

Women and Education

Modern Japan and its Cultural Roots in the Edo Period
IDS 360/460

East versus West: Are Japanese Women Satisfied?

Western Assumptions

Wielding Power

Family: Feeding,
Nurturing and Educating
Finances: Doling Out

Allowances

Modern Women: Breaking the Mold?



The “Meek Japanese Woman:” Historical Stereotypes and Modern Tensions



What the Modern Woman Wants...

- Equal Treatment
- Respect
- Freedom from Harassment
- Freedom from Assault
- Freedom from Discrimination
- Gender Equality



Women in Japan before 1945



1945: The Watershed Year



- The New Constitution
- Ending the Patriarchal *ie* system
- Conservative Components Remain

Women and Work

- How many women work?
- The “Double Burden”
- What type of work?
- Tax rates and work
- The effects of marriage on women’s work
- The wage gap



Women and Education

- Returns on Education: A Bad Investment for Women?
- Mothers’ aspirations: Educate my Son!
- Corporate training: favoring males
- Universities: Women in the Humanities
- Helen and Steve’s Daughters: Breaking the Mold!



1999: Introduction of the Birth Control Pill and Change for Women



- Approved for use in 1999
- Delay: AIDS
- Concerns over usage
- Prediction: Will not be widely used

1999: The Ban on Sexual Harassment

- Fines
- Public Disapproval
- Affirmation of Women’s Rights

