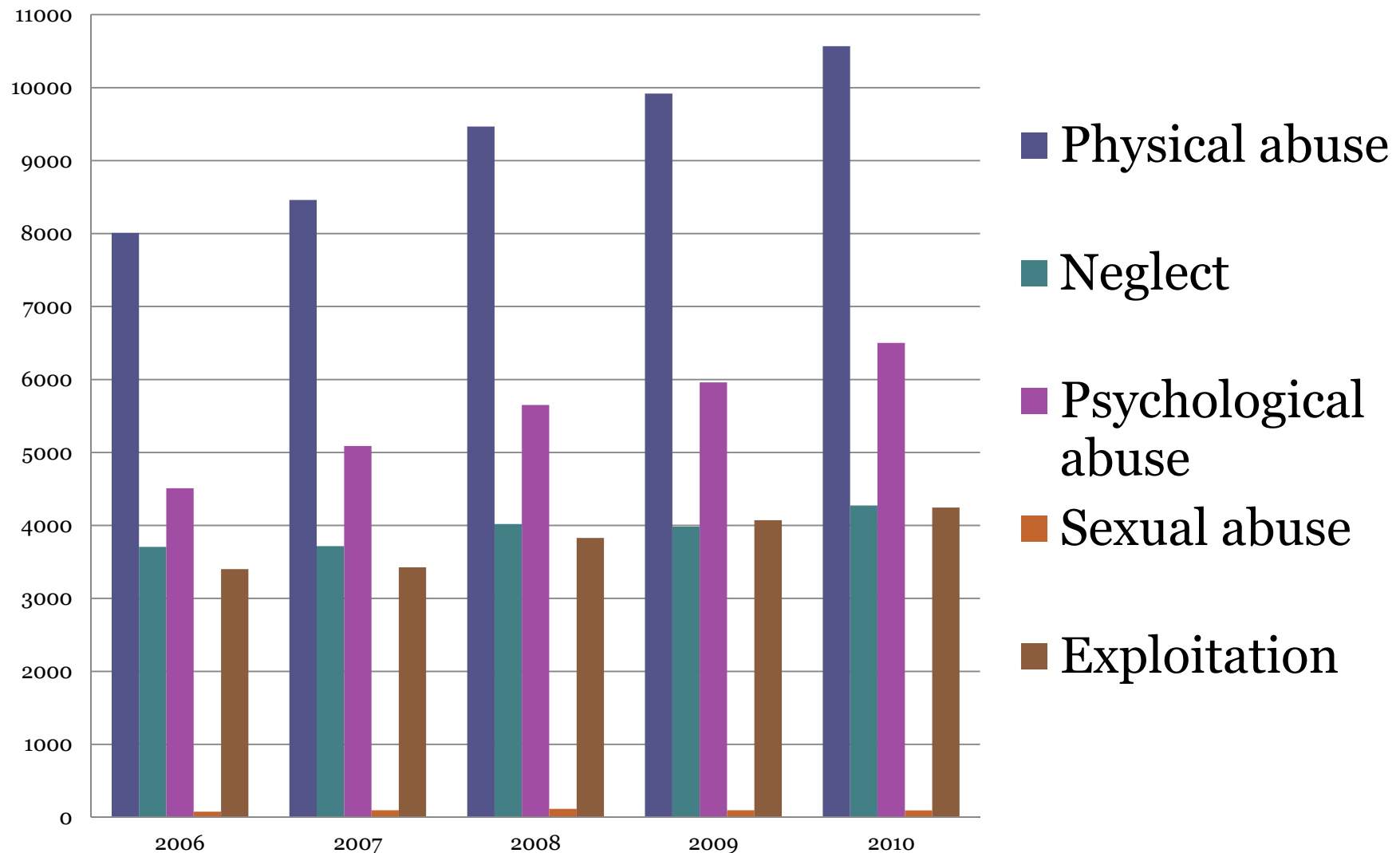
Definition of Elder Abuse in the Japanese Law

- The following five acts **by caregivers or workers in nursing homes**:
 1. **Physical violence**: Inflicting an injury on elder body or an assault which may lead to injury
 2. **Neglect**: Preventing the elder from nutritional eating; leaving the elder body as it is for a long time so that it becomes weakened
 3. **Psychological abuse**: Remarkable violent language, remarkable negative response to the elder, or giving the elder injurious speech or behavior

Definition of Elder Abuse in Japanese Law

4. **Sexual abuse**: Committing an act of obscenity toward the elder or forcing the elder to commit an act of obscenity
5. **Economic abuse**: An improper distribution of elder property by caregivers or relatives of the elder or unjustly obtaining benefits of property from the elder

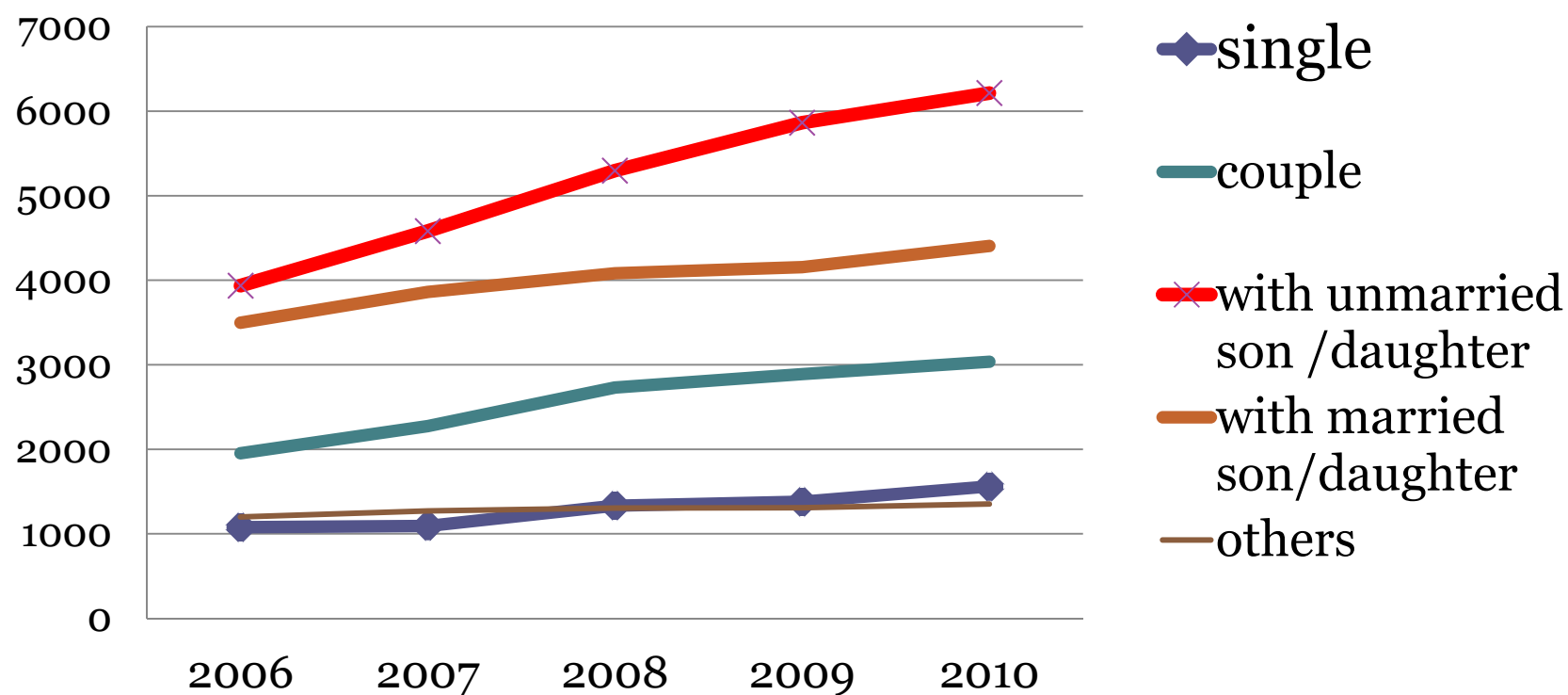
Types of abuse(multiple answer)



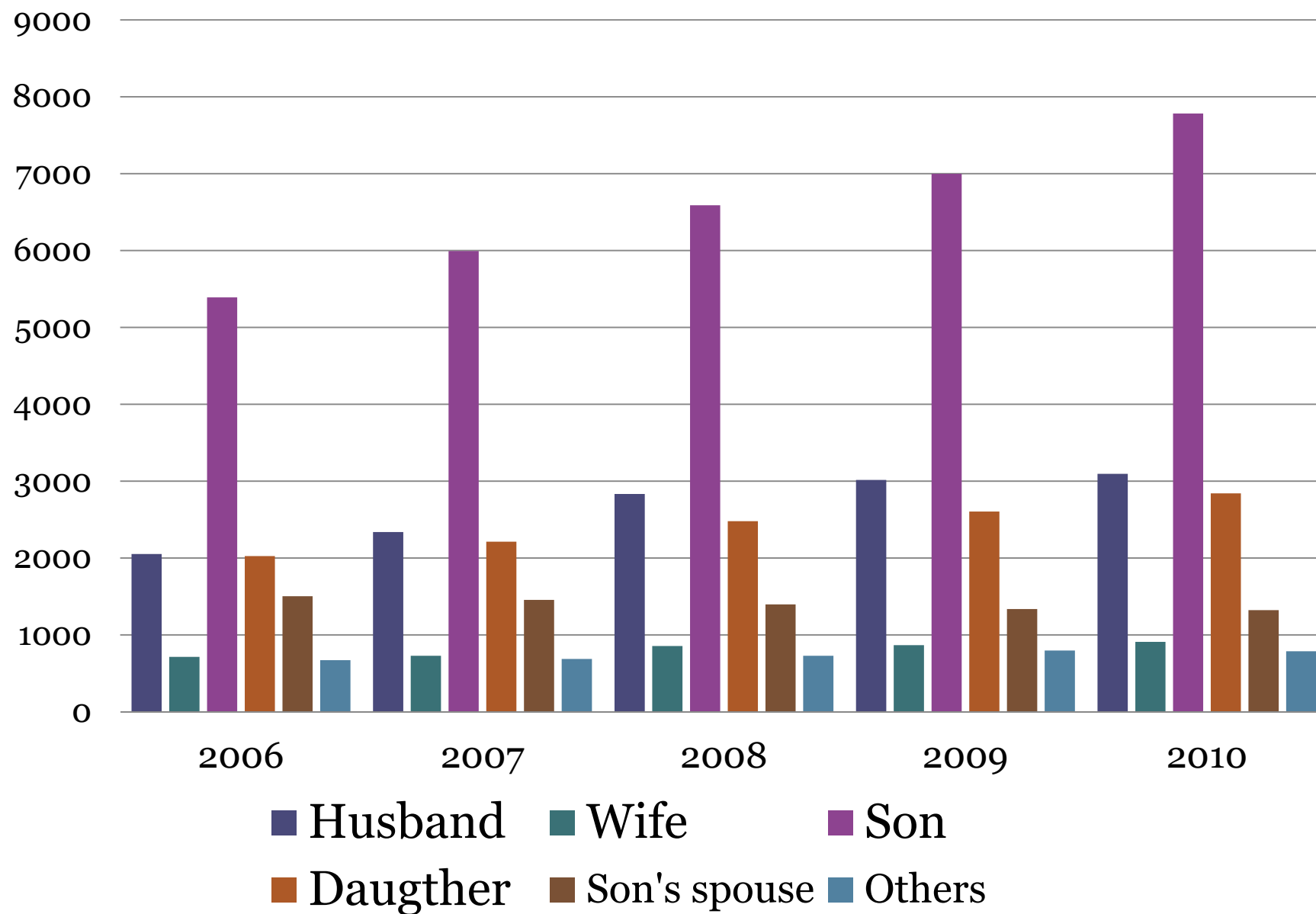
Main Factors of Elder Abuse in Japan

1. Family Caregiver's Stress Due to Family Belief System
2. Pathological Issues between the Elderly and Family Caregivers

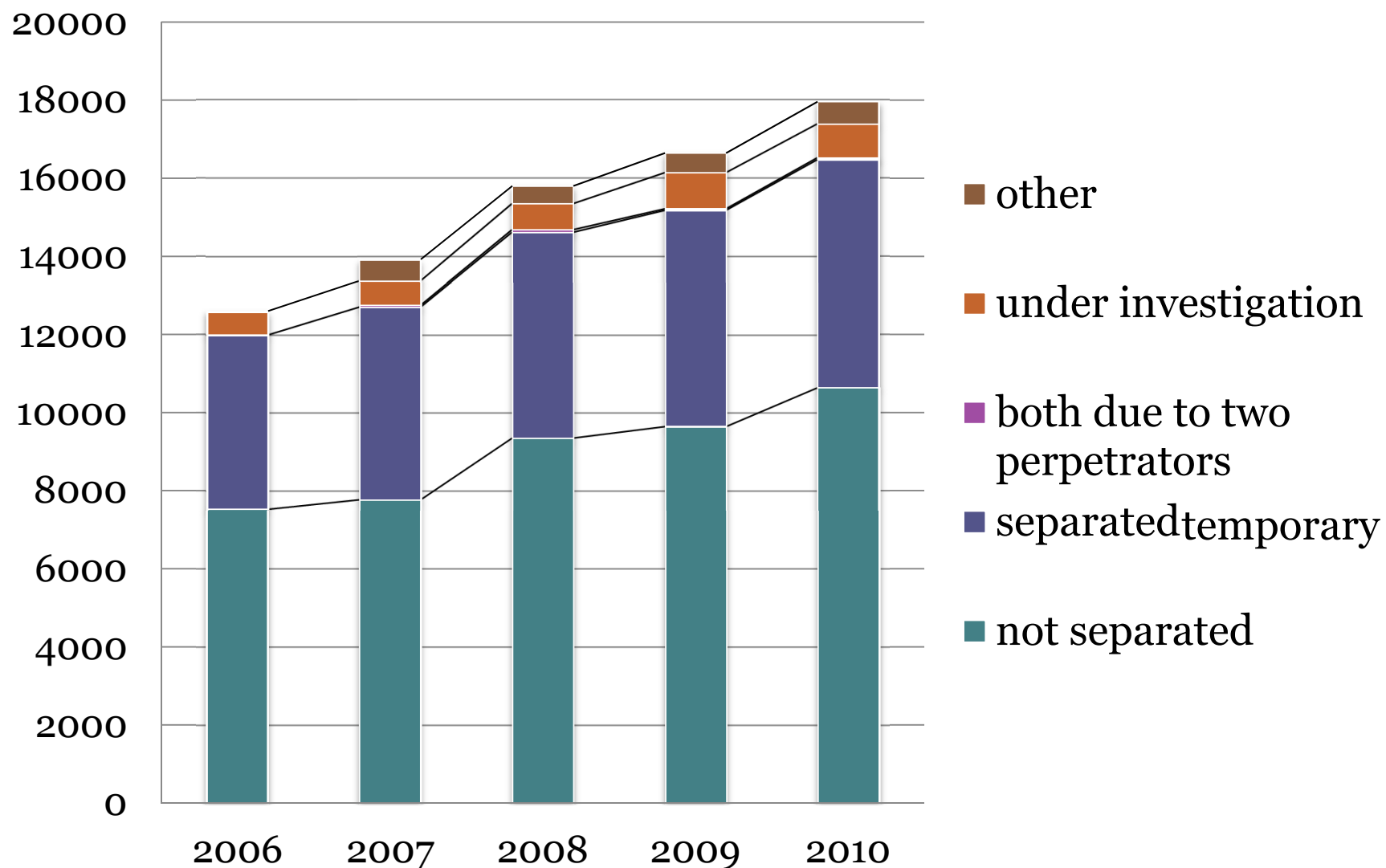
Types of household



Perpetrator



Intervention



The Current Trends of Elder Abuse in Japan

- The number of reports are increasing.
- The most common type of abuse – physical abuse.
- The most common type of household – with unmarried son or daughter
- The most likely perpetrator – son

Q & A about Part 2: Elder Abuse in Japan

Part 3

A new intervention Approach

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AAA

- **AAA-** a new intervention approach
- **AAA-** Ansinzukuri Anzensagasi Approach; translated in English, Security and Safety Approach
- **AAA-** leading improvement of social worker's coping-efficacy and improvement of perpetrator's motivation

Way of thinking

- ***1. The belief that early intervention and support for the family as well as for the elderly person is essential.***
- ***2. Making a partnership between clients and social workers is key.***

Way of thinking of AAA

- ***3. A balanced perspective of dangers and risks as well as safety is important.***
- ***4. AAA is a solution-based approach.***

Process of the Intervention

- **Step1: Collect information from reporter of the abuse**
- **Step2: Visit elderly person's home to gather detailed information and establish a relationship**

Process of the Intervention

- **Step3: Make another visit to work towards a solution**
- **Step4: Case Conference**

Tools of the Intervention

- **Step1:** *(a) Danger and risk assessment sheet,*
(b) Safety assessment sheet
- **Step2:** *(c) Time schedule sheet*

Tools of the Intervention

- **Step3: (d)Preparation for Comfortable Living Environment Sheet**
- **Step4: (e)Case Conference Format**

Step 1: Collect information from reporter of the abuse

Tools; the Danger and Risk Assessment Sheet
the Safety assessment sheet

(a) Danger and risk assessment sheet

★ Danger (the facts of abuse)

Circle for situation ①~⑧

⑤ *Has there been repeated physical and /or verbal abuse or continued neglect which may escalate later?*

Repeated physical abuse (how often? how were they abused? : *The son often hits his mother.*)

Repeated verbal abuse(how often? how were they abused? : *The son often shouts at his mother.*)

Continued neglect(how were they neglected? :)

(a) Danger and risk assessment sheet

★ **Risk (the factors making the situation complicated)**

⑦ **Perpetrator**

Length of care: [7] years

Burden of care: heavy moderate other(*no comment suspected burden*)

Skills of care and knowledge about dementia

: lack inadequate (*force her to color pictures in hopes of restoring her mental function*)

Personality : impulsive aggressive immature
controlling dependent other()

Pointers of Danger and Risk Assessment sheet

- In an emergency, contact local authorities and visit home ASAP.
- Don't ignore safety even in emergency.
- Not in emergency, collect information about not only risks but also safety as much as possible.

(b) Safety Assessment Sheet

⑨ *The elderly person's strengths*

○ **Support resources**

[] family support aside from perpetrator ()

[○] friendship of others (*Mrs. Nakano, the other neighbor*)

[○] visits by volunteer (*Mrs. Hatano*)

[] visit by a care manager ()

[○] other care services (*home helper*)

[] hobbies and interests ()

[] other ()

(b) Safety Assessment Sheet

⑩ ***Perpetrator's strengths***

○ **Private resources**

[○] ability to care for the elderly

[○] signs of intention to care for the elderly

[] signs of intention to improve care skills

[○] concern /desire for the elderly

[] financial independency

[] other()

Advantage of the Safety Assessment Sheet

- Even in the case of 'Yellow', you could support the elderly person at home, providing the elderly person and the family perpetrator have some strengths.
- You could have a balanced understanding of both the elderly and the perpetrator.
- You could have a chat with the perpetrator talking about strengths during the visit.

Step2: Visit home to gather detailed information and establish a relationship

How can a social worker communicate with **the carer** who must be the perpetrator?

What can a social worker do to build on the positive points?

(c) Time Schedule Sheet

Time Schedule Sheet			sample
The informants are (the elderly/ <u>the carer</u> / other) The informant's name(<u>Kazuo Ise</u>)			
The client's name (<u>Hanako Ise</u>) SWr (<u>N.Tsuchiya</u>) Date (<u>02/XX/20XX</u>)			
We ask how the elderly person and his/her carer live their daily lives.			
Choose This day is (easy standard hard) for the carer.			yesterday
	Activities of the elderly person	Activities of the carer	service use
5:00	wake-up, pee	help her to pee and clean up	examples of iter
			To help the elde
			pee/bowel move
6:00			position change
			Sleep
7:00	pee	help her to pee and clean up	transfer
	get up, wash face and get dressed	help her to get up, wash face, style hair, and get dressed. throw away garbage.	walk
8:00	have a breakfast	make breakfast, help her to eat	eat
	brush teeth	help her to brush her teeth, wash the dishes	drink
9:00	pee	help her to pee and clean up	change clothes
		do the clothes and hang them out to dry	have a bath

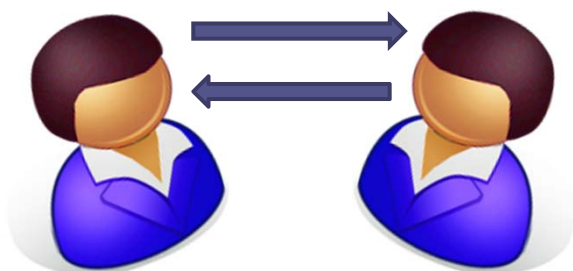
How can you use this sheet ?

- **If you don't have any clear evidence to prove the carer is the perpetrator.**
or
- **If your team judged that the case was not an emergency but needed some help.**
However the elderly person or the carer didn't seem to ask for the help.
- **You can use this sheet as an interview guide.**

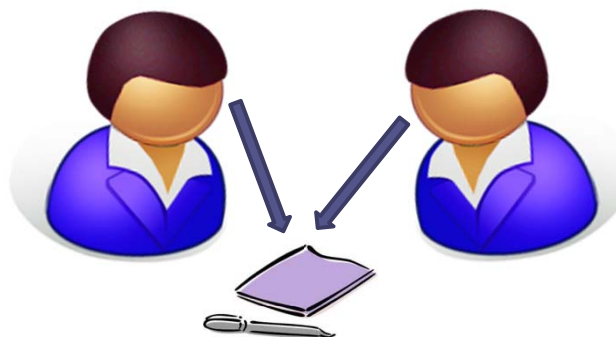
Not only to gather the information
but to build good relationships

- **Asking** them about their activities and use of services
- Listening to **how they feel** carefully and politely
- **Complimenting** specific actions
- The relationship between you and the family will be so **fragile** that you should listen to them carefully, and **become familiar with their experiences.**
- NEVER BLAME THEM

For relaxed communication



Eye contact creates pressure.



Both you and the carer look at the same sheet. Eye contact and pressure decrease.

Step3: Make another visit to work towards a solution

How does the social worker develop the solution-talk with them?

Preparation for Comfortable Living Environment Sheet

When is this sheet used?

- If the elderly person or the family told you that they had a problem or a difficulty
 - **Regardless of the abuse or other problems**
- If they want to use some services .
- If you want to know more detailed information about the family
- You can share it with the family when you visit their home.

Preparation for Comfortable Living Environment Sheet

- This sheet has three parts.
 1. Identify the **problems** and **exceptions**, and **coping strategies** of the family
 2. Explore the **Strengths and Resources** from Background and Support Networks of the family
 3. What do they **hope**? What would need to happen first?

Get the whole picture of the family

- You can get various types of information through the conversation about this Sheet
- Don't overlook their problems, but do try to become familiar with what really happened.
 - You are not a judge, so you should help the family as a social worker.
- Keep trying to find their strengths and resources, and to help them to explore their hopes, dreams, and goals.

Q & A about Part3: A New Intervention Approach

Part4

Results of the Intervention approach

Akemi Soeda
Hazuki Naganuma

Training of AAA and brief research about the effects

- To verify the usefulness and effects of AAA
 - We had pilot training workshops for social workers at Tokyo, Chiba, Toyama, Niigata.
- We began researching AAA training effects with the view of improving their coping efficacy with elder abuse.
- We collected the data using questionnaires at the pre- and post- workshops at Tokyo, Chiba, Saitama, Kanagawa (N=311)



Fig.1
Checking the Safety
Assessment sheet based on
a model case, the Ise family.

Fig.2
Role-playing the scenarios
based on the model case,
the Ise family





Fig.3
Pair work; role playing

Fig.4
Group case conference
about the model case



Results of research by questionnaire

The trainee's perception of difficulty decreased.

It is difficult to change the attitude of the elderly person or the family members



If the family refuses help, I haven't been able to find an alternative way.



The trainee's perception of coping ability improved.

If I improve my communication style, I can find the positive aspects of the family members



Even if the family members don't cooperate, I can keep communicating with them if necessary.



Results

- The trainees were satisfied with the AAA training workshops
- Their coping efficacy improved significantly.
 - 10 items of 1-2-3-4 likert scale total average changed from 25.9(S.D.=3.7) to 28.0(S.D.=3.6)
- No significant differences :
 - areas, type of institution they belong to, type of specialty, years of elderly welfare experience, and their experience of responding to elder abuse

Further development

- Need to develop how to maintain these effects
 - More detailed interview technique
 - Case conference format
 - Follow-up training program
 - Consultation system

Results of case study

Case study


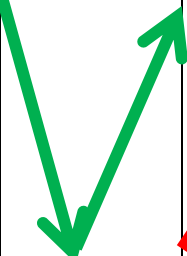


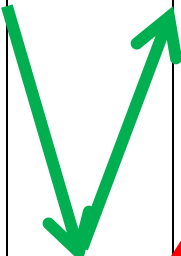



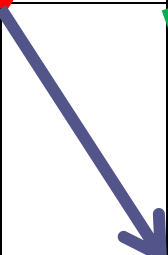
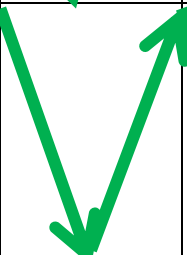






- **Purpose**; to research the effect of AAA on making a relationship and improvement of the perpetrator's motivation
- **Subjects**; 13 social workers volunteered to take part in the AAA training program
- **Method**; filling out the follow-up sheet after every interview
- **Term**; 6 months

Analysis of the data

- **Objects** – 11 cases
- **Analysis and method** –
 - * Analysis and classification of change patterns on relationship between social worker and the perpetrator
 - * Analysis and classification of change patterns in the perpetrator's motivation
 - * Analysis and classification of relationship between tow patterns

Results of the analysis

Case#

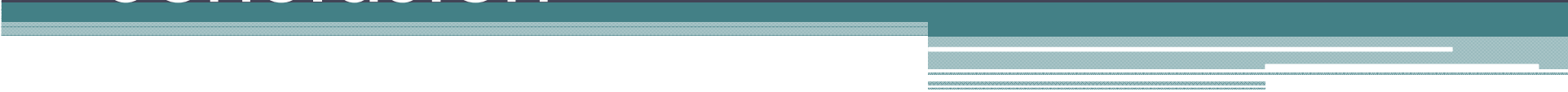
	No1	No3	No5	No6	No7	No9	No10	No11
relationship								
motivation								

Results of the case study

- **Suggestions**
 - AAA; an efficient approach for establishing relationships and improvement of perpetrator's motivation.
 - AAA; a useful intervention approach for elder abuse
- **Task**
 - Further data to show the effects

Part 5

Conclusion

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Summary

- **1. Abuse by sons - increasing**
- **2. Designed a solution-based approach- AAA**
- **3. Trained social workers and researched the effects of AAA**

Summary

- **4. Results of the questionnaire suggest improvement of social workers' coping-efficacy.**
- **5. Results of the case study- improvement of not only the relationship but also the perpetrator's motivation**

Conclusion

- 1. We believe there are benefits to implementing the AAA
- 2. More data must be collected in a wider range of environments.

Q&A

Thank you very much for listening

If you want more information, send us in the following E-mail address:

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