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## 学位論文の要約

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## 学位論文題名

Tomoko Matsudaira and Home Economics:  
The Transformation of Consumption and Women in Japan  
(松平友子と家事経済学——日本における消費と女性の変容)

This paper explores the development of Japanese home economics and highlights the important yet understudied role of Tomoko Matsudaira (1894–1969), a pioneering female economist who created one of the first systematic frameworks for analyzing the household as an economic unit in Japan. Although the household is a key part of economic life, it has long been considered marginal within the history of economic thought. Only in the early twentieth century did scholars begin to study the household with serious analysis, especially within the emerging field of home economics. While American research on home economics—from Ellen Richards to Hazel Kyrk and Margaret Reid—has received much attention, the development of the field in Japan has been relatively overlooked. This paper aims to address that by showing how Japan's path was influenced by its own social changes, including rapid industrialization, the expansion of women's education, and the increasing complexity of consumption in modern life. In this broader context, Matsudaira emerges as a notable but often overlooked intellectual figure whose work helped turn household management into an academic discipline.

The purpose of this research is to reconstruct the development of Japanese home economics while situating Matsudaira's contributions within both national and international frameworks. By examining the interplay between historical change, intellectual development, and gender relations, this paper aims to reveal how Matsudaira constructed an early

theoretical model of the household economy and how her ideas interacted with other currents of economic thought. To accomplish this, the study is structured into three major parts—historical background, theoretical reconstruction, and comparative analysis—each of which contributes to understanding how Japanese home economics emerged and how Matsudaira’s work fits into this evolution.

Part I offers the essential historical and institutional background. Chapter 1 traces the development of home economics from the late 1800s to the postwar period. It shows that early Japanese home management mainly concentrated on domestic skills like sewing and cooking, rather than economic reasoning. However, as Japan industrialized and became part of a modern consumer economy, household management gained greater analytical importance. The shift from a self-sufficient household economy to a consumption-focused one posed new challenges that needed systematic knowledge. Additionally, women’s growing access to modern education allowed them to engage with economic ideas, and the gradual professionalization of home economics paralleled developments in the United States, even though Japan followed its own distinct intellectual path. Chapter 2 broadens this discussion by exploring three major forces that influenced early Japanese home economics: changes in consumption, the expansion of women’s educational opportunities, and the rise of social movements like the Life Improvement Movement and consumer cooperatives. These social and economic changes together created the intellectual environment in which Matsudaira later worked.

Part II specifically explores Matsudaira’s intellectual biography and theoretical contributions. Chapter 3 traces her educational background and career path, highlighting her unique position as the first woman to professionally engage in economic research in Japan. Matsudaira studied economics at a time when women faced very limited access to higher education, and her entry into the Imperial University of Tokyo as a commissioned student marked a breakthrough for women in academic economics. Throughout her career, she

produced a significant body of work aimed at defining home economics as both a scientific and practical discipline. Her writings demonstrate deep engagement with contemporary Japanese and Western economic literature and reveal her ambition to develop a coherent theoretical framework for understanding the household. Chapter 4 examines the main elements of Matsudaira's theoretical system—income, expenditure, accounting, and savings. She argued that real income, rather than nominal income, should serve as the primary indicator of household well-being, especially in an era when wage labor replaced self-sufficient household production. Her expenditure theory emphasized rational consumption, awareness of prices, and the importance of consumer agency in influencing market outcomes. In terms of accounting, she advocated for double-entry bookkeeping to promote transparency and cooperation within the household. Her savings theory linked household financial behavior to broader concerns about social security and future uncertainty. Collectively, these components formed a systematic model of household economics that was innovative for its time, reflecting both theoretical rigor and social awareness.

Part III situates Matsudaira's work within a comparative framework. Chapter 5 contrasts her ideas with those of Hazel Kyrk, a prominent American contributor to consumption theory. Despite differing methods—Kyrk focused on empirical and psychological approaches while Matsudaira emphasized historical and institutional factors—both scholars shared an interest in rational consumption and the role of women in household decision-making. Chapter 6 compares Matsudaira with two Japanese contemporaries, Kenzo Wadagaki and Hideko Inoue. While Wadagaki examined household issues from the perspective of production and national efficiency, and Inoue focused on social reform, Matsudaira's work integrated economic rationality with attention to gender roles, placing her uniquely within Japan's intellectual landscape.

Through this tripartite structure, the paper shows that Matsudaira was a paradoxical yet pioneering figure. On one side, she challenged traditional gender norms by emphasizing

women's economic role, the value of housework, and the importance of women's participation in the labor market. On the other side, her explanations for changes in women's status mainly focused on structural economic forces rather than women's own agency, reflecting the limitations of the intellectual environment she worked in. Methodologically, she used an inductive approach influenced by the German Historical School, grounding her arguments in historical data and official statistics instead of abstract models. Her work closely engaged with practical household issues while also contributing to broader economic discussions.

In conclusion, this paper contends that Matsudaira's ideas constitute a crucial yet overlooked part of Japan's economic thought history. Her systematic reconstruction of the household as an economic unit enhanced Japanese home economics and connected it with international developments in consumption theory. By examining her work through historical, theoretical, and comparative lenses, this paper not only highlights Matsudaira's importance but also deepens our understanding of how the household became a recognized subject of economic research. Ultimately, her contributions deserve acknowledgment not only in Japanese intellectual history but also in global debates on household economics, gender, and consumption.