



Thinking about Household Types

1

Example Households

- There are many types of household and family. Look again at Chapter 2, "Population", of the *Statistical Handbook of Japan*.
- Here are some of the recurrent patterns I have witnessed in real life and via news media. There are other patterns, too ...
- The housing situation varies a lot depending on rural/urban, metropolitan/regional situations ...
- **Discuss the implications of some of the households in a small group.**

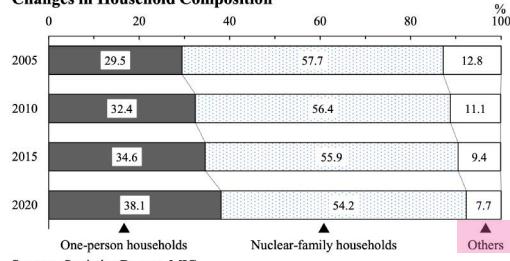
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Group 1: Others

Figure 2.3
Changes in Household Composition

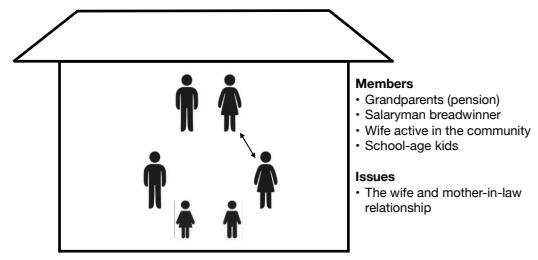


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The Extended Family

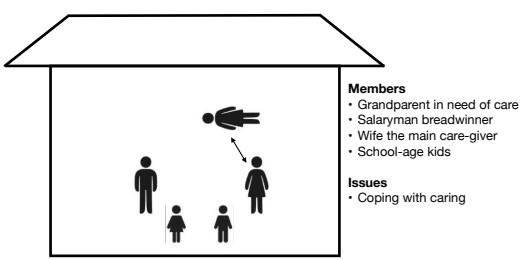


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The Care-giving Family

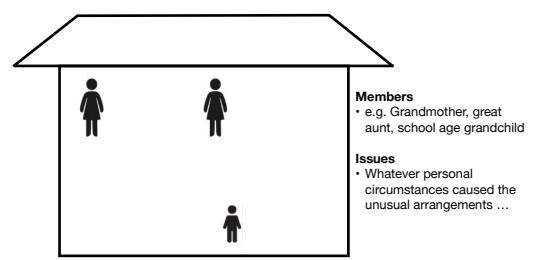


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The Irregular Extended Family



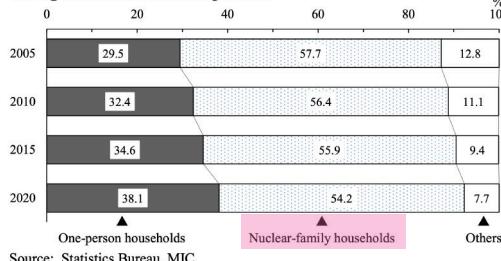
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Group 2: Nuclear-families

Figure 2.3
Changes in Household Composition

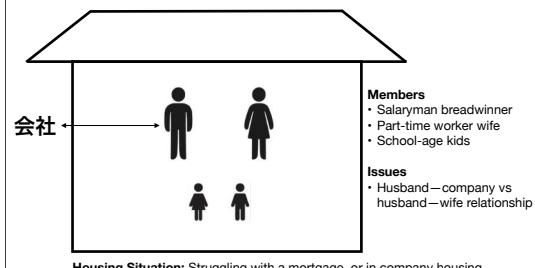


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The Nuclear Family

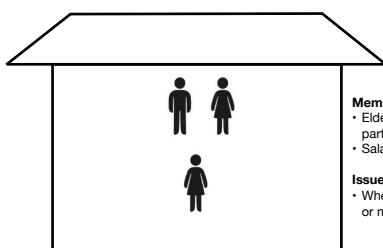


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“Parasite Single” (F)

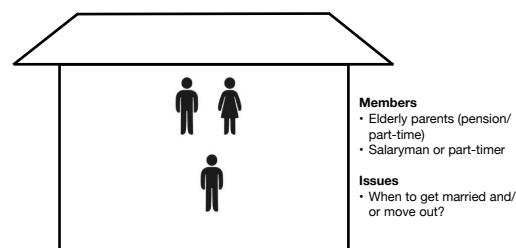


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“Parasite Single” (M)

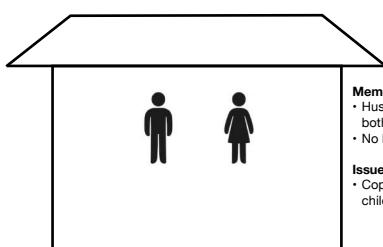


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DINK (Double Income No Kids)

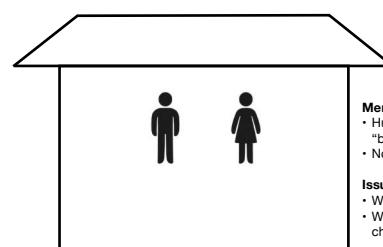


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Newly-weds

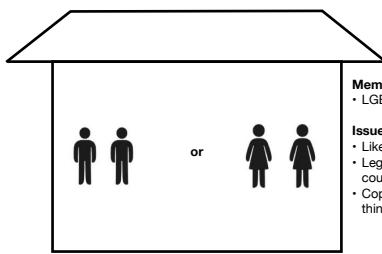


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LGBT+



Members

- LGBT+ couple

Issues

- Like a DINK couple, but ...
- Legal rights as a married couple not recognized.
- Coping with "what others think".

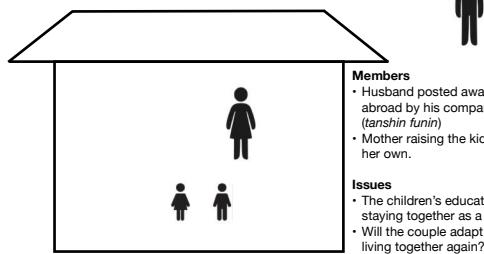
Housing Situation: Landlords, employers and banks probably do not recognize marital status (access to loans etc).

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Single Mother (Father Away)



Members

- Husband posted away/abroad by his company (*tanshin funin*)
- Mother raising the kids on her own.

Issues

- The children's education vs staying together as a family.
- Will the couple adapt to living together again?

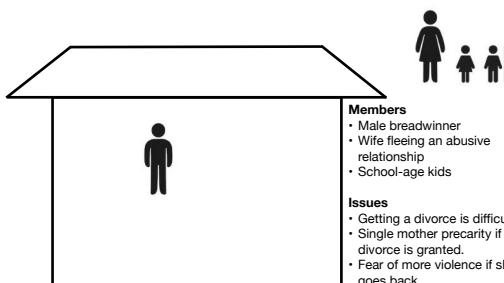
Housing Situation: The family home, or company housing.

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The Domestic Violence Scenario



Members

- Male breadwinner
- Wife fleeing an abusive relationship
- School-age kids

Issues

- Getting a divorce is difficult.
- Single mother precarity if a divorce is granted.
- Fear of more violence if she goes back.

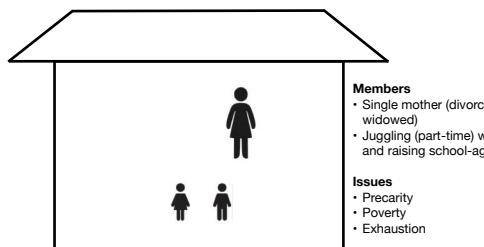
Housing Situation: The household head "occupies" the house during separation.

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Single Mother (Divorced)



Members

- Single mother (divorced or widowed)
- Juggling (part-time) work and raising school-age kids

Issues

- Precarity
- Poverty
- Exhaustion

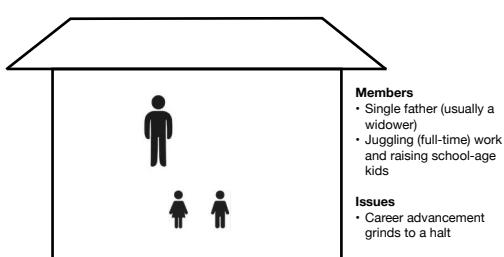
Housing Situation: Often in public housing, constantly worrying about money.

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Single Father



Members

- Single father (usually a widower)
- Juggling (full-time) work and raising school-age kids

Issues

- Career advancement grinds to a halt

Housing Situation: In company/private housing, but worrying about for how much longer.

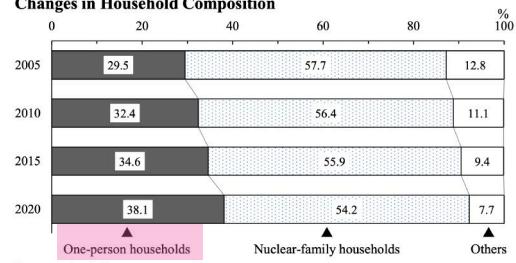
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Group 3: One-person households

Figure 2.3
Changes in Household Composition

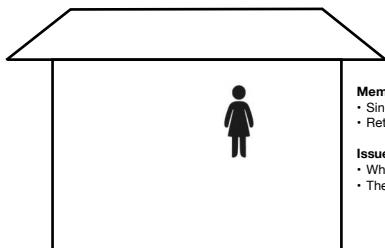


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Single Retiree (F)

**Member**

- Single woman
- Retiree

Issues

- Who will care for her?
- The risk of solitary death.

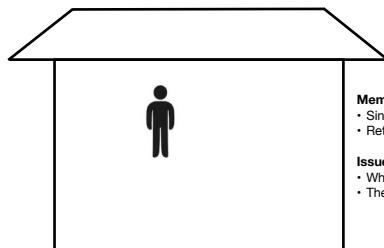
Housing Situation: Financial circumstances vary from wealthy to destitute.

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Single Retiree (M)

**Member**

- Single man
- Retiree

Issues

- Who will care for him?
- The risk of solitary death.

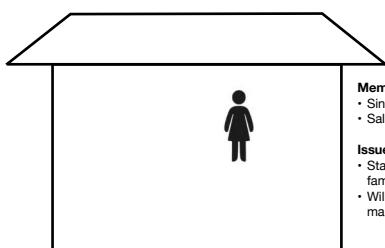
Housing Situation: Financial circumstances vary from wealthy to destitute.

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“Eligible Spinster”

**Member**

- Single woman
- Salarywoman

Issues

- Stay single, or start a family?
- Will she quit work to marry?

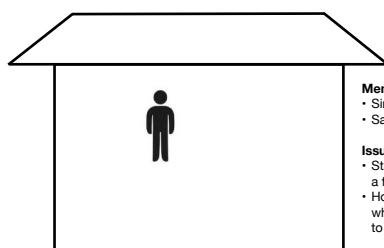
Housing Situation: Rental property or company housing. High disposable income.

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“Eligible Bachelor”

**Member**

- Single man
- Salaryman

Issues

- Stay single, or start a family?
- How to find a wife when he is “married to work”.

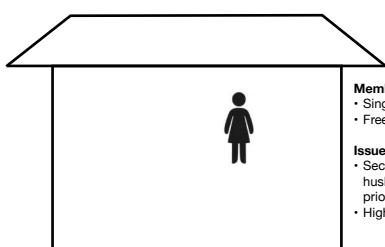
Housing Situation: Rental property or company housing. High disposable income.

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Freeter (F)

**Member**

- Single woman
- Freeter

Issues

- Securing a salaried husband is an economic priority.
- High risk of exploitation.

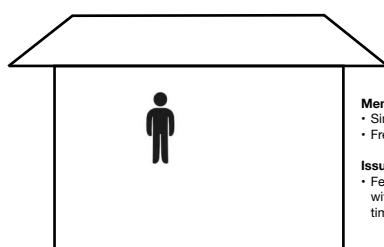
Housing Situation: Rental property. Low disposable income.

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Freeter (M)

**Member**

- Single man
- Freeter

Issues

- Feels unable to marry without secure full-time employment

Housing Situation: Rental property. Low disposable income.

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