

A50 Notre Dame Seishin Gakuen Seishin Girls' High School

Differences in High School Education between China and Japan

— Notes from an Exchange Program with Shanghai No.1 High School —

Ayumi Sumiyoshi · Shoko Niiya



Introduction

In the People's Republic of China, a wide gap in education between rural areas and megacities like Shanghai exists. This summer we visited Shanghai Number 1 High School to promote friendship between the two countries. Our survey shows the result of the questionnaires on the life of Shanghai High School students and their consciousness of Japan, followed by some proposals on the improvement of exchange programs.

2. STUDENT EXCHANGE in SHANGHAI



1. Education

The result of OECD PISA 2012 surprised the world because Shanghai was ranked the top in all three literacies: Science, Mathematics and Reading. This result proved the education of Shanghai to be at the top level in the world.

It is also known, however, for having a wide education gap between rural areas and megacities like Shanghai.

In an effort to promote sustainable development, Chinese leaders have sought to improve educational quality and increase access across the country.

3. Required Subjects in China

Primary Education	Junior Secondary Education	Senior Secondary Education
Moral Education	Politics	
Chinese Language	Chinese Language	Chinese Language
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
	Foreign Language	Foreign Language
Social Studies	History	
Natural Science	Geography	
	Physics	Physics
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	Biology	Biology
Physical Education	Physical Education	
Music	Music	
Arts	Arts	
	Household Skills	Information Tech.
Labor Services		

Laws on Education in China

Law on Nine-Year Compulsory Education (1986)

Achievement of the "Two Basics"

- 1) Universal enrollment among school-aged children 6-15 years of age
- 2) Full literacy among those under the age of 20

Measures

- 1) to revise the national curriculum
- 2) to enhance teacher training programs

Compulsory Education Law (2006)

To allow children to attend local schools without the requisite Hukou

Literacy Rates

Literacy Rates (2014)

Beijing : 98.52%

Shanghai: 96.85%

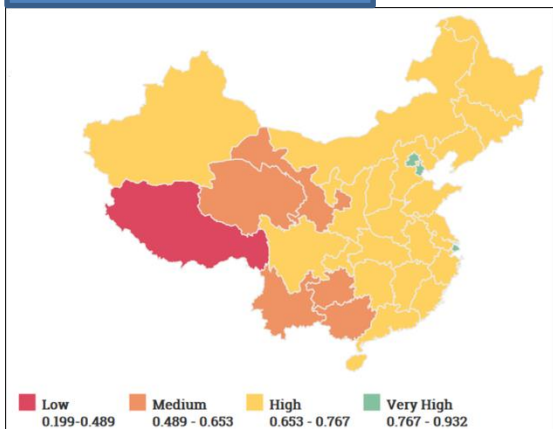
Tibet : 60.07%

4. Education Gap

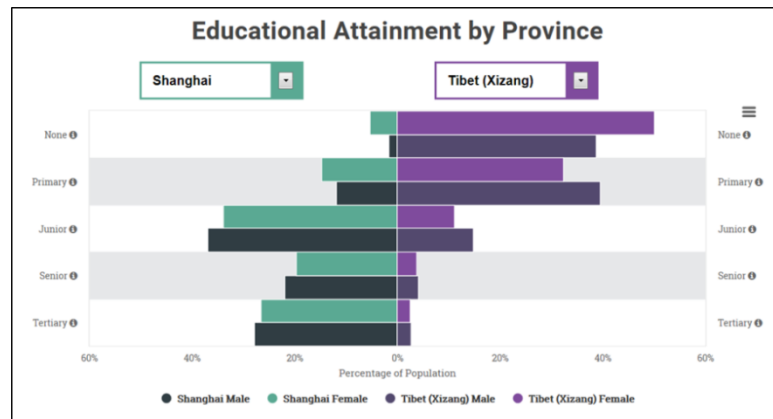
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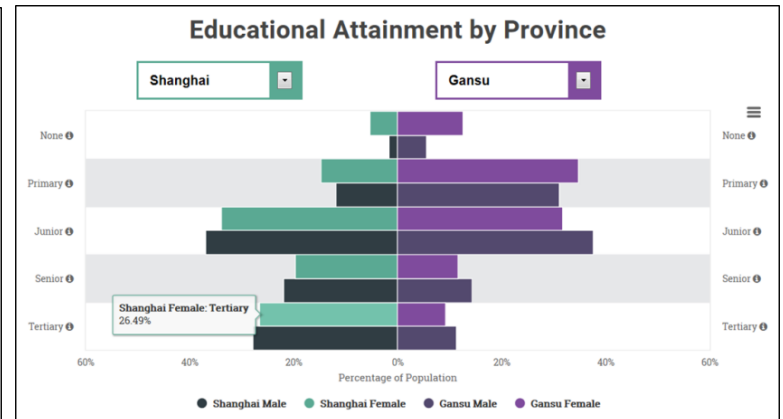
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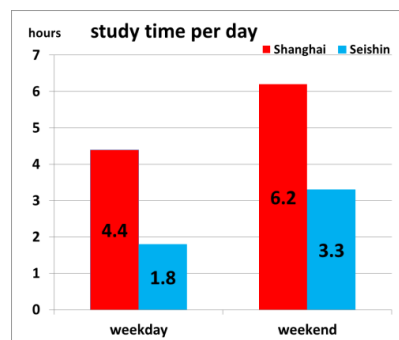


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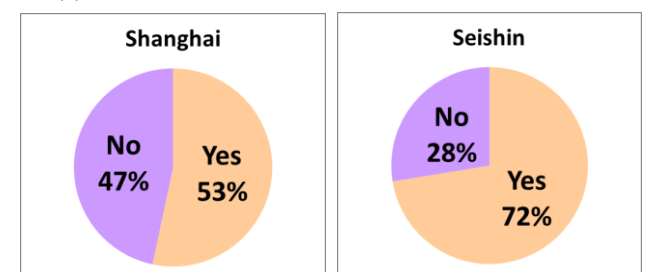
5. Comparison of Replies between Shanghai and Seishin

- (1) How long do you study every day?
- (2) Have you ever been to foreign countries other than Japan?

5-(1)



5-(2)



Proposal for Improvement of Exchange Programs

- (1) To make presentations on the opponent country to improve understanding.
- (2) To discuss educational problems and other issues and to share ideas more deeply.
- (3) To provide social service experiences with people from different age groups.

For Further Study

Our survey was conducted to a small number of students from both sides—Shanghai students and Seishin students, and we need more surveys to get more concrete images on how students think of people living in other countries and how these images or prejudices could be gotten rid of. We have more or less some kind of preoccupation or prejudgment, which we unconsciously acquire from information around us—from families, friends, teachers, and mostly from media.

As for the educational problems, we have looked into the gap between the rich and the poor, and the gap between the urban areas and the rural areas. Through the *STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM*, we started to think of these problems and this small step can be experienced by many other students as well so that more exchange programs should be successfully conducted to achieve their own goals.