

Strategic Alliance: A preliminary survey of feminist group cooperation in the Kansai region

ABSTRACT

Unlike many sexual harassment cases in Japan, in which claims are denied or ignored, the case brought against popular Osaka mayor, Yokoyama, took a different path, primarily because of the spontaneous creation of a support group for the complainant. This support group was made up of various women's advocacy activists and members of gender equality groups. Because of the efforts of The Women's Group, the case was brought to trial, and the governor lost the case, as well as the office to which he had been reelected by a landslide. This research note provides a brief summary of the case and a description of the groups involved in support activities as well as an indication the direction for future investigation.

Key words : feminist groups, support groups, sexual harassment, Yokoyama "Knock"