

Chapter 5

Efforts to Foster the Understanding among Citizens and to Earn their Consideration and Cooperation

1 Promoting Public Understanding (related to Article 20 of the Basic Act)

[Policy No. 260]

- **Holding lectures delivered by Crime Victims, etc.**

[Policy No. 256]

In cooperation with relevant organizations such as the Board of Education, the police have been holding “Classes to Learn the Importance of Life” mainly for junior high school and high school students since FY2008 to enlighten them on the importance of consideration and cooperation for crime victims, etc. A total of 812 classes were held nationwide in FY2021.

In an effort to foster awareness of the importance of life and a normative consciousness and to promote understanding and sympathy for crime victims, etc., police have also held an essay contest since FY2011 to improve the effectiveness of the classes (National Police Agency website, “Essay Contests on Protecting Important Lives for Junior High and High School Students”) (<https://www.npa.go.jp/higaisya/sakubun/index.html>) (see p. 38 TOPICS “Crime Victims Week”).

Taking advantage of every opportunity, the police strive to support crime victims, etc., in society as a whole, and to build momentum toward the creation of a city where neither victims nor offenders are harmed. To this end, they hold lectures by crime victims, etc., inviting the participation of the public at large and give lectures on support for crime victims to university students.

Lecture "Class to Learn the Importance of Life"



- **Implementation of Effective Public Relations and Enlightenment Activities toward Citizens**

The National Police Agency solicits slogans on support for crime victims, etc. in order to provide the opportunity for citizens to think about support for crime victims, etc. and promote their understanding. In FY2021, the work “Deliver a kind heart and compassion” of Ms. SAITO Anna, who is a fourth-year student of the Utsura Elementary School in Okagaki Town, Fukuoka Prefecture, was selected as the grand prize out of the total of 5,224 applications. The slogan is used as a tool to disseminate support for crime victims, etc. in the general public, such as for the poster for dissemination and enlightenment during the Crime Victims Week (see p.38, the TOPICS “Crime Victims Week”).

Slogan on Support for Crime Victims, etc. in FY2021



- **Promotion of the Understandings among Citizens on the Situation of Crime Victims, etc. through Publication of the Investigative Research Results**

[Policy No. 273]

Relevant ministries and agencies conduct surveys and research on crime victims and, when it is deemed appropriate to publicize these results, endeavor to utilize them in public information and awareness-raising activities to improve citizen’s understanding of the situations of crime victims, etc.

To contribute to the secondary use of the survey results, the National Police Agency (NPA) posts the reports of the survey and research results on the Agency’s website, “Policies for Crime Victims, etc.” (<https://www.npa.go.jp/hanzaihighai/report/higaisha.html>).

In July 2022, the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Justice conducted a survey on systems to recover the victims’ damages and to provide them with economic support in overseas countries. The results of this survey are posted on the National Police Agency’s website, and necessary investigations and confirmations are continued.

TOPICS

Crime Victims Week

The Fourth Basic Plan features “Efforts to foster the understanding among citizens and to earn their consideration and cooperation” as one of the priorities and stipulates that “we need to promote our efforts to deepen the citizens’ understanding and sympathy about the situation of the crime victims, etc. and the importance of considerations for their honor or peaceful lives, and to ensure the citizens’ cooperation in the consideration and respect of crime victims, etc. and the policies for them, by continuously conducting educational activities and public relations and enlightenment activities through various opportunities and media.”

Therefore, the National Police Agency has designated the week from November 25 to December 1 as the “Crime Victims Week” in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies to conduct public relations and enlightenment activities intensively during this week.

In 2021, the National Police Agency held a Central Meeting (Tokyo) on December 1, and a Regional Meeting (Niigata Prefecture) on November 27, jointly with local governments, etc., and provided live streaming of each event through a video distribution service. The Agency also created a digest video summarizing the Central Meeting and made it available for a limited time on the official YouTube National Police Agency channel.

Poster of the Crime Victims Week



[Central Meeting]

The awards ceremony of the Grand Prize for the “Slogan on Support for Crime Victims, etc.” and of the Grand Prize for the “Essay Contests on Protecting Important Lives for Junior High and High School Students,” talk sessions, keynote speeches, panel discussions, etc. were held.

In the talk session, Ms. NAKAGAWA Shoko, a TV personality, and a representative from the National Police Agency exchanged opinions on the topic of “Let's Learn About Support for Victims” in order to increase public awareness of support for crime victims, etc. They discussed basic matters related to support for crime victims and specific support details. Ms. NAKAGAWA said, “I hope the public will spread the word that there is a support system in place in case their loved ones are involved in an incident.”

In the keynote speech, Ms. SAWATA Miyoko, a bereaved family member of a crime victim, talked about “For Crime Victims to Move Forward: Looking Back on the Days of Sudden Crime Victimization, Shock and Despair, and the Various Responses.” She shared her feelings when she lost her second son in a murder case, her experience of participating in a criminal trial through the victim participation system, and other experiences. She also expressed her hope that the momentum of support for crime victims will grow, and that the world will be a place where crime victims and their bereaved families do not exist.

Under the theme of “How Far Have We Come in Supporting Victims?” the panel discussed the progress of the support system for crime victims to date and future prospects, as well as the support system for crime victims at various organizations, including attorneys, police, and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The coordinator was Dr. ITO Fujie, visiting researcher and former professor at the Department of Social Welfare, Faculty of Integrated Human Sciences, Sophia University. The panelists included: Ms. SAWATA Miyoko (keynote speaker), Mr. ITO Hidehiko (Attorney, Vice President of Chiba Bar Association), Mr. OKUDA Akihiro (Chief Inspector, Crime Victim Support Office, Planning Division, General Affairs Department,

National Expert Designated by the National Police Agency) and Ms. NORIKI Aiko (Director, Victim Support Coordination Division, Human Rights Department, General Affairs Bureau, Tokyo Metropolitan Government).

**Award Ceremony
(Slogan on Support for Crime
Victims, etc.)**



**Award Ceremony
(Essay Contests on Protecting
Important Lives for Junior High
and High School Students)**



Talk session



Panel discussion



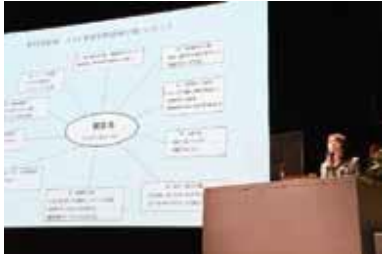
[Meeting in Niigata]

The Meeting in Niigata was jointly organized by the National Police Agency, Niigata Prefecture, Niigata Prefectural Police, and Niigata Victim Support Center.

Ms. NAKASONE Eriko (crime victim bereaved family member, Director of Niigata Victim Support Center) gave a keynote speech titled “Losing a Beloved Family Member Suddenly - Support Sought from the Heart.” She shared her experience of losing her second son in a traffic accident and becoming a bereaved family member of a crime victim, and talked about the support she needs.

The panel discussion was held under the theme of “Support for Crime Victims in Society as a Whole - What We Can Do,” to discuss what is required of support for crime victims, and measures to deepen understanding of support for crime victims throughout society. The coordinator was Dr. NIWA Masao (Professor, Faculty of Law, Niigata University; Advisor, Liaison Conference for Victim Support of Niigata). The panelists included: Mr. OHANA Masato (Attorney, Chairperson of the Committee for Supporting Crime Victims, Niigata Bar Association), Ms. NAKASONE Eriko (keynote speaker), Ms. ISE Mizuho (freelance announcer) and Ms. SHIRASAWA Tomomi (Director, Consumption and Life Safety Office, Prefectural Consumer Affairs Division, Department of Consumer Affairs and Environment, Niigata Prefecture).

Keynote speech



Panel discussion



Mini-concert by Niigata Prefectural Police Band





“Life Safety Education” to Prevent Students from Becoming Perpetrators, Victims, or Spectators of Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault

Since sexual crimes and sexual assault are acts that seriously violate the dignity of victims and have serious long-term adverse effects on their physical and mental health, it is necessary to strengthen efforts to eradicate these crimes and support victims.







The government established the Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries and Agencies for Enhancement of Measures against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault in April 2020, and compiled the “Policy for Enhancement of Measures against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault” (hereinafter referred to as the “Policy for Enhancement” in this Topic) on June 11 of the same year. The Policy for Enhancement states that, in addition to examining criminal law, efforts are to be made to enhance support for victims, countermeasures against offenders, and to strengthen education and enlightenment. As part of the enhancement of education and enlightenment, the policy includes the promotion of “Life Safety Education” for children to learn the preciousness of life and value life, and to prevent them from becoming perpetrators, victims, or spectators of sexual assault.

Based on the Policy for Enhancement, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, in cooperation with the Cabinet Office, carried out a survey of initiatives in various regions, and a committee of experts investigated, analyzed, and examined the current situation to create developmentally appropriate teaching materials, guidance for teachers, and resources for enlightenment, etc. that can be used when implementing “Life Safety Education.” In April 2021, the Ministry released teaching materials and guidance manuals for use in classes, etc., according to the developmental stages of early childhood, elementary school, junior high school, and high school, as well as materials for enlightening university students and the general public.

Furthermore, the Ministry has been implementing a model project utilizing the above-mentioned teaching materials, etc. In the FY2021 model project, the Ministry created instructional models for each of the 13 organizations' schools of practice, and made efforts to disseminate and develop these models.

Teaching materials and guidance manuals for “Life Safety Education” and the initiatives of the model project can be found on the website of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. (MEXT website: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/danjo/anzen/index.html)

[Figure: Examples of teaching materials for Life Safety Education]

For Infancy	For elementary school students (1 st to 4 th grade)	For elementary school students (5 th to 6 th grade)
<p>みずぎでかくれるところは じぶんだけの だいじなところだからだよ</p> 	<p>びっくりしたり、いやなきもちに なったりするときって どんなときかな？</p> 	<p>SNSを使うときに気をつけること SNSでやりとりしている相手は 本当に信らいたい人なのかな？</p> 
For junior high school students	For high school students	Before graduation from high school, university/college, general public(educational material)
<p>性暴力の例【デートDV】</p> <p>DV（ドメスティック・バイオレンス）とは、配偶者（元配偶者）と性的関係がある相手（元相手）に対して、他人が許さぬ方法で暴力や脅迫をふるうことです。どんなことがデートDVになるの？</p> 	<p>性暴力が起きないようにするためには</p> <p>性暴力の被害者（被害者）にならないためには、自分自身から、性暴力を防止し、被害者にならないよう意識することが大切です。</p> 	<p>お互いの心と体を大切にするために</p> 



PR Manga for Crime Victim Support “What Do You Do in Such a Case? - Knowing and Thinking about Crime Victim Support”

National Network for Victim Support

The National Network for Victim Support aims to realize “activities that enable victims to receive the support they seek at anytime, anywhere in Japan, and to provide responses to their voices.” In accordance with the goals set forth in the Network Mid-Term Plan, “1. Promotion of recognition of activities to support crime victims among the younger generation” and “2. Promotion of recognition of support for crime victims among the general public,” the Network published a PR manga for junior high and high school students in FY2021, “What Do You Do in Such a Case? - Knowing and Thinking about Crime Victim Support.”

Using a tool that is familiar to junior high and high school students, this manga is intended to help them first learn about “crime victims” and “support for crime victims” and then acquire the correct knowledge.



The Network made the following efforts in producing the publication:

- All the words are *furigana*-edited so that not only junior high school and high school students but also elementary school students and those with limited Japanese language skills can read them.
- The structure combines manga and work pages so that the reader can acquire knowledge rather than just read the book.
- The publication is designed with characters, layout, and color design that junior high and high school students would find interesting.
- The manga pages alone should be readable in 5 minutes.

- The size should be B6 so that it is easy to distribute.
- The manual is available on the website for use by those who are in leadership roles in educational settings, etc., and by those who have not had the opportunity to learn about victim support.

We hope that many people will make use of this publication, and that it will help people acquire a good understanding of victims of incidents and accidents, and encourage the recognition of crime victim support activities.

©The manga is available in eBook and PDF formats. You can view them on the website of the National Network for Victim Support.



Click here for PR Manga Commentary - National Network for Victim Support (<https://www.nnvs.org/mangaguidance/>)



性的な犯罪の被害

自分自身が被害に遭ったらどうしますか?

1. 誰かに相談する
2. 弱さかしくて相談できない
3. 相談する気持に保れない
4. 誰かに連絡がつかないからと思う
5. みんなに知られてしまうかもしれないと思う
6. 自分が忘れられなかったことになると思う
7. 自分が責められなければならないと思う
8. 伝えたいけれど喉が詰まって、誰にも相談できない

一人で抱え込まず、どうか誰かに「話して」助けを求めてください

知ってる人からの被害がほとんど

性犯罪被害とは

考えてみよう!

- 性犯罪被害について知ることができましたか
- 自分が被害に遭ったときに誰かに相談することができると思いますか