

Toshiaki Tachibanaki

The new paradox for Japanese women

Greater choice, greater inequality

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Once considered to be almost entirely middle class, Japanese society seems to be fracturing today, as the rift between rich and poor becomes increasingly pronounced. Past research on social inequality, however, has focused exclusively on men and families. In *The New Paradox for Japanese Women: Greater Choice, Greater Inequality*, renowned economist Tachibanaki Toshiaki looks at social divisions among Japanese women. What kinds of disparities do women in Japan face today? What role do a woman's family background, education, and decisions regarding marriage and children play in determining her place in society? Is there a social gap between full-time homemakers and working women? What about women in the workplace: do women in clerical or part-time positions enjoy social parity with those on the management track? Providing an in-depth analysis based on statistical data, this timely book offers penetrating insights into these issues and suggests remedies to help Japan grapple with this growing social dilemma.