



Japanese  
Women  
and the  
Search  
for Self  
in a  
Changing  
Nation

gambling with

virtue

NANCY ROSENBERGER

# Gambling With Virtue Japanese Women And The Search For Self In A Changing Nation

**Nancy R. Rosenberger**



## **Gambling With Virtue Japanese Women And The Search For Self In A Changing Nation:**

**Gambling With Virtue** Nancy R. Rosenberger, 2000-10-01 Gambling with Virtue rings with the voices of women speaking openly about their struggle to be both modern and Japanese in the late twentieth century It brings to the fore the complexity of women s everyday lives as they navigate through home work and community Meanwhile women fashion selves that acknowledge and challenge the social order Nancy Rosenberger gives us their voices and experiences interspersed with introductions to public ideas of the last three decades that contribute significantly to the opportunities and risks women encounter in their journeys Rosenberger uses the stage as a metaphor to demonstrate how everyday life requires Japanese women to be skilled performers She shows how they function on stage in their accepted roles while effecting small but significant changes backstage Over the last thirty years Japanese women have expanded their influence and extended this cultural process of multiple arenas to find compromises between the old virtues of personhood and new ideals for self They conform maneuver and make choices within these multiple stages as they juggle various concerns and desires By the 1990s their personal choices have made a difference calling into question the very nature of these multiple arenas **Beyond the**

**Gender Gap in Japan** Gill Steel, 2019-01-23 Why do Japanese women enjoy a high sense of well being in a context of high inequality Beyond the Gender Gap in Japan brings together researchers from across the social sciences to investigate this question The authors analyze women s values and the lived experiences at home in the family at work in their leisure time as volunteers and in politics and policy making Their research shows that the state and firms have blurred the public and the private in postwar Japan constraining individuals lives and reveals the uneven pace of change in women s representation in politics Yet despite these constraints the increasing diversification in how people live and how they manage their lives demonstrates that some people are crafting a variety of individual solutions to structural problems Covering a significant breadth of material the book presents comprehensive findings that use a variety of research methods public opinion surveys in depth interviews a life history and participant observation and in doing so look beyond Japan s perennially low rankings in gender equality indices to demonstrate the diversity underneath questioning some of the stereotypical assumptions about women in Japan

**Introduction to Japanese Politics** Louis D. Hayes, 2017-08-07 Introduction to Japanese Politics now in its fully updated sixth edition is a comprehensive and current review of political and public policy developments in Japan Since the previous edition Japan s economic policy has undergone significant change with a prolonged period of deflation having altered the dynamics of the Japanese economy At the same time the Abe administration has expanded Japan s international security participation previously limited by the constitution while China s activities in the South China Sea have impinged upon Japan s territorial claims This classic introduction to the Japanese political system has been revised and fully updated in this sixth edition to take into account these widespread changes in the country s political life Building on the structure and content of the previous edition this new edition covers An overview of Japan s geographical setting and history Japan s

political institutions processes and actors Recent organizational ideological and policy changes in the LDP since its return to power The country's distinctive social order and its educational healthcare and public safety systems The increasingly contentious realm of foreign relations and security issues including China's expanding role and the effect of North Korea's development of nuclear weapons This broad ranging textbook continues to be essential reading for students of Japanese politics international politics and Japanese studies

*A History of Japan* Conrad Totman, 2014-09-11 This is an updated edition of Conrad Totman's authoritative history of Japan from c 8000 BC to the present day The first edition was widely praised for combining sophistication and accessibility Covers a wide range of subjects including geology climate agriculture government and politics culture literature media foreign relations imperialism and industrialism Updated to include an epilogue on Japan today and tomorrow Now includes more on women in history and more on international relations Bibliographical listings have been updated and enlarged Part of The Blackwell History of the World Series The goal of this ambitious series is to provide an accessible source of knowledge about the entire human past for every curious person in every part of the world It will comprise some two dozen volumes of which some provide synoptic views of the history of particular regions while others consider the world as a whole during a particular period of time The volumes are narrative in form giving balanced attention to social and cultural history in the broadest sense as well as to institutional development and political change Each provides a systematic account of a very large subject but they are also both imaginative and interpretative The Series is intended to be accessible to the widest possible readership and the accessibility of its volumes is matched by the style of presentation and production

Marriage Migrants of Japanese Women in Australia Takeshi Hamano, 2019-05-30 This book investigates the experience of Japanese women who have immigrated to Australia through marriage to a local partner Based on long term participant observations gathered with a Japanese ethnic association in Sydney and on in depth interviews with the association's members it examines the ways in which the women remould themselves in Australia by constructing gendered selves that reflect their unique migratory circumstances through cross border marriage In turn the book argues that the women tend to embrace expressions of Japanese femininity that they once viewed negatively and that this is due to their lack of social skills and access to the cultural capital of mainstream Australian society Re molding the self through conventional Japanese notions of gender ironically provides them with a convincing identity that of minority migrant women Nevertheless by analyzing these women's engagement with a Japanese ethnic association in a suburb of Sydney the book also reveals a nuanced sense of ambivalence a tension between the women's Japanese community and their lives in Australia Accordingly the book provides a fresh perspective on interdisciplinary issues of gender and migration in a globalized world and engages with a wide range of academic disciplines including sociology of migration sociology of culture cultural anthropology cultural studies Japanese studies Asian studies gender studies family studies migration studies and qualitative methodologies

Community Volunteers in Japan Lynne Y. Nakano, 2005 Based on

extensive original research this book explores the reality of volunteering in an urban residential Japanese neighbourhood

**Young Women in Japan** Kaori H. Okano, 2009-02-19 This book examines young women in Japan focusing in particular on their transitions to adulthood their conceptions of adulthood and relations with Japanese society more generally It considers important aspects of the transition to adulthood including employment marriage divorce childbirth and custody

**Dilemmas of Adulthood** Nancy R. Rosenberger, 2019-01-31 In *Dilemmas of Adulthood* Nancy Rosenberger investigates the nature of long term resistance in a longitudinal study of more than fifty Japanese women over two decades Between 25 and 35 years of age when first interviewed in 1993 the women represent a generation straddling the stable roles of post war modernity and the risky but exciting possibilities of late modernity By exploring the challenges they pose to cultural codes Rosenberger builds a conceptual framework of long term resistance that undergirds the struggles and successes of modern Japanese women Her findings resonate with broader anthropological questions about how change happens in our global local era and suggests a useful model with which to analyze ordinary lives in the late modern world Rosenberger's analysis establishes long term resistance as a vital type of social change in late modernity where the sway of media global ideas and friends vies strongly with the influence of family school and work Women are at the nexus of these contradictions dissatisfied with post war normative roles in family work and leisure and yet in Japan as elsewhere committed to a search for self that shifts uneasily between self actualization and selfishness The women's rich narratives and conversations recount their ambivalent defiance of social norms and attempts to live diverse lives as acceptable adults In an epilogue their experiences are framed by the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami which is already shaping the future of their long term resistance Drawing on such theorists as Ortner Ueno the Comaroffs Melucci and Bourdieu Rosenberger posits that long term resistance is a process of tense irregular but insistent change that is characteristic of our era hammered out in the in between of local and global past and future the old virtues of womanhood and the new virtues of self actualization Her book is essential for anyone wishing to understand how Japanese women have maneuvered their lives in the economic decline and pushed for individuation in the 1990s and 2000s

Primary School in Japan Peter Cave, 2007-11-30 The balance between individual independence and social interdependence is a perennial debate in Japan This book based on an extended detailed study of two primary schools in the Kinki district of Japan discusses these debates

**Capturing Contemporary Japan** Satsuki Kawano, Glenda S. Roberts, Susan Orpett Long, 2014-08-31 What are people's life experiences in present day Japan This timely volume addresses fundamental questions vital to understanding Japan in the first decade of the twenty first century Its chapters collectively reveal a questioning of middle class ideals once considered the essence of Japaneseness In the postwar model household a man was expected to obtain a job at a major firm that offered life long employment his counterpart the professional housewife managed the domestic sphere and the children who were educated in a system that provided a path to mainstream success In the past twenty years however Japanese society has seen a sharp increase in

precarious forms of employment higher divorce rates and a widening gap between haves and have nots Contributors draw on rich nuanced fieldwork data collected during the 2000s to examine work schooling family and marital relations child rearing entertainment lifestyle choices community support consumption and waste material culture well being aging death and memorial rites and sexuality The voices in these pages vary widely They include schoolchildren teenagers career women unmarried women young mothers people with disabilities small business owners organic farmers retirees and the elderly

*Narratives of Sorrow and Dignity* Bardwell L. Smith, 2013-05-22 Bardwell L. Smith offers a fresh perspective on the Japanese ceremony performed to bring solace to those who have experienced miscarriage stillbirth or abortion Showing how old and new forms of myth symbol doctrine praxis and organization combine and overlap in contemporary mizuko kuy Smith provides critical insight from many angles the sociology of the family the power of the medical profession the economics of temples the import of ancestral connections the need for healing in both private and communal ways and perhaps above all the place of women in modern Japanese religion At the heart of Smith's research is the issue of how human beings experience the death of a life that has been and remains precious to them While universal these losses are also personal and unique The role of society in helping people to heal from these experiences varies widely and has changed enormously in recent decades In examples of grieving for these kinds of losses one finds narratives not only of deep sorrow but of remarkable dignity

*Reconstructing Adult Masculinities* Emma E. Cook, 2016-03-22 Over the past two decades Japan's socioeconomic environment has undergone considerable changes prompted by both a long recession and the relaxation of particular labour laws in the 1990s and 2000s Within this context freeters part time workers aged between fifteen and thirty four who are not housewives or students emerged into the public arena as a social problem This book drawing on six years of ethnographic research takes the lives of male freeters as a lens to examine contemporary ideas and experiences of adult masculinities It queries how notions of adulthood and masculinity are interwoven and how these ideals are changing in the face of large scale employment shifts Highlighting the continuing importance of productivity and labour in understandings of masculinities it argues that men experience and practice multiple masculinities which are often contradictory sometimes limiting and change as they age and in interaction with others and with social structures institutions and expectations Providing a fascinating alternative to the stereotypical idea of the Japanese male as a salaryman this book will be of huge interest to students and scholars of Japanese culture and society social and cultural anthropology gender and men's studies

**Social Inequalities in Comparative Perspective** Fiona Devine, Mary C. Waters, 2008-04-15 This unique collection of original essays brings a comparative perspective to issues of social inequality First rate sociologists from around the world have contributed to this exciting and rigorous volume drawing upon their own research in the fields of race and ethnicity class and inequality and gender and sexuality Contains original essays by first rate scholars on issues of social inequalities around the world Features research and examples from the USA Canada UK Australia France Portugal Finland and Japan

Reviews research on issues of social inequalities from the fields of race class and gender Reflects on methodological issues and the strengths of qualitative research Provides students with an important overview of the development of social stratification studies

**Intimacy across the Fencelines** Rebecca Forgash, 2020-08-15 Intimacy Across the Fencelines examines intimacy in the form of sexual encounters dating marriage and family that involve US service members and local residents Rebecca Forgash analyzes the stories of individual US service members and their Okinawan spouses and family members against the backdrop of Okinawan history political and economic entanglements with Japan and the United States and a longstanding anti base movement The narratives highlight the simultaneously repressive and creative power of military fencelines sites of symbolic negotiation and struggle involving gender race and class that divide the social landscape in communities that host US bases Intimacy Across the Fencelines anchors the global US military complex and US Japan security alliance in intimate everyday experiences and emotions illuminating important aspects of the lived experiences of war and imperialism

Understanding Japanese Society Joy Hendry, 2012-10-02 With the ever growing contact between Japan and the rest of the world comes an increasingly important need to understand a society that is fascinating but still often confusing to the outsider In this brand new fourth edition of Understanding Japanese Society Joy Hendry brings the reader up to date both with recent changes as Japan hit the world headlines under the triple 2011 disasters and with underlying continuities in ways of thinking that have matured over a long history of dealing with foreign influences and an unpredictable environment This welcome new edition of Hendry s bestselling introductory textbook provides a clear accessible and readable introduction to Japanese society which does not require any previous knowledge of the country Fully updated revised and expanded the fourth edition contains new material on the effects of the earthquake tsunami and nuclear disasters of 2011 a renewed interest in politics and popular participation increased frequency of local spiritual support as unemployment continues to grow and marriage gets later and later the effects of a dramatic drop in the birth rate on Japan s education system the continuing global success of Japanese animation manga and computer games despite a turn away from international travel the cool new Ainu the attraction of healing Okinawa and changes among other Japanese minorities a new role for Japanese fathers in child rearing This book will be invaluable to all students studying Japan It will also enlighten those travellers and business people wishing to gain an understanding of the Japanese people

*I'm Married to Your Company!* Masako Itoh, 2008 This approachable and absorbing book offers a unique window into Japanese culture and language Highlighting the overlooked world of the silent majority the housewives and mothers who are the mainstay of Japanese society this work tells the stories of ordinary women in their own voices An annotated translation of a Japanese bestseller the volume explores the daily communication of Japanese women and what their words tell us about their relationships and lives in a globalized post industrial yet still often male dominated Japan Readers will find that many issues explored here are universal to women everywhere while others are specific to Japan With added cultural context and

commentary the book offers a fresh understanding of Japanese society even for those who have had little exposure to Japan Students in diverse fields ranging from anthropology to women s studies and from communications to Asian studies will find this an insightful and provocative work

**Urban Migrants in Rural Japan** Susanne Klien,2020-02-01 Offers an in depth ethnography of paradigm shifts in the lifestyles and values of youth in post growth Japan Urban Migrants in Rural Japan provides a fresh perspective on theoretical notions of rurality and emerging modes of working and living in post growth Japan By exploring narratives and trajectories of individuals who relocate from urban to rural areas and seek new modes of working and living this multisited ethnography reveals the changing role of rurality from postwar notions of a stagnant backwater to contemporary sites of experimentation The individual cases presented in the book vividly illustrate changing lifestyles and perceptions of work What emerges from Urban Migrants in Rural Japan is the emotionally fraught quest of many individuals for a personally fulfilling lifestyle and the conflicting neoliberal constraints many settlers face In fact flexibility often coincides with precarity and self exploitation Susanne Klien shows how mobility serves as a strategic mechanism for neophytes in rural Japan who hedge their bets gain time and seek assurance inspiration and courage to do or further postpone doing what they ultimately feel makes sense to them This book is a valuable contribution to knowledge about diversifying rural Japan and evokes reflection about the future of post growth Japan Klien s study benefits from assiduous and long term field research and insightful analysis She excels at locating the specifics of the study in theoretical observations and concepts thereby setting the work into a larger consideration of Japan s paradigm shifts in lifestyle and values Nancy Rosenberger author of Gambling with Virtue Japanese Women and the Search for Self in a Changing Nation

**Japanese Diasporas** Nobuko Adachi,2006-10-03 Japanese Diasporas examines the relationship of overseas Japanese and their descendents Nikkei with their home and host nations focusing on the political social and economic struggles of Nikkei Frequently abandoned by their homeland and experiencing alienation in their host nations the diaspora have attempted to carve out lives between two worlds Examining Nikkei communities and Japanese migration to Manchuria China Canada the Philippines Singapore and Latin America the book compares Nikkei experiences with those of Japanese transnational migrants living abroad The authors connect theoretical issues of ethnic identity with the Japanese and Nikkei cases analyzing the hidden dynamics of the social construction of race ethnicity and homeland and suggesting some of the ways in which diasporas are transforming global society today Presenting new perspectives on socio political and cultural issues of transnational migrants and diaspora communities in an economically intertwined world this book will be of great interest to scholars of diaspora studies and Japanese studies

**Manners and Mischief** Jan Bardsley,Laura Miller,2011-04-21 Offering a concise entertaining snapshot of Japanese society Manners and Mischief examines etiquette guides advice literature and other such instruction for behavior from the early modern period to the present day and discovers how manners do in fact make the nation Eleven accessibly written essays consider a spectrum of cases from the geisha party to gay bar cool



executive grooming and good manners for subway travel Together they show that etiquette is much more than fussy rules for behavior In fact the idiom of manners packaged in conduct literature reveals much about gender and class difference notions of national identity the dynamics of subversion and conformity and more This richly detailed work reveals how manners give meaning to everyday life and extraordinary occasions and how they can illuminate larger social and cultural transformations

**Contemporary Japan** Duncan McCargo, 2012-10-19 Japan is one of the world's most important societies yet remains one of the least understood This book is designed to fill the gap for a concise but thought provoking introduction to all aspects of the country's political economic and social life set in a clear historical context The author's starting point is that the study of Japan is contested territory where even such apparently simple questions such as Who is in charge spark considerable disagreement and controversy among experts To understand contemporary Japan Duncan McCargo argues it is necessary to get to grips with a range of different perspectives on Japanese political and social structures Integrating contrasting perspectives throughout the core chapters of the book focus on the changing economy government and politics society and culture and Japan's place in the wider world The new third edition of this popular text has been fully revised and updated throughout to cover key developments such as the historic end of LDP rule in 2009 This accessible and lively book will be essential reading both for students and general readers who want to know more about this important country

## Embracing the Melody of Appearance: An Emotional Symphony within **Gambling With Virtue Japanese Women And The Search For Self In A Changing Nation**

In a world eaten by monitors and the ceaseless chatter of instantaneous interaction, the melodic beauty and mental symphony developed by the prepared term usually disappear into the backdrop, eclipsed by the constant noise and disturbances that permeate our lives. Nevertheless, located within the pages of **Gambling With Virtue Japanese Women And The Search For Self In A Changing Nation** a marvelous fictional treasure full of organic emotions, lies an immersive symphony waiting to be embraced. Crafted by a wonderful composer of language, that interesting masterpiece conducts viewers on a psychological trip, well unraveling the hidden melodies and profound impact resonating within each cautiously crafted phrase. Within the depths of this emotional evaluation, we can investigate the book's main harmonies, analyze their enthralling writing model, and submit ourselves to the profound resonance that echoes in the depths of readers' souls.

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