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THE Sejong Times

CAMPUS

A University
Mascot

SPECIAL

Performance Art
& Marina
Abramovic

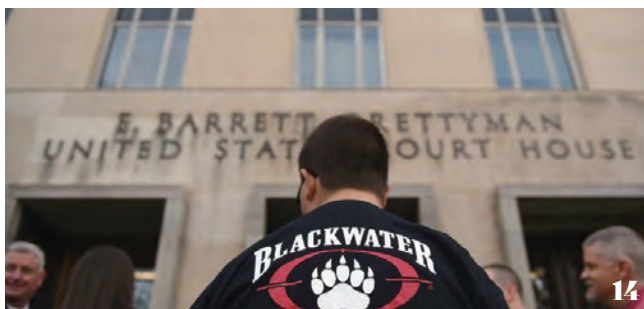
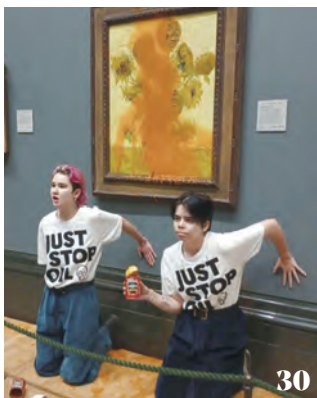
CULTURE

Why Do Koreans
Want to Live in
Apartments?

SOCIETY

Eco-terrorism by
Environmentalists

Sejong University Campus English Magazine



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Going on a Spontaneous Journey

Are you a planner or a spontaneous person? I am definitely a planner. Specifically, I *used to be* a strict planner. I used to stick with the plan rather than going with the flow. I felt most comfortable when the tasks ahead of me is perfectly organized. I cannot imagine myself without a planner and a map. I did not know how to enter a new restaurant when I had no idea what they serve there, and I did not know how to take a new path walking to the school when I wasn't sure how much time it takes to walk through the new road to the destination. In other words, I did not know how to welcome unexpectations.

This made me wonder what a life of a spontaneous person would be like. A spontaneous person is not afraid of exploration. He is flexible when it comes to dealing with challenges. Fortunately, this flexibility often helps him seize unexpected opportunities. He tends to react to their environments rather than try to control them, helping them to make their own luck in whatever the world delivers. Their life is full of possibilities!

I realized a spontaneous person who is capable of accepting changes can open a new and bigger world. We sometimes need to relax from a tight schedule and just go with the flow, because we never know what coincidence will bring to us, opportunity, life lesson, or luck.

I hope the readers of The Sejong Times draw a larger map inside your heart as a new semester begins, and guide yourself to a bigger world ahead of you. Never lose curiosity and the spirit of adventure!



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New Wind, Bright Moon

After the student council election in last December, *Pungwol*(@sejong_student) was elected. *New Wind, Bright Moon* Pungwol made various election pledges including creating a school mascot, securing class seats and repairing school facilities. Let's look at some changes the new student council brought to Sejong University.



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Kakao Talk Chatbot, Wol-E

Since the existing Kakao Talk channel was managed by an administrator, it took quite a while to receive an answer. Now, an immediate answer is available 24 hours a day. Sending messages such as "Introduce yourself" and "I love you Wol-E" can help Wol-E to learn even more.



Rental Service

Rental Service is available at the student council room located in room 401 of the Student Union Building. The service provides items that are essential for school life including portable chargers, laptop chargers, and scientific calculators.

Monthly Survey

Monthly surveys are conducted in order to actively reflect students' opinions. This system can help collect students' feedback on various areas such as school facility improvements, partnership companies, and demands about events.

Partnership Benefits

Students of Sejong University can enjoy many benefits from cafes and restaurants near the campus. The list of partnerships can be found on Sejong partner Instagram account (@sejong_partner).

Happy Sejong Day (May 17th~May 19th)



The school festival, Happy Sejong Day was held to celebrate Sejong University's anniversary. Flea markets and sponsored booths were operated during the day, and more than 30 performances were held in the evening by our school students and famous artists such as Ive, 10cm, and Dynamic Duo.

Removal of the Smoking Booth

The smoking booth at the Student Union Building, which was located right next to the cafeteria and caused discussion constantly, was demolished. According to the survey conducted in February, more than 80 percent of the students agreed to the removal of smoking booths. The student council announced that this change is expected to improve the management of non-smoking areas in the school as well as promote a healthy food culture.



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You may have had the experience of turning on your phone for a short break and then unconsciously falling into endless scrolling through YouTube or Instagram for hours. Short form video content refers to any type of video content that's less than 60 seconds. Conventional videos were usually in a 16:9 ratio suitable for TV and PC screens, and smartphones had to be rotated horizontally. Short form videos are usually vertical videos, suitable for smartphone screens.

Tik Tok, launched in November 2017, can be considered the representative platform for short-form content. Unlike conventional social medias which mainly focused on friend relationships, Tik Tok prioritized entertainment. It reached 1 billion worldwide users within 5 years of its launch and even became a unicorn company. Since then, various platforms such as YouTube and Instagram released short form contents. In particular, YouTube shorts have reached over 15 billion views within a year of its launch.

Types of Short Form Contents

One of the trending short form contents are role-playing contents. These videos usually show episodes anyone may have experienced, featuring characters with attractive personalities. These hyperrealistic creatively videos portray daily life that many people can relate to.

Another popular content of short forms are informational contents. Many people might have used a portal site to look up for information, scrolled through long texts only to find countless advertisements. Informational content short forms are suitable to learn about fashion, cooking, and general knowledge, and viewers can quickly scroll to the next content even if they don't find the desired information.

Short Form in Universities

Universities are also using short forms for students. Various promotional short form video competitions are organized in different fields since they are easy to produce. Short forms are also used to announce school events for the students.

According to a survey¹⁾, more than 30 percent of university students watch short form videos for an average of one to three hours a day. Approximately 70% of them positively evaluate short form consumption that can help to keep up with the latest trends. However, others showed negative opinions as they felt difficulties to control their viewing habits and experience a decline in self-awareness.

Why are Short Forms So Addictive?

Gen Z spends an average of 80 minutes a day only to watch short form videos. Considering its short running time, this means watching about 60 to 70 videos a day. What makes short forms so addictive?

The first factor is its short running time. Short forms avoid inserting ads and minimize loading delays to prevent consumers from leaving.

This type of content is especially suitable for younger generations who

1) Channel PNU

prefer to utilize their spare time effectively. The second factor is that it is easy to make one. Filming, editing, and uploading is all able through a smartphone without the need for expensive filming gear and editing skills. In fact, 70% of Tik Tok users also participate in content creation. Third is due to active communication via short form platforms. Viewers can immediately deliver feedbacks to content creators with comments, replies, and video replies and feel as if they are participating in the creation of a content. The fourth factor is the infinite scrolling. Using a scrolling mechanism which is much more mobile-friendly, consumers can watch an entirely new content with each scroll. The last one is automatic recommendation. Through algorithms, it constantly provides viewers with new contents without having to search for specific keywords.

The Problems with Short Form

The most significant problem with short forms is that it is provocative to the brains. Our concentration can be divided into active and passive concentration. Active concentration is activated while reading or having a conversation. Passive concentration instinctively occurs when seeing something new, powerful and provocative. Just by accessing a large amount of contents, you will gradually lose interest in daily life and experience a phenomenon called *Popcorn Brain*²⁾. The second problem is the fragmentation of information. Short forms deal with only part of the information to attract consumers' attention in a short time, so there is a concern that only stereotypical incorrect information might be imprinted. The amount of knowledge may have increased, but does not know how to apply that knowledge within a broader context. Lastly, short form contents contribute to a decline in reading and comprehension abilities. This is a problem that has been emerging among digital generations, a generation of people born in the digital era that has grown up with access to digital information. Provocative videos are sometimes made to compete among a massive amount of contents, so being exposed to this environment at an early age can negatively affect the development of literacy.

How to Cope with *Popcorn Brain*

First of all, smartphone apps to limit the time of usage of short form apps can be useful. Moreover, it is better to avoid using smartphones while taking a short break from studying or homework assignments. This is because neurotransmitters related to concentration and memory improvement are most actively secreted during breaks. When trying to obtain some helpful information, consciously try to look up for longer videos or texts instead of relying on short form videos. In addition, rather than unilaterally consuming contents during free time, creative activities such as keeping a diary can help to stimulate the brain.

2) The term is coined by Professor David Levy of the Information School at the University of Washington. It refers to a variation of brain structure that responds only to intense and immediate stimuli, similar to corn kernels bursting into popcorn when heated.

Conclusion

Dr. Park Young-heum from the Media Research Center of the Korea Press Foundation said, "Democratization of content production has a two-sided nature. The fact that anyone can express their ideas beyond the closed monopoly of a few elites is to be welcomed in itself." However, he also expressed concerns saying, "As sensational and dangerous content can increase and rapidly spread, efforts to properly manage these shortcomings should be made at the same time."



A University Mascot



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Many universities in Korea have their own mascot. Official mascots are created in connection with the school's characteristics, such as symbolic animals and locations, and they are used in many ways. However, Sejong University does not have an official mascot. The students constantly feel the absence of an official mascot. Many attempts by the students of Sejong University have often led to the sale or share of products using unofficial mascots. The position of Sejong University's official mascot is still vacant. The roles and advantages of a university mascot and why students want one are discussed below.



What is a Mascot?

A mascot is a representative symbol, which is the core of all visual communication that internally and externally expresses a university. A mascot is a character that symbolizes a school, so it cannot be arbitrarily modified or have its color changed. It can be used according to the regulations on the school website, and there are usually various versions. In addition, schools often make, sell, or share products using mascots.

For example, Konkuk University's mascot *Ku* is an image of the school's symbolic animal, which is a bull. The bull character is used in various products, such as water bottles, phone grip holders, and eco-bags. Also, we see mascot costume suits at various school events and promotional videos in order to draw attention.

Moreover, the *Snowflake* of Sookmyung Women's University symbolizes the appearance of students who are always challenging their future. It is actively used on the school's official social media, such as monthly calendar images on Instagram posts and Instagram story filters.

Neopjook of KAIST¹⁾ is a character who eternally goes to school and is characterized by unique eyes. *Neopjook* previously first appeared as a character called Kai, but a student in the Department of Visual Design at the time developed the existing character into *Neopjook*. The students say that *Neopjook* is suitable for the KAIST students' image. The students show great affection towards *Neopjook* and they buy mascot key rings or dolls.

1) Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology



Advantages of a Mascot

Mascots represent the identity of the school, and they express the meaning of the purpose that is pursued by the school. The students above all have affection for their school's mascot, which contains the characteristics of the school and creates more of an attachment to the school. The students can feel a sense of unity by using products with cute mascots, which is another fun factor that can be felt in universities. The people's use of social media has rapidly increased recently, so mascots can be frequently used in various ways on the school's official social media. Furthermore, mascots have a good marketing effect in regards to expressing a school for the attending students as well as for high school students who are interested in entering the university. Moreover, a mascot becomes a symbol that can be easily expressed for outsiders who visit the school.



Sejong University's mascot

The mascot has many advantages, but Sejong University has yet to release an official mascot. The students unofficially attempted to make products, such as stickers and earphone cases using a giraffe, which arose from a joke that a giraffe lives in the Daeyang Tower. In addition, opinions have emerged in the community in regards to promoting a cat as the mascot in addition to a giraffe. This opinion seems to symbolize the cats that are at Sejong University. Various opinions show that students want to have an official mascot at school.

Sejong University aims to “cultivate talented individuals who know how to think of their neighbors and countries before their own interests, and they play a role in the creation of human culture.” Sejong additionally pursues an individual who communicates with the world via creative thinking. A mascot would be a symbolic character of Sejong University, so it would be nice to make it with the purpose of the school or develop giraffes or cats that are in connection with this content. The student opinions in other schools have led to the creation of an official mascot. The students at Sejong University should also present many opinions of the mascot, and the school should positively consider them in order to produce the official mascot. If Sejong University develops a mascot, the school's social media will be diversified and become more interesting, which is due to the various contents using the mascot. The students will accordingly pay more attention to the school's social media, which will be followed by it becoming a more active communication space. Also, if products using school mascots are made, the students will have an affection for the mascot, which will have a good effect by improving the student's feelings for school. Furthermore, it can make a good impression on outsiders as well.



We hope that a characteristic and meaningful mascot of the Sejong University will be created as soon as possible. This requires the participation of many people, but if people who are related to the school actively work together in order to promote it, it can be created sooner. We look forward to the future when an official mascot is loved by the students and contributes greatly to the development of Sejong University.





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Performance Art & *Marina Abramović*

Earlier this year, a video clip, which was called *What the stock market looks like these days*, went viral on social media. A man in the video went up the stairs and fell to the ground. He then went up the stairs again and fell to the ground. He repeated this several times. People described this performance in a less profound but humorous way by comparing it to the stock market that day. However, this was actually an art performance, *Success is not Linear*, conducted by the prestigious artist Yoann Bourgeois. This article discusses what performance art is.

■ Prologue

Two chairs and a wooden table are placed in the MOMA Exhibition Hall, which is located in the Museum of Modern Art in New York. One chair is empty, and on the other chair which is across from the empty chair sits a lady in a red dress. The lady with an intense aura is the most renowned performance artist. Her name is Marina Abramović (November 30, 1946) and the name of the artwork held in the exhibition is *The Artist Is Present* (2010). As many as 1,000 strangers took turns and sat on the empty seat in front of Marina over the course of nearly three months, 736 hours, and 30 minutes in total. People talked about their worries, and some of them even quietly shed tears. Marina was expressionless and motionless, but she silently listened to what people had to say to her and responded with her eyes. However, she showed slight tremors and tears as soon as a man appeared and sat down in the chair. She eventually reached out her arms and held the man's hand. The man's name is Frank Uwe Laysiepen (November 30, 1943).

■ Performance Art & Marina Abramović

Performance art first and foremost refers to artwork that cannot be fully expressed by traditional methods of creating art, such as painting and sculpturing, so it is expressed by using the body. Performance art is created as time flows, so time acts as a significant element in this art field. Marina Abramović is also a person that we cannot ignore without when it comes to understanding performance art. Marina Abramović is a Serbian performance artist who has been presenting provocative works of art. She has presented numerous works of art since the 1970s, and her life melts into the art pieces. We can learn more about performance art by looking at her works of art.

■ Rhythm 10 (1973)

Rhythm 10 is Marina's first performance work of art. It represents the world as part of her Rhythm series, which was displayed in Edinburgh, England in 1973. Marina lays a sheet of white paper, twenty knives of various shapes and sizes, and two cassette recorders on the floor. She turns the recorder on and picks one of the twenty knives and stabs between her fingers as fast as she can. If she pokes her finger and not the floor between her fingers, she changes the knife and continues the performance. Her hands are covered with wounds as she repeats the action, and they are bleeding to the point where her nails are not visible. Nevertheless, she doesn't stop stabbing. Once the knives were all used, she rewinds the tape and listens to the recording. She tries to repeat the same movement by analyzing the sound of the recording. After this performance Marina said, "When I get into a performance state, I can push myself to do things that I have never been able to accomplish." A shocking performance like this did not end with just one time.



©tumblr.com

■ Rhythm 0 (1974)

Rhythm 0 is a six-hour performance artwork that was held at Studio Morra in Naples in 1974. The audience is allowed to grab any object that was prepared on the table and do whatever they want to Marina. There are 72 different objects on the table, including roses, feathers, honey, wine, scissors, whips, a gun, and a bullet. The audience waited in line for their turn. Some gave Marina roses and some kissed her on her lips. Some people hesitated for a while, and they then began to get excited and tore Marina's clothes using sharp objects and hurt her. Marina said, "I wanted to give the audience every opportunity to inflict pain on me, show kindness, or even to kill me. This is a real example of what would happen if the public were given full authority." When Marina walked toward the audience after the promised time of the performance, the audience avoided eye contact with her, and they all ran away. They had feelings of guilty about what they did to her during the performance. *Rhythm 0* was her most challenging performance in regards to testing the limits of the relationship between the performing artist and the audience, and it is the most well-known work of art that reveals the desires and brutalities that are hidden in humans.



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■ Her Childhood and a Turning Point

Marina continued to present works of art with profound themes, such as pain, death, and fear in addition to *Rhythm 10* and *Rhythm 0*. The reasons behind her choice of these types of earnest themes can be found in her childhood. Marina Abramović was born in Belgrade, Serbia in 1946, and she was raised by both Montenegrin-born parents, who were Yugoslav Partisans during World War II. Moreover, her great-uncle was Varnava, and he was a Serbian Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church. She witnessed the chaotic history of civil war, massacres, and war in her country through the collapse of the Confucian Union throughout her childhood. As a result, she started with a symbolic performance that expresses the fear of violence and death, which gradually led to an extreme performance that took physical pain and risk.

We can get a glimpse about her opinion of the historical events that she witnessed by watching the *Lips of Thomas* (1974). Marina draws a red star-shaped wound, which is a symbol of communism and socialism, on her stomach with a piece of broken glass, and she then lies on ice in order to endure the pain. This can be seen as taking desperate responsibility for what a person's country and people did. She expressed and sublimated pain, death, fear, and limitations that came from her childhood into art.

Notwithstanding, a hopeful change in the subject of her artwork was brought by a meeting with Frank Uwe Laysiepen, who is known as Ulay. Marina first met Ulay in 1976 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Ulay is from West Germany, and he was also a performance artist like Marina. Marina and Ulay fell in love as if it was fate. They devised various artworks since then that only they could accomplish.

■ Relation in Time (1977)

In *Relation in Time* performance, Marina and Ulay sit back to back tie together by their ponytails for sixteen hours. They aimed to combine their energy by maintaining the same posture for a very long time.



©moma.org

■ Breathing In - Breathing Out (1977)

Breathing In - Breathing Out explores the idea of an individual's ability to absorb the life of another person by exchanging and destructing it. Marina and Ulay connect their mouths and take in each other's exhaled breaths until they use up all of the available oxygen, which expresses their mutual dependence and limitations. They suffocated after 17 minutes of continuing the performance and fainted.



©artsy.net

■ Rest Energy (1980)

Marina and Ulay performed *Rest Energy* in an art exhibition in Dublin, which is where they both balanced each other on opposite sides of a drawn bow and arrow with the arrow pointing at Marina's heart. Marina could lose her life if either of them lost their balance. This piece of artwork proves her trust in others.



©nowness.com

■ Lovers (1988)

The meeting with Ulay had a significant influence on Marina's art, as her themes were completely reversed. Their relationship as lovers, friends, and colleagues seemed to last forever, but their love eventually withered after 12 years as a couple, creating 14 works of art together.

Marina and Ulay decided to go on a journey, which is *Lovers* that would end their relationship, in 1988 after several years of an intense relationship. They each walked along the Great Wall of China, which they started from two opposite ends and met in the middle. Marina started walking from the Yellow Sea, and Ulay started walking from the Gobi Desert. Each of them walked 2,500km and said good-bye in the middle. Marina sublimated the breakup into art in this art piece.



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The other person's body and my body cannot be the same. Marina Abramović put on a very splendid performance that she even sacrificed her life to overcome this eternal gap. She constantly explored the relationship between the performer and the audience, and she explored the relationship between herself and the others throughout her life. I hope looking through Marina's works of art provides you with an opportunity to receive the message that she wishes to convey to the audience. In addition, I hope that performance art will no longer be a complicated field of study. I hope that it becomes a place that is open for contemplation and reflection on your relationships with others.



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©VROONG



We sometimes hope for someone to do the works that we don't like to do or that is bothersome. That someone substitutes a delivery, laundry, movement, or anything we ask to perform for a certain profit. This is called an agency. The agency market in Korea has now become bigger than ever, which has resulted in more comfortable lives. An agency that accordingly performs on behalf of a country has appeared, which is called a PMC, which is a Private Military Company.

PMC can be considered as a modern mercenary that substitutes the combat activities, military training, or that technically supports on behalf of a client. PMC has been working with many countries in the world and engaged in many wars and combats until now.

PMCs consist of contractors, administrators, anthropologists, fighter pilots, and many others. A contractor is a profession that provides a security service or mercenary work that fights with the enemy of a client. Many named special forces and veterans consist of this profession. If sometimes a client asks for a lot of combat resources, PMC employs veterans of underdeveloped countries and even prisoners as human shields. Same as a corporation, PMC also has the nature of a corporation so they employ staffs who can resolve administrative and legal work. PMC employs anthropologists because PMC doesn't really know the characteristics of customs, culture, and ethnicities in the area where they are deployed in detail. So they hire them to consult combatants and commanders. A PMC usually owns their own fighter planes and pilots in order to increase their combat ability.

PMC: The Bunker



PMC: The Bunker is a movie that stars the Korean actor Ha Jeong-woo and deals with a private military company. This movie's plot is to perform a secret order from the American ministry, which was to destroy North Korea's nuclear bomb facility. Mr. Ha acts as a team leader of PMC that perform an operation. This movie shows the tasks, members, and roles of PMC, also stories have been motivated by real PMC incidents. PMC: The Bunker is loved by 1.6 million people.



Sorts



PMC provides military resources and service to their client, which can be divided into three parts. The first part performs direct combat activities. Their members mostly consist of special forces veterans. They provide mercenaries to clients, then get a profit. They are likely to be the stereotypes of PMC. The second type doesn't act as direct military services but provides military specialist consult service to the client's commander. They provide drill sergeants and experts for the clients. The last part provides indirect military support. They provide services, such as food, water, and medical supplies to their clients.

Why they are loved



The clients who employ PMCs is not a single person. They are enterprises and nations. Why do they like to employ PMCs? Enterprises employ them in regards to ensuring security or to handling emergencies. An enterprise that is dreaming of globalization is reluctant to do business in an area where it's not safe enough to obtain guarantees for the safety of their possessions.

PMCs conduct security services in these area, and they obtain a high success rate by protecting their clients' property. PMCs also minimize the risks that may arise in international trade by looking out for ships that pass through a risky sea route, such as Somalia

The nations fill up their insufficient defense capabilities or gain economic feasibility by employing PMCs. The former is what an underdeveloped country does, and the latter is a developed country does. An underdeveloped country could be better of guaranteeing their combat capability by paying money when their ability to engage in combat is remarkably low. The developed or developing countries have mostly fostered their soldiers via volunteer recruitments, and the cost of each soldier could be remarkable in this case. If only one soldier dies in combat, the country gets held responsible, so the costs get larger than you think. The total costs includes cost of living fees, treatment fees, transportation fees, and pension fees. However, a countries responsibility costs decrease when they employ a PMC. As a result, developed countries adore PMCs due to the economic benefits.

How they work



PMC presently stem from the US, Russia, and the UK, which are running businesses with 50 countries in the world as well as also a million corporations in the world.

Blackwater



Blackwater is the biggest PMC company in the world, and it is also the utmost private security corporation. This corporation mostly consists of navy seal veterans, which are called the most powerful special forces, so we can call them the strongest PMC in the world.

The failure rate of the operations they participated or engaged in was close to 0%. Their recruitment process is the most strict in their industry, and their training level is the highest in the world. Nevertheless, many special forces veterans are sought after by many due to guaranteeing top benefits in their industry.

However, there is a shadow behind the glamour of success. Their commitment to their operations deprives their morality. The traffic in Baghdad, Iraq was normal in September 2007. However, countless bullets stripped everything in that area at that moment. Those bullets were from Blackwater. They shot Iraq citizens just because of their operation. Ordinary citizens, children, and even Iraq police died for no reason due to their bullets. The CEO of Blackwater was accused in hearing due to this occurrence, which he had no remorse for. His statement showed the PMC's misguided morality.

"Accidents happen, because this is war."



©Vox.com

©NYTIMES



©CNN

Wagner



In an ongoing Russia- Ukraine war, The involvement of the Wagner left the world astounded. Wagner was the PMC of Putin who started this war, and their cruelty in their operation was beyond our

imagination. Their cruelty went a reality and also made the citizens of Ukraine fear. Ordinary citizens in the area where they were deprived were killed by Wagner. The actions they carried out in Ukraine, Bucha, were absolutely terrifying. When the Ukraine military recaptured their area, Bucha, 412 dead bodies of civilians were immediately found, and after more investigation, the whole death of civilians was 1323 people. Also, they uploaded the video they killed civilians to their social media.

The Wagner Group surprised the world in June 2023 when they rebelled against their client, which is Russia. This rebellion started from conflicts between the CEO of Wagner, who is Prigozhin, and the Minister of Defense, who is Shoigu. The Ministry of Defense has continuously used their competitors and has also designated Prigozhin's adversaries as commanders. Moreover, the Russian soldiers became passive in the war, so Wagner's losses increased. Mr. Prigozhin's rage finally exploded, but the insurrection ended after only 1 day. The Ministry of Defense broke all contracts with Wagner, and he isolated Mr. Prigozhin. He finally surrendered and fled to Belarus in order to protect himself.

©KHAN



©guardian

Korea still doesn't admit that the PMC industry is an officially confirmed industry. Also, if a PMC is installed in Korea, it would be an enterprise that only supports combat. However, if a PMC is introduced in Korea, confusion will become higher than ever. Crime could become rampant due to a lack of morality, such as the crimes that were committed by Blackwater and the Wagner, which would lead to a highly dangerous security situation in Korea. Furthermore, guns are strictly controlled in Korea, so the introduction of a PMC could potentially create a false precedent as well as controversy regarding using guns in public. PMCs offer the significant advantage of effectiveness, but their evident drawbacks make it imperative for them to be prohibited in Korea.





Gaslighting

By Jeong Ji-yoon

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Gaslight is a movie where a husband manipulates his wife's mind via gaslighting. The husband pretends that he went out, but what he did was go to the attic through the rooftop in order to search for hidden jewels. He had to turn on the attic light in order to find the jewels. Every time he tuned on the light, their house gaslight weakened, because having multiple lights in a house at that time would cause the gaslight to become dimmer. His wife obviously notices the dimmer light and hears her husband's footsteps. The husband convinces his wife that she is imagining things and that the sound of his footsteps is a hallucination. He makes his wife doubt herself, blame herself, and erodes her self-esteem. *Gaslighting*, which a term that is used to describe mocking or tormenting someone, originated from this movie, and it is commonly used in social relationships.

The term gaslighting has become popularized, so it is a prevalently discussed topic in various media platforms. *Lies Hidden in My Garden*, which is a web drama that premiered on June 19, 2023, the husband Park Jae-ho gaslights his wife Moon Joo-ran. Joo-ran is weakened mentally, which is due to witnessing the murder of her sister in the past and lies to her husband about losing an earring inside his car. The husband finds the earring in the car the next day and gives it back to his wife. The husband insists that she did lose it and throws a tantrum despite Joo-ran stating that she never lost her earring. This example demonstrates that we can easily find both big and small gaslighting scenes in movies and tv shows.



Physical violence has long been the focus of punishment, but manipulation and abuse in the psychological realm are harder to distinguish and gather evidence of, which makes them challenging to prosecute. How can we then notice gaslighting? The characteristics that may be exhibited by gaslighting perpetrators are illustrated below.

Gaslighters are not sincere, and they display hypocritical traits. They control the other person in order to fulfill their own needs while disguising their words as if they actually care. They simultaneously accuse others by criticizing their counterparts and justifying their own behaviors. Another representative characteristic of gaslighting is the intention to control others. If a situation aligns with their intention, they treat them better, whereas they resort to punishments if it doesn't. They manipulate others this way in order to enforce obedience and seek to maintain their control. Lastly, they tend to be very self-centered by claiming their legitimacy and disregard other's opinions. They show selfish and self-centered attitudes in order to satisfy their own needs, which makes others sacrifice.



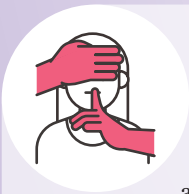
If individuals can differentiate and recognize these types of gaslighting as well as subsequently establish distance from them, the potential problems may be mitigated. However, an issue arises, because many individuals who experience gaslighting do not acknowledge themselves as victims. Will there be any ways to examine whether a person is experiencing gaslighting in this case? The following is a self-diagnostic framework for gaslighting that is provided by the Korean Institute of Dating Violence.

- ✓ Things always end up going his/her way.
- ✓ He/she often negatively perceives my emotions and dominates them.
- ✓ I frequently make excuses for their behavior to the people around me.
- ✓ I find myself double-checking if I have done something wrong.
- ✓ I start lying because I am afraid of his/her reaction.
- ✓ I have become less confident.

Also, the situations below were compiled by psychologist Dr. Robin Stern, which may indicate gaslighting.

- ✓ I frequently question myself if I am being overly sensitive.
- ✓ I constantly apologize.
- ✓ I know something is wrong, but cannot tell what it is exactly.
- ✓ I cannot understand why I am unhappy.
- ✓ I lie in order to avoid the reality.
- ✓ I struggle with making simple decisions.

The symptoms above can occur in addition to low self-esteem, depression, and anxiety. Gaslighting is common in everyday life, but it can be difficult for the victims to recognize. If someone continuously doubts and blames themselves and feels uncertain about their own actions, which is due to someone else's influence, it is important to consider the possibility of gaslighting. However, having these thoughts doesn't necessarily mean that it directly equates to gaslighting. If advice or a criticism in a normal relationship is perceived as being attempts to control, labeling it as gaslighting would lead to the misuse of the term.



The current meaning of gaslighting has slightly deviated from its original definition. Merriam-Webster, which is a U.S. dictionary publisher, selected gaslighting as *the Word of the Year* for 2022, and it mentioned that the word now encompasses an expanded meaning. It originally referred to the act of psychologically manipulating others, but they argue that the contemporary definition of the term also includes intentional deception. It

can in other words now describe any intentional act of deceiving others as opposed to solely exerting prolonged, which is high-intensity control over someone else. The term gaslighting has become more prevalent in media and our daily lives, so a recent problem has emerged, which is where people label common conflicts and admonishments as gaslighting. It is important to be cautious of the misuse of the term, because it dilutes the oppression that is experienced by the victims. Gaslighting is a behavior that exists, but not all actions that are intended to influence others or gain an advantage are considered to be gaslighting. If the word is used excessively in every disagreement or conflict, healthy communications will start to disappear. Using the term gaslighting in relationships should not be an excuse to designate the conversation partner as a perpetrator or present oneself as an innocent party. Efforts must be made in order to avoid misusing the term and not to trivialize the concept of gaslighting.

Trial & Error: Korean Startups Changing Traditional Workplace Culture

By Jung Gwang-su
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A strict hierarchical structure between superiors and subordinates, which is the use of *honorifics*, and communication via business dinners are emphasized in the Korean workplace culture. These elements often become the main sources of workplace stress and intergenerational conflicts.

However, this traditional workplace culture is gradually changing. Modern Korean startups are pursuing technological innovation as well as also innovating their workplace cultures. They are introducing various systems in order to create an efficient and productive environment as well as respect their employees' work-life balance.

This article provides insights into the traditional Korean workplace culture as well as introduce examples of innovative startup cultures. Moreover, it discusses the limitations of these new systems and the potential impact on future workplace cultures by proposing a new mindset that we should adopt.



Introduction to the Traditional Korean Workplace Culture

There are two key elements that are needed in order to understand the traditional Korean workplace culture, which include *hoesik* and the use of *honorifics*.

Hoesik refers to a gathering where colleagues dine together and communicate. It can be translated to English as a *company dinner* or a *business dinner*, but these terms fail to fully capture the unique aspects of the Korean *hoesik* culture. *Hoesik* in Korea serves as a primary method for employees to communicate with their superiors and build relationships with colleagues, which have a significant social value in itself.

However, the *hoesik* culture can also lead to problems. What superiors might see as a *proposal* can feel like a *compulsion* to employees, because attendance at these gatherings is generally expected. The alcohol-centered



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culture can additionally pose health risks from excessive drinking and stress that is related to compulsory drinking sessions.

Honorifics is a unique linguistic habit in the Korean workplace culture. *Honorifics* are words that are used in order to address others with respect based on their social status or age. This reflects the clear hierarchical structure between superiors and employees, which typically address superiors as being the boss or by using their surnames with their positions. This linguistic feature is one of the ways that the vertical structure of the Korean workplaces is distinctly displayed.



Innovative Workplace Culture in Korean Startups: The Case Study of Woowa Brothers

The *Woowa Brothers* Corporation, which is known for their renowned food delivery service, presents an innovative example of the evolving workplace culture in Korean startups.

1. The Horizontal Organizational Culture : *Woowa Brothers* employs a management approach that is known as *scrum*. This system is comprised of short work cycles and intensive result reviews, and it facilitates efficient communication within the team and nurtures a culture that values individual skills and creativity.

2. No Titles/No Formalities : *Woowa Brothers* adds to this unique culture by practicing a *no-titles* and *leave-without-announcement* culture. This approach effectively dismantles traditional hierarchical barriers by fostering a more cooperative and innovative atmosphere. The practice of leaving work without a formal announcement particularly signifies respect for personal work rhythms and trust in the employees. This novel approach is seen in the next photo, which clearly illustrates the sense of freedom and responsibility that are present in their workplace.

Woowa Brothers provides a compelling demonstration of the transformative potential of unconventional organizational cultures in the Korean workplace culture sector via these examples.

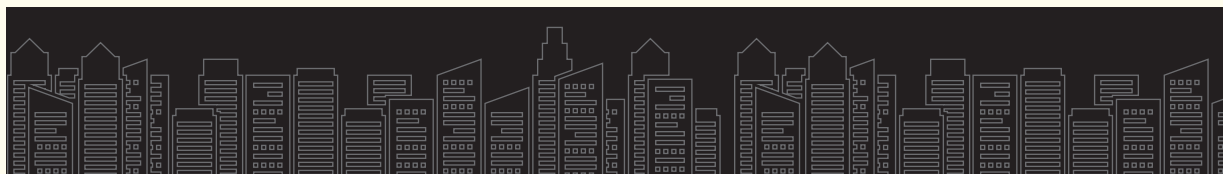


Banners showcasing the company's culture, like the *leave-without-announcement* policy, are displayed on the wall.

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Conclusion : Overcoming Obstacles and Moving Towards the Future with *Trial and Error*

Implementing a new workplace culture in Korean startups presents a variety of challenges. These include deeply rooted values from the traditional workplace culture, conflicts that arise from member diversity, and confusion surrounding the new system. It is imperative to respect individual diversity, effectively communicate the benefits of the new culture, and refine the system via ongoing implementations and evaluations in order to overcome these challenges. This process allows startups to enhance their performance and explore novel possibilities for the workplace culture of the future. Everyone must understand at the end of the day that the journey towards a superior outcome and workplace system is a *trial and error* process.



Why Do Koreans Want to Live in ***APARTMENTS?***

By Kang Eun-ji

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The Republic of Apartments in Korea

You see countless apartment buildings, which are lined up like dominoes, when you look down at Korea from an airplane. The unique landscape might convince you why Korea has the nickname *Republic of Apartments*. Over 62% of Koreans live in apartments according to the 2020 survey by Statistics Korea. Most Koreans literally reside in apartments. This might be natural to Koreans, but it is an impressive sight for foreigners. This is because apartments are considered to be an unpreferred housing option for low income dwellers in most countries. The prejudice is reflected that apartments are often portrayed as being a dystopian form of living in a futuristic world in movies. Why do Koreans prefer to live in apartments? Is it because Korea has a limited amount of land and a dense population? It might be partly true even in regions with lower population densities, such as Sejong, Gwangju, and Ulsan, but the ratio of apartment residents is significantly high.

Another notable point is that even the upper class in Korea prefers apartments. The drama series *The Penthouse*, which aired in 2021, depicted the lives

of the upper class in Korea, which all the main characters lived in apartments. Apartments are also prevalent in the real world and not just in dramas in Korea. The wealthiest village in Korea is Apgujeong, which is entirely composed of apartment complexes. Apartments hold a distinct preference among Koreans, and they represent the largest proportion in modern Korean housing culture. The historical, economic, and functional reasons why apartments succeeded in Korea are discussed below.



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Wawoo apartments

Apartments are now loved by every Korean, but they were not the preferred form of housing at the beginning stage of apartments. The Korean government's housing development policy before 1970s focused on building apartments for low-income individuals, because they lived in an area called *panjachon*, which is where houses were made of thin panels. These houses had to be demolished, which was due to urban security issues. However, they still lived in small rooms that were around 33 square meters and inferior conditions after moving into apartments. These apartments were depicted as organized slums during that time. Moreover, apartments did not culturally match with the Koreans. They had a strong desire to own land. Apartments could not fulfill this desire, and they did not reflect traditional Korean housing culture, such as *ondol*¹⁾ and *jangdokdae*²⁾. Apartments were therefore not a preferred by middle class. Apartments were solidified as terrible living spaces even after the breakdown of the *Wawoo Apartment*³⁾ in 1970.

Historical Context: Government-driven Initiative of Housing

Seoul was experiencing rapid population and economic growth, which was called *The Miracle on the Han River*, so there was naturally a need for housing that could accommodate the exponential growth. Apartments were the most efficient answer in order to meet this demand. The first step to start this initiative was that the government changed the direction of the apartment housing policies, which shifted from serving the lower class to targeting the middle class and intended to change the negative perception of apartments. Larger apartment sizes that were over 132 square meters and luxurious designs, such as high-class houses were built in order to achieve this. They also introduced a maid's room and security guards. The starting point of this transformation was the Dongbuichon-dong Apartments. Banpo Jugong Apartments in 1974 and Jamsil Jugong Apartments in 1977 also subsequently targeted the middle class or higher, and they gradually changed people's perception of apartments. Also, these apartments that were built with the development of the surrounding area became ideal dwellings and the symbol of the middle class. As a result, apartments transitioned from spaces that were associated with distrust to spaces that were associated with dreams, and they have become a mainstream of the Korean housing culture.



apartment for low-income

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Dongbuichon-dong Apartments

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1) Traditional Korean underfloor heating system that uses hot air circulated beneath the floor.

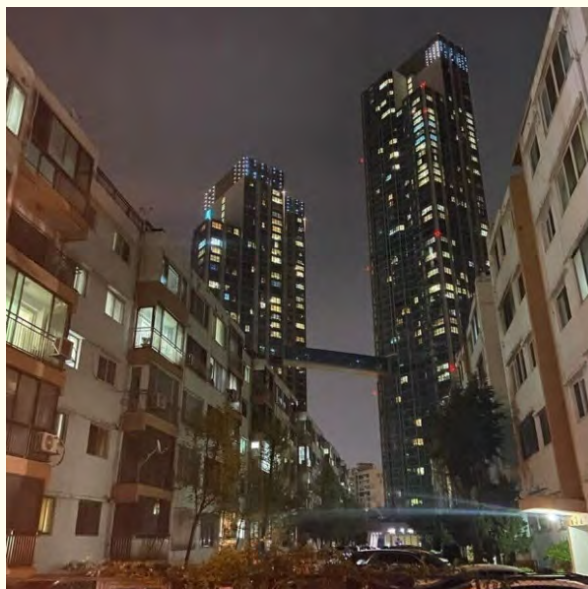
2) Traditional Korean pot that is used for the fermentation and storage of various food items. It was placed outside of the house and buried in the ground in order to maintain a cool temperature.

3) In the early morning of April 8, 1970, the Wow Apartment in Mapo-gu, Seoul collapsed in an instant. People lost their lives and 40 others suffered serious injuries. This incident remains a horrific stain in the construction history of South Korea.

Economic Context: The Myth of Invincible Apartment

Apartments for Koreans are places to live as well as also investment assets. Apartment values have consistently increased since their introduction, and people who purchased, constructed, and invested in apartments gained a substantial amount of profits, which lead to the creation of the phrase the *myth of invincible apartments*. It is necessary to understand the concepts of an apartment pre-sales contract and the redevelopment of an apartment in order to understand this phenomenon.

An apartment pre-sales contract refers to the process of purchasing a home before the apartment is constructed. This system originated from the construction of the upscale Hangang Mansion in Ichon-dong, which is where more than four times the amount of money was needed compared to the existing apartments. The pre-sales system was introduced in order to raise the substantial amount of funds. This system is still in effect today. The advantage for the buyers in a pre-sales contract is the chance to purchase apartments at a lower price than the surrounding apartments prices. Lee Si-eon is an actor who appeared on the TV show *I Live Alone* and bought an apartment for around 600 million won. However, its current price is around 1.7 billion won, which resulted in a tripled investment profit. The pre-sales system carries a higher risk, which is due to purchasing without physically inspecting the property. Apartments that are branded by major companies offer guaranteed quality, and their prices are generally ensured by the surrounding



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apartment market. Apartment investment is therefore considered a low-risk and high-reward investment option.

A foreigner took this picture and asserted that it reveals the gap between the rich and the poor in Seoul. However, the reality is that the apartment in the back is valued at around 3 to 4 billion won, whereas the one in the front is valued at 2.4 billion won. It actually shows the difference between affluent individuals as opposed to economic polarization. You might question how an old apartment like that can have a value of 2.4 billion won. The answer lies with the possibility of redevelopment. Once an old apartment is rebuilt, the owner gains the right to purchase a new apartment at a lower price than the market value, which provides an opportunity to earn hundreds of millions of won. This is why the value of Korean apartments does not decrease as they age. They are more like winning a lottery ticket that is worth hundreds of millions of won.

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Functional Context: Convenient Shared Spaces

Apartments continue to be popular in Korea apart from the historical and economic contexts because they have continually evolved and focused on convenience. Korean apartment complexes today offer a variety of facilities that necessary for daily life. Some recent photos of facilities in Korean apartments that were constructed within the past three years are provided below.



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Parks



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Guest houses



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Libraries



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Playgrounds



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Movie theaters



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Gyms

We explored the various reasons why Koreans love apartments. Apartments were derived from the Western world, but they have undergone continuous development in Korea, and which have been firmly established as *K-Apartments*. They have gained recognition for their convenience, and they have even been exported to Mongolia and more recently to the United States. I hope this article provides a deeper understanding of Korea's housing culture.

Controversy Surrounding the Discharge of Contaminated Water from Fukushima



©<https://www.bbc.com/korean/news>

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The Japanese government's announcement in November 2022 of plans to discharge contaminated water from Fukushima in April 2023 shocked South Korea. The concern stems from the potential recurrence of damage that was caused by the Fukushima nuclear disaster, which was a result of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Natural radiation presently has low levels of radiation and a minimal impact on human health, but radiation that is released from nuclear facilities is highly potent, which can lead to genetic mutations and fatal cancers if exposed. The announcement to discharge contaminated water therefore raised a significant amount of concern among the Korean public who are aware of the dangers of radiation.



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However, the Yoon Seok-yeol Administration did not express opposition to the discharge but appeared to support the decision. Some citizens criticized the government by citing its irresponsibility. On the other hand, some supported the decision by arguing that it was a choice that was made in regards to the national interest, which considered that the hazards that are posed by the discharge were minimal. The division of opinions can be attributed to the lack of consensus among the experts, which include ongoing debates and differing viewpoints. We examined the opinions of the experts in order to understand the trustworthiness of each perspective.

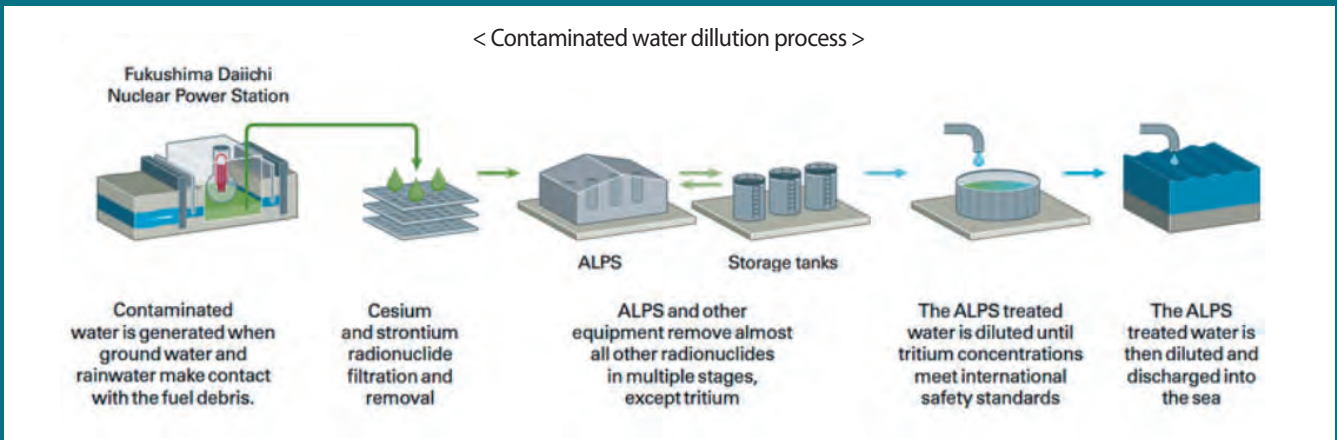
Main Point 1 Opposition to the Discharge of Contaminated Water

Seo Gyun-ryeol, who is a nuclear engineering professor emeritus at Seoul National University, opposed the discharge, which was based on the hazards of tritium¹⁾. He argued that tritium has significant adverse effects on humans, and it cannot be effectively filtered through the Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS). Moreover, he expressed doubts about the reliability of ALPS due to its history of frequent malfunctions over the past ten years. Professor Seo also claimed that discharging contaminated water would have a direct negative impact on South Korea's sea area via ocean currents, which would cause substantial damage to the fishing industry.

1) Tritium : An artificially radioactive element that can have adverse effects on human health.

Main Point 2 Irrelevance of the Discharge of Contaminated Water

According to Jung Beom-jin, who is a nuclear engineering professor at Kyung Hee University, the discharge of radioactive contaminated water will not be harmful. He explained that the radioactive concentration in the seawater would be similar to that of the Han River after the discharge, because the contaminated water undergoes sufficient dilution through ALPS. Radionuclides, such as strontium, plutonium, and iodine-129 would be diluted below the standard levels during this process. However, tritium, which is not effectively diluted through ALPS, would be further diluted via the addition of 40 times more water before the discharge. The tritium concentration would be reduced from approximately 60,000 Bq/L to 1,500 Bq/L via this process, which is much lower than the Korean standard of 40,000 Bq/L and the World Health Organization's drinking water standard of 10,000 Bq/L. The discharge of contaminated water additionally occurs through an underwater tunnel into the deep sea, which further facilitates dilution. As a result, the tritium concentration would reach approximately 150 Bq/L at a distance of 2~3 km from Japanese waters, which is equivalent to the concentration in the Han River.



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Furthermore, the decision to discharge contaminated water is driven by environmental considerations. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, there are some methods in regards to dealing with radioactive contaminated water, which include containment with cement, evaporation, and discharge into the ocean. The method that causes the least harm to the environment is discharge from a scientific perspective.

Nuclear power plants worldwide currently continuously discharge contaminated water without causing significant changes in the oceans. If Japan were to discharge contaminated water that contained a minute amount of radioactivity, the impact on the ocean would be minimal. Moreover, according to data from the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, there were no reports of radiation damage in Korea after the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011, even though the radiation levels at that time were approximately 1,000 times higher than the radiation levels that were planned for the discharge. Professors Jeong Yong-hoon from KAIST, Kang Geon-wook from Seoul National University's Nuclear Medicine Department, and Professor Wade Allison from the University of Oxford presented similar arguments.

Conclusion Politicians Do Not Suffer from the Consequences

It appears that the discharge of contaminated water will not pose any significant health risks, which is based on a thorough examination. In fact, during a debate between opposing professors Seo Gyun-ryeol and Kang Geon-wook, Professor Seo acknowledged that his own statements were mere rumors. Individuals are entitled to their personal judgments and should be respected, so the media and politicians should refrain from making value judgments. The focus should be on ensuring that the hazards of the discharge are scientifically established. The public should make wise and objective judgments that are free from the influence of the media and politicians. It is crucial to remember that it is the citizens and not the politicians who ultimately suffer from the consequences.

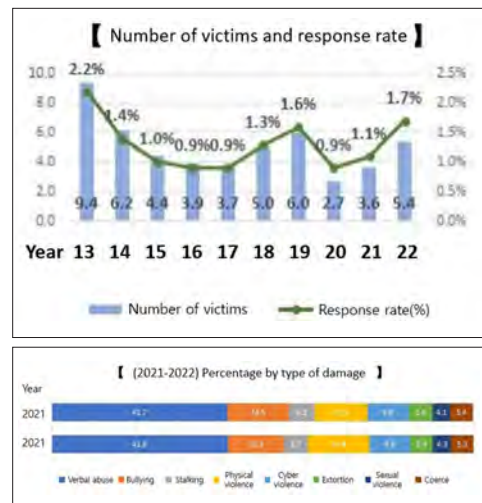
School Violence

©https://www.sisain.co.kr

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School violence refers to injuries, assaults, imprisonment, intimidation, burglaries, and insults to students everywhere on/offline, which can cause physical, mental, or property damage. School violence, which is presented on the side, goes with a certain level of victims steadily and encompasses various types of actions according to the results of the *first survey on school violence in 2022*, which is Ministry of Education press release. It has been a serious social problem, which receives extensive media coverage and successive responses from the government. We discuss below examples of school violence and how the government dealt with the issue.



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An Example in the Real World

The Daegu Middle School violence case in 2011 is one of the representative cases that caused an outcry from the general public, because it resulted in the suicide of a young middle school student. The perpetrators, who were also middle school students, forcefully extorted money from the victim for entertainment that were adult in nature. They repeatedly physically attacked the victim as a group using pieces of wood, steel pieces of rebar, and baseball bats. The victim was subjected to unspeakable water tortures and threats with disposable lighters. The relentless bullying and tormenting led to the victim's suicide, and there were inappropriate initial responses and follow-ups from the school, the official education office, and the government. Public officials made controversial statements, such as "Do not make the victim a hero" and "It doesn't matter whether the victim dies or the school becomes lawless as long as I keep my place." Some media outlets introduced the relationship between the victim and the perpetrators as being friends and even released biased news, which sided with the perpetrators. These responses from the officials and news agencies enraged the public and the victim's family, which was mainly caused by ignorance and insensitivity in regards to school violence as being trivial matters.

The *School Violence Me Too* movement follows reports of school violence that are unveiled via the media, which especially involve celebrities and athletes in 2021. It has been an essential procedure for celebrities to check previous school violence records after the *Me Too* incident. Many celebrities were accused of being perpetrators via social media, which started for certain female volleyball athletes, and they garnered more attention due to their public recognition.



An Example from a TV Show

School violence, which is driving a big wave of influence, has amplified its severity via various mass media. *The Glory*, which is the drama series of Netflix, shows scenes where students bully the main character. It includes cruel scenes, such as burning the victim's arms and legs with a curling iron as well as subjecting her to sexual assaults. The teacher in charge of protecting the students was trying to cover up the violence situations in hurry and assaulted the victim. Moreover, perpetrators used offered bribes in order to conceal the case. These depictions of school violence are easily seen in dramas, such as *A Model Taxi* and *The Uncanny Counter*. There are some scenes that the perpetrators extort money and valuables and push the victim to their deaths via borrowed authorities from their parents. These depictions are not just fiction. They are based on reality, which reveal the dreadful realities of school violence.

The central and local governments propel themselves forward in order to meet the needs of the public in regards to school violence. There are several institutions and acts in place in regards to professionally handling school violence, such as the Act on the Prevention and Countermeasures of School Violence, the School Violence Countermeasures Committee, the Countermeasures Regional Committee, and the Regional Council. Institutions and policies provide support for victims in the areas of psychological treatments and protection. Penalties for perpetrators include restraining orders, compulsory services around the school, suspensions from school, and being transferred into a different class or school. This government especially emphasizes the non-face-to-face support and proposes a reinforced system that applies school violence records when perpetrators advance to higher levels of education.



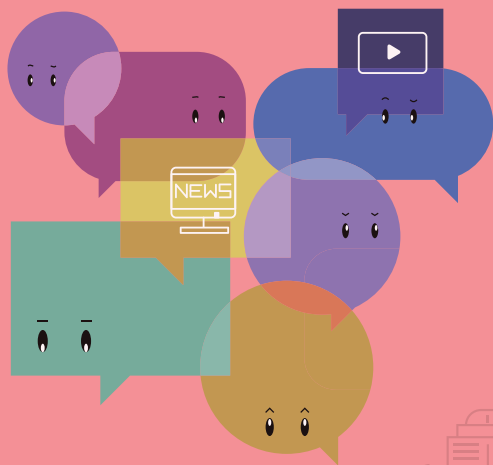
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Continuous revisions and consultations are being implemented in order to address limitations, such as the inability of teachers to exercise their discretion, issues with education and reformation, counseling, and internal document leaks. Other problems with current measures include mere isolation, short investigation periods compared to the duration of the crime, excessive delegation of tasks to officials, and a shortage of experts and support centers. These highlighted limitations raise doubts among the public, the victims' families, and experts in regards to whether the government is genuinely committed to eradicating school violence, or it is simply resorting to temporary actions.

Students are not mature adults, but they can't be considered as being young babies either. We shouldn't provide them with ways to deceive the socially agreed-upon system. It is crucial to make them aware of their responsibility for their actions, which ensures their development into responsible adults. Society is responsible for raising teenagers in an upright manner, and teenagers are also responsible to mature in an ideal way themselves. It is recommended that we have to keep an eye on students in order to prevent school violence from recurring, which includes continuous attention and incessant efforts of official institutions.



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Generations in Today

By Park Seong-O
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Have you ever heard of the MZ generation, Satori generation, Doomer generation, Tang ping generation, and NEET generation? These generations refer to young people from the Republic of Korea, Japan, the USA, China, and other places. They will be the leading post-group, so the world is keeping an eye on them. They show similar features, even though they are in different countries and from different cultures. Let's take a look at their characteristics and the reasons why we have to notice them.

The MZ generation is the Korean youth, and they show a creative and characterful consumption culture and self-presentation. They put emphasis on individual characters, which makes them a significant social trend. Another trait is that they follow after a free employment environment that is based on an egotistic mentality.

The Satori generation in Japan has a passive mindset towards consumption, trips, love, interests, and even their careers and self-development. Moreover, their stance is defensive toward entertainment, alcohol, and honor. It is remarkable that they put a lot of value on instant effectiveness as opposed to final results or the overall effectiveness. Satori (悟る), which means *nirvana* in Japanese, is the best word that represents their attitude of abandoning their greed with minimal consumption.

There is also the Doomer generation in the USA. Redditt said, "Even if we could ascend all of our anxieties and attempt to lead a meaningful life, what would the point be if we are faced with inevitable collapse." They were born during the September 11 attacks and the subprime mortgage crisis, and they grew up during the COVID-19 era. They exhibit pessimism and an anti-social stance with a hostile and cynical view of other generations. They are also a nocturnal generation, and they are big fans of conspiracy theories, eschatology, defeatism, and pessimism.



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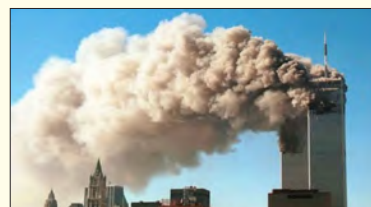
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The Tang ping generation in China is basically set on a passive and unmotivated state without any effort to jump on the mainstream. The phrases that describe the Tang ping generation include laying down is justice, there's no guilty with joblessness, and laying down is wise exercise and the measure of everything. They do not organize any groups, and the phrase *sue me* is the phrases that represents them.

Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET), which is in Europe and other nations, is similar to the previously mentioned generations. The exact definition varies across countries and cultures, but it is a widely used term especially in Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and North America.

These people share common backgrounds. The earth is connected by developed techniques, and they experienced shared events, such as the September 11 attack, the subprime mortgage crisis, bubble economics, and the IT bubble. These events have made them grow up in a new society, which have affected them more than positive events. Aloofness and detachment are their common features. Individual happiness is a top priority for MZs, which has caused conflicts with the predominant older generations in Korea. A shift toward a passive stance against society and the non-consumer culture is observed in Japan, which has been influenced by experiences of bullying and covert assaults during their childhoods and youth. The USA and China share a similar trait of animosity toward society.

These features are considered as being serious social problems, and they are not simply generational patterns. They have not been understood by older generations, and they have not been understood by other generations as well. The balance between national growth and personal life gains warrants a significant amount of attention, and it has turned into a struggle in order to escape the traditional organization-based culture, which is unlike the previous decades when the main goal was rapid economic growth. Conflicts between generations are inevitable, because societies and cultures keep changing. Technological advances often act as a guide to tragic accidents as opposed to being as a seed for hope in the upcoming future. This makes the shift of attitude in life from an expectation of growth to seclusion from society. Things in their childhood were characterized by indifferences at home and academic elitism at school. Further challenges have casted a shadow over them, such as other social struggles and populist policies.



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Youth populations, which include the MZ, Satori, Doomer, Tang ping, and NEET generations, face disadvantages, but they are not innocent either. Human beings can't be the other but can understand the other. Young generations should look back on their ways of expressing complaints and hardships, and other generations should respect the younger generations. New generations emerge with a new era, which calls for a new perspective and the ability to empathize with others by walking in another person's shoes.



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Eco-terrorism by Environmentalists

By Kim Do-hyeun

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The photo on the left shows activists from the environmental group *Just Stop Oil*. They are protesting in front of Gogh's sunflowers and They poured soup on the painting and glued their palms to the wall. The climate crisis is getting serious, so environmental groups that staging violent and radical protest are on the increase all around the world. The environmental groups that stage these actions are called *eco-terrorists* and their actions are called *eco-terrorism*. Eco-terrorism is discussed in this article, which is emerging as social problems.

Topic 1



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Typical examples of eco-terrorism are provided below.

1. Activists from the Italian environmental group *Ultima Generazione* protested at the Trevi Fountain¹⁾ on May 21, 2023. They went into the fountain with signs that said *we won't pay for fossil fuels* and they poured vegetable ink. The water in the Trevi Fountain was completely emptied, which was due to the protests, and 3 million liters of water had to be refilled.
2. The British environmental group *Adbusters* said SUVs are one of the biggest threats to the climate, and they ran a campaign in order to deflate tires of SUVs in rich villages and put notices on the windshields. This campaign was conducted in the U.K as well as in many other countries, such as the United States and New Zealand.
3. Activists from the German environmental group *Letzte Generation* broke into the main roads in downtown Berlin on April 24, 2023, and they staged a protest by gluing their hands with super glue to the road.

1) The fountain, which also appeared in the movie *Roman Holiday*, is one of the most famous tourist attractions in Rome.

Topic 2

The reason why lots of environmental groups are staging eco-terrorism protests could be found in an interview with documentary director Rich Felgate, who filmed the protest scene of *Just Stop Oil*. He said the environmental groups have done everything that they could. They held various peaceful movements and protests, which include writing petitions and marching on the streets, but they did not gain any attention from the public and mainstream media, which is why many environmental groups have chosen violent and radical way that can catch the public's attraction and deliver their messages.

Critical opinions and punishments for violent environmental movements are gradually increasing. South Korea's court has fined environmental activists who protested against the construction of a new airport on Gadeok Island. The court acknowledged the validity of the argument against the construction, because practical efforts in regards to resolving the environmental crisis were urgently needed. However, it couldn't justify their unauthorized entry into the building in order to protest. In addition, the German government spokesman Steffen Hebestreit responded to the road blockade protest in Berlin by saying, "Of course, we do not support this form of protest and the German government has done more to protect climate than any other government." Also, he pointed out, "There is an opportunity to criticize in parliamentary democracy, but I doubt that a massive disturbance of the public order will contribute to this."



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Jane Goodall, who is a primate researcher and environmental activist, replied in an interview with the Bloomberg in regards to the protests by environmental groups by saying, "It tends to make people think about all of us who care climate change in a very negative way." Also said, "I can understand their anger, but I cannot condone their methods." As she said, the actions of environmental groups make people hostile towards environmental movements, and their radical protests are unacceptable in our society. In addition, their protest methods threaten the safety and public order, and unnecessary costs and resources are being wasted as a result of the protests. That is why they need to move away from the current method and find a new one for the public in order to accept and actively participate. Of course, the purpose of environmental groups is to get public attention, so if the public first takes interest to their arguments, eco-terrorism and the resulting problems will gradually disappear.

<Don't Be Anxious!>

How was your
summer vacation?



Some friends
say
they studied
hard for
their future.

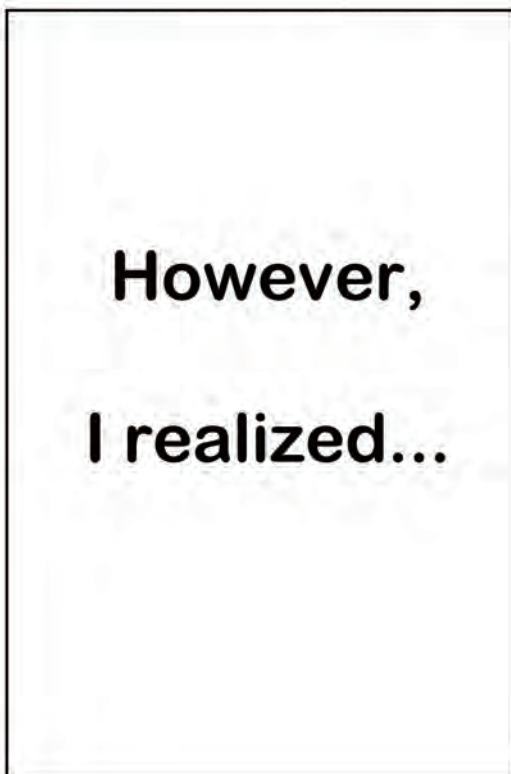


Some friends
says
they went
on a trip.



Some friends
say they
replenished
their sleep.





WORD PUZZLE

S	S	Q	L	D	P	S	R	Z
U	D	U	L	D	M	T	C	U
O	J	G	I	Y	G	A	O	T
I	C	X	F	T	B	G	C	S
R	R	D	L	K	A	E	H	P
A	U	Z	U	T	P	B	T	O
V	U	V	F	S	M	Z	L	K
P	A	W	E	S	A	Y	L	E
Q	A	R	C	O	N	V	E	Y

해당되는 기사 페이지에 힌트가 있습니다.
정답과 설문내용을엽서에 적으셔서 11월 20일까지 세종타임즈 이메일로 보내주세요. 채택되신 분들께 소정의 상품을 드립니다.

When you find all the hidden words in the puzzle, please send the postcard attached at the end to thesjtimes@sejong.ac.kr by November 20th. There are prizes for those who send in the correct answers.

1. apartments could not _____ this desire [p.20-23]
2. it is imperative to _____ individual diversity [p.18-19]
3. she wishes to _____ to the audience [p.08-11]
4. informational content short forms are _____ to learn [p.04-05]
5. The environmental groups that _____ these actions are called eco-terrorists [p.30-31]
6. mascots can be frequently used in _____ ways [p.06-07]

Dictionary

environmentalist a person who works to protect the natural world from pollution and other threats

suffocate to die because of not having enough oxygen

violent using or involving the use of physical force to cause harm or damage to someone or something

attention the act or power of carefully thinking about, listening to, or watching someone or something

Brutality behavior that is very cruel or violent and showing no feelings for others

conventional used and accepted by most people

provocative causing discussion, thought, argument, etc

shortcoming a bad feature; a flaw or defect in something

sublimate to express strong emotions or use energy by doing an activity

dwelling a place where people live

manipulate to deal with or control in a clever and usually unfair or selfish way

radiation the emission of energy as electromagnetic waves or as moving subatomic particles, especially high-energy particles which cause ionization

facility a place, especially including buildings, where a particular activity happens prevent from doing what is intended

trivialize to make something seem less important or serious than it actually is

subordinate lower in rank or position

invincible impossible to defeat or prevent from doing what is intended

prosecute to hold a trial against a person who is accused of a crime to see if that person is guilty

compulsory required by law or a rule

genetic relating to origin, or arising from a common origin

imperative of vital importance

nuclear relating to the nucleus of an atom

development the act or process of growing or causing something to grow or become larger or more advanced

symbol an action, object, event, etc., that expresses or represents a particular idea or quality

mascot a person, animal, or object used as a symbol to represent a group and to bring good luck

seclusion the state of being away from other people or the act of placing or keeping someone away from other people

nirvana a state of freedom from all suffering that Buddhists believe can be achieved by removing all personal wishes

perpetrator someone who has committed a crime or a violent or harmful act

property things that belong to someone

mercenary a soldier who fights for any country or group that pays them

Thank You for Your Interest in SEJONG TIMES

WORD PUZZLE

D	M	X	C	O	P	E	Q	S
T	I	O	P	I	O	V	A	E
W	S	Y	N	S	O	T	T	E
N	I	E	Y	E	I	E	Y	S
Z	D	S	T	R	T	D	U	T
U	N	G	I	O	Q	A	O	K
N	K	Z	Q	F	R	C	R	E
D	E	O	N	L	E	P	R	Y
E	M	E	R	G	E	N	C	E

1. How did you come across Sejong Times?

*I came across it on the 1st floor of
Happy Dormitory.*

2. Is there a specific topic you'd like for Sejong
Times to cover?

Job Opportunities for foreign students

3. Which is your favorite article in this issue?
And why?

*Chat GPT to higher Education.
It is an interesting trend.*

4. Are you willing to work as a guest reporter for
Sejong Times?

*Sure. I think It will be a nice
experience.*

* When you find all the hidden words in the puzzle, please send the postcard attached at the end to thestimes@sejong.ac.kr by July 21th. There are prizes for those who send in the correct answers.

Tran Thi Thu Hien / Hospitality & Tourism Management 20

We will continue to strive for
better contents



Thank You For Reading
Our Magazine



SEJONG PEOPLE 공모



동아리 소모임 홍보를 어떻게 할지 고민하지 마시고
Sejong People에 공모하세요.

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10~15장을 보내주시면 됩니다.

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사진을 올리실 때는 간단한 사진 설명도 함께 부탁드립니다.



SEJONG UNIVERSITY