

Theory of a “Stranger”

For the people in Isozu I am obviously a “stranger”.

What can a “stranger” do? This is a fundamental question.

In the beginning I have defined that a “region” is the place where a person exists, lives, learns and fights. I do not meet any of these criteria.

However, “strangers” have advantages:

- They are free of human relationship constraints
- They are not under a power structure
- They know neither the hierarchical relationship nor worry about it
- They do not have to control themselves from the beginning
- They can approach the people with their beliefs and sensibility

I heard that the citizens in Osaka are engaged in the regeneration of the beach. Also in these loose organization of “Hottokarehen (In Osaka dialect, we cannot leave it)-Network” and ”Hottoitara akanyan (In Osaka dialect, we must not leave it)-Network” strangers appeared first. It is difficult to see the relationships between the offenders, victims and beneficiaries of pollution in Osaka Bay. But they cannot leave the pollution of the sea that is so close to the life of the citizens. So the strangers meet the local people and connect them under the keyword of “Sounds like interesting” and “Sounds like fun”. They are also characterized by becoming a “trendsetter” who links the city government and the citizens. They are conscious of being used well by the city government and of using and engaging the government well to get financial support. This is quite hard and requires wisdom.

Through such a “play”, I would not say “fight,” the strangers assimilate into the community, hang around daily life, learn from the region and see the old and young becoming independent.

Then the strangers leave.