



Title	Faith and publicness in contemporary Japan : from the analysis of JGSS-2000-2003
Author(s)	Terazawa, Shigenori
Citation	International Society for the Sociology of Religion 31st Conference, Aix-en-Provence, France
Issue Date	2011-06
Doc URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2115/46996">http://hdl.handle.net/2115/46996</a>
Type	conference presentation
Additional Information	There are other files related to this item in HUSCAP. Check the above URL.
File Information	powerpoint (terazawa).pdf (発表資料)



[Instructions for use](#)

# **Faith and Publicness in Contemporary Japan: from the analysis of JGSS-2000-2003**

**TERAZAWA Shigenori**

**Hokkaido University**

**Faculty of Letters Doctor Course**

# The purpose of the presentation

- To examine whether religiousness is associated with membership to voluntary associations, in Japan – a non-Western society that has a small Christian population

✕ JGSS-2003 was not used because of methodological reasons.

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Theoretical discussion and Expectations
- 3 Data and Variables
- 4 Results
- 5 Summary and Discussion

# Introduction

- Publication concerning religious social capital and civic participation has grown substantially.
- ⇒ especially focusing on voluntary association membership
- ⇒ limited to Western Christian societies
- ⇒ We need to systematically research this topic in non-Western non Christian societies.
- Japan is the ideal country
- ⇒ A Small Christian population, frequent attendance at religious services etc are rare.

## Theoretical discussion and hypothesis

- Religious consciousness effect

Altruistic consciousness embedded in religious values promotes participation in social activities and the importance of belonging to a community.

- Religious network effect

Tight networks embedded in religious groups, such as regular religious attendance and social support in churches, promote mobilization for social activities. Those who are religious also have interactions with other religious people in churches and gain mobilization through these interactions.

(Ruiter & De Graaf 2006,2010)

# Dose religious network theory apply to all religions?

- Requirements of Religious network effect
  - religious attendance, participation to collective religious actions, interactions with religious people
  - ⇒ These requirements can also be found in religions which require believers to attend church regularly and belong to religious groups that generate those network effects.
  - ⇒ Religions which do not attach importance to these collective activities such as Buddhism and Shintoism, do not tend to generate this effect

# Religious landscape in Japan

## ① Traditional Religions

—Traditional Buddhism ▪ Shintoism ▪ Folk Religion

New year ceremony Funeral

## ② Non-traditional Religions

—Christianity ▪ New Religious Movements

Monthly religious event

Social activities held by believers



# Expectations

- *(1) Compared to non-religious people, those who believe in new or Christian religions will report higher frequency of belonging to voluntary associations.*
- *(2) On the other hand, there will be no difference in voluntary association membership between non-religious people and those who believe in Buddhist or other traditional religions.*

# 3.Data and Variables

- Data

- Japanese General Social Surveys (JGSS)

- Accumlated data sets of JGSS-2000,JGSS-2001 and JGSS-2002

- Cases : 8636

- Sample area : Nationwide Japan

- Sample population :

- Men and women 20-89 years of age living in Japan

- Sampling Method : Two-stage stratified random sampling

- Investigator :

- Institute of Regional Studies at Osaka University of Commerce

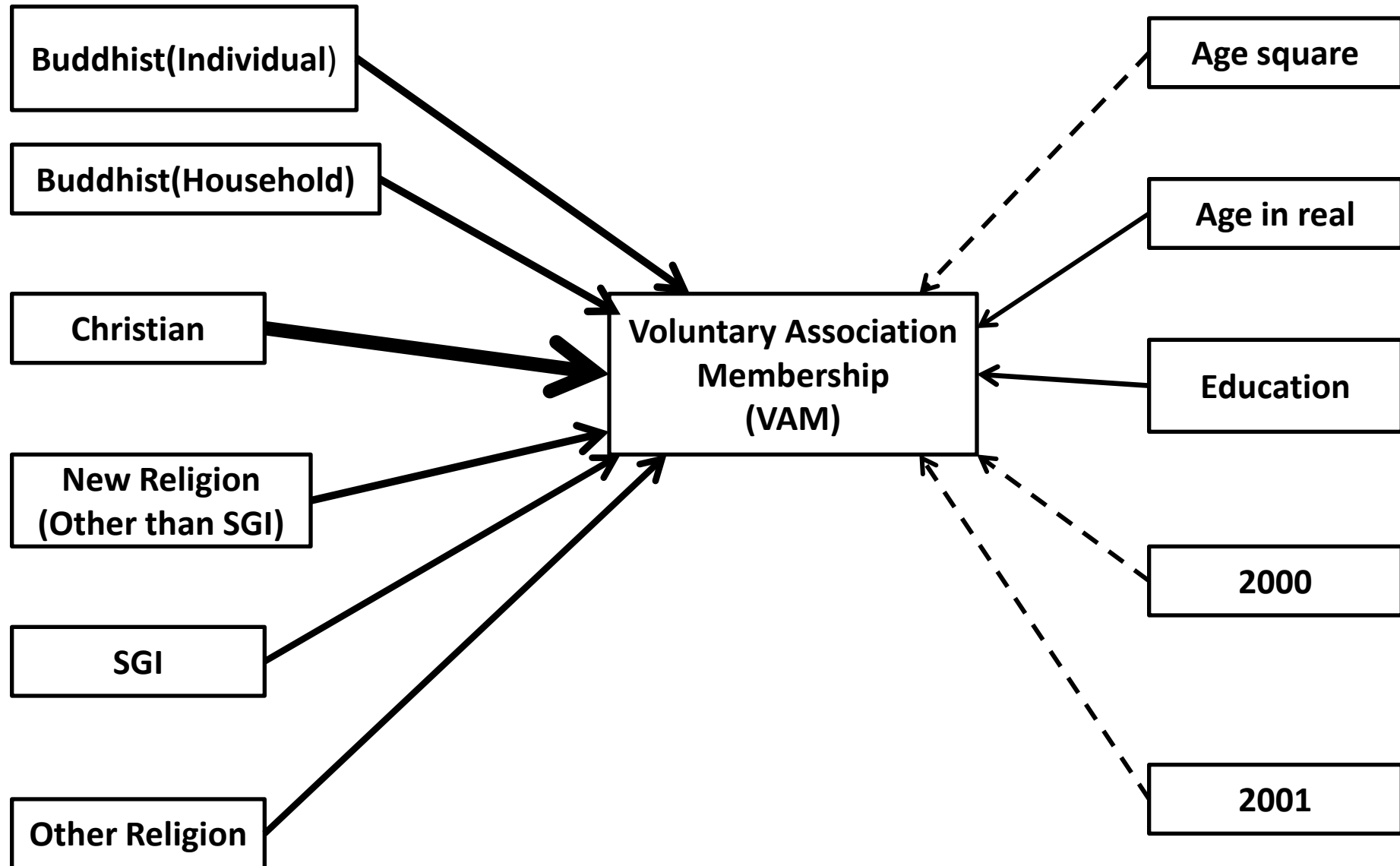
- Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo

- Website : <http://jgss.daishodai.ac.jp/>

# Variables

- Dependent Variable : Voluntary Association Membership  
whether respondents are member of at least one of five secular organizations
- Independent Variables :  
Religious Affiliation :  
Buddhist (Individual), Buddhist (Household), Christian  
SGI, New Religion (other than SGI), Other Religion  
Non-Religion
- Control Variables :  
Age, Sex, Education, Urban or rural, Marital Status  
Employment Status, Research Year  
✂ For more detail, please see appendix.

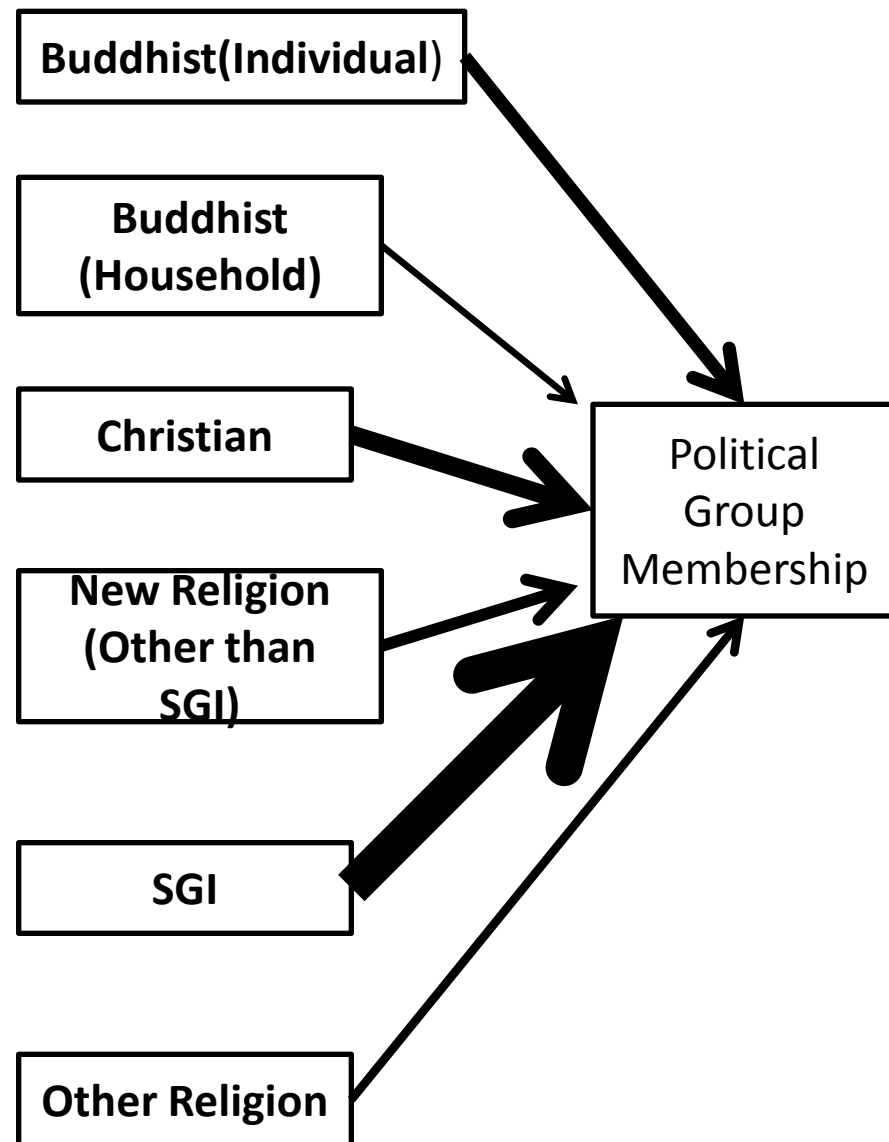
## 4. Results① Binary Logistic Regression Analysis on VAM



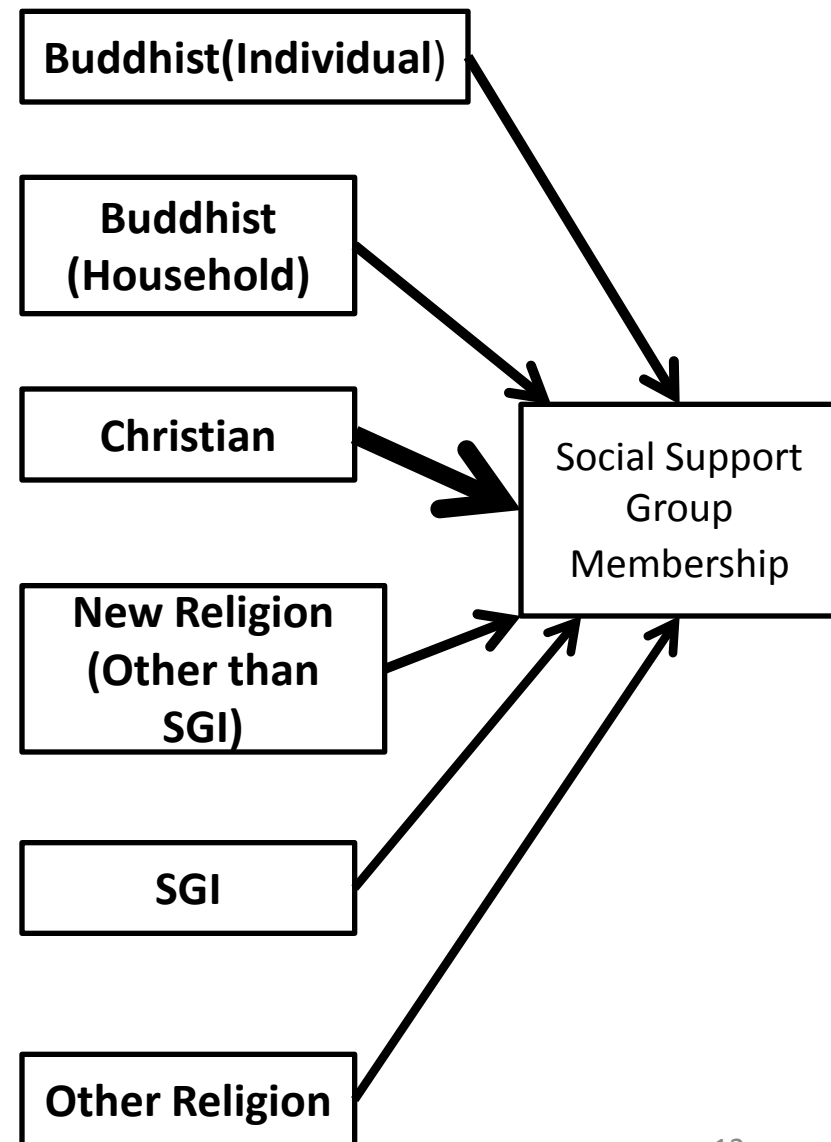
※ Lines width= strength of the relationships Solid lines=positive relationship  
Dashed lines =negative relationship

# Results② Political & Volunteer organization

## ① Political organization



## ② Volunteer organization



# Short Summary

- All religious affiliations are positively related
    - even though controlling for socio-demographics
    - especially political and social service group
  - As for expectations
    - Support second part  
(Christian and New Religion)
    - Reject first part(Buddhist, Other religion)
- ⇒ religions supposed not to have significant relationship have significant relationship。

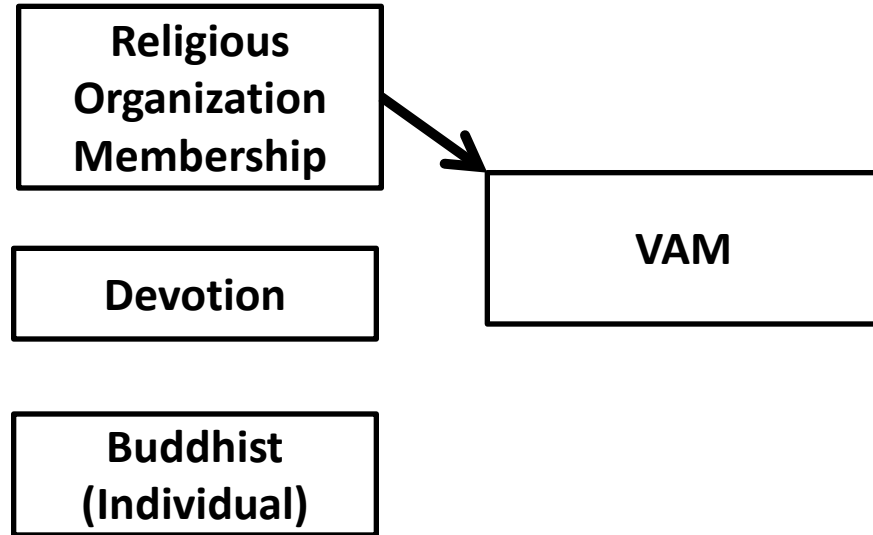
# Why related (Buddhist) ?

- ① Network effect ?
- ② Consciousness effect ?

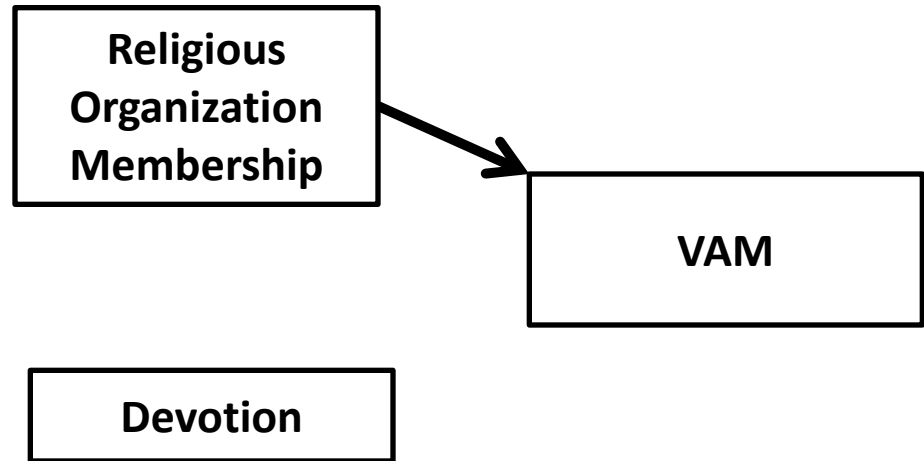
⇒ Supplement analysis

# Results③ Analysis on sample including only Buddhist

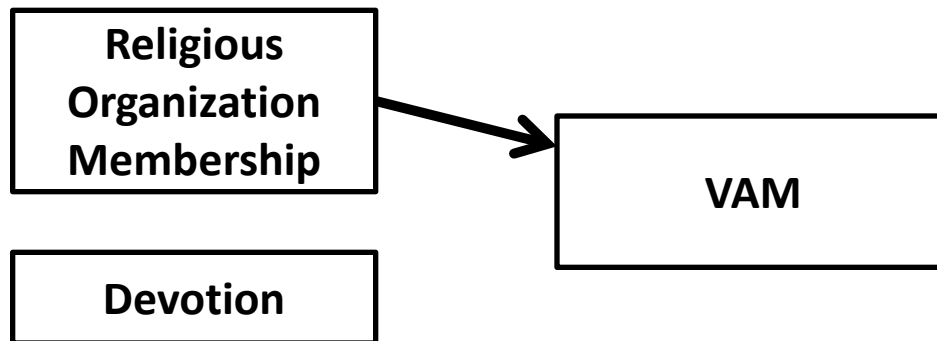
## ① Sample : Buddhist (Both)



## ② Sample : Buddhist(Household)



## ③ Sample : Buddhist(Individual)





# 5. Summary and Discussion

## ▪ Summary

- ① Japanese who have a religious affiliation are more likely than those who do not have any religious affiliations to report that they are a member of a voluntary association.
- ② This finding was found even though I controlled for socio-demographic variables.
- ③ The religious affiliations which were not supposed to be significantly correlated with voluntary association membership actually were significantly correlated.
- ④ As for Buddhist, not devotion but religious group membership had significant positive effect on voluntary association membership.

- Study limitations

- ① limitation of included religious variables

- ② unable to examine causal relationships

- Contribution

This study reveals important connections between religion and voluntary association membership in Japan. This study also presents new data concerning Japanese voluntary associations, and this is the only study that addresses this topic quantitatively.

# Thank you for your kind attention!

TERAZAWA Shigenori

E-mail:

[shterazawa@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:shterazawa@yahoo.co.jp)

Website:

<http://shigenori-terazawa.seesaa.net/>