

A Hisako Matsui Film

**Fighting for the Pacifist Constitution:
We in Japan speak up now, “NO MORE WAR!”**

First of all, we'd like to extend our sincere gratitude to your interest in this film.

The Japanese Constitution tells us “how ‘I,’ as an individual citizen, should live a decent life in the world.” In the past few years, our government has shown their growing interest in amending our current Constitution. The documentary film, *Fighting for the Pacifist Constitution: We in Japan speak up now, “NO MORE WAR!”*, attempts to look at historical materials and listen to some people's words so that the Japanese people, for whom the Constitution guarantees our sovereignty, may get to know more about the Constitution and will hopefully be more aware of our Constitutional rights.

Basically, the content of the film, instead of simply showing such politically divided messages as given either by rightists or by leftists, tries to introduce variegated opinions and arguments from the viewpoints of ordinary citizens.

Last but not least, this film was made and completed thanks to the donations by lots of citizens in all Japan. We wish that this film will reach as many people as possible in the whole world as well as in Japan. Moreover, we hope that this film will afford good opportunities for everyone to consider and discuss our Constitution. Thank you so much again for your support and interest in this film.

Hisako Matsui

CONTENT

- *What is constitutionalism?
- *Lessons from history (From defeat in the WWII to formation of the Constitution of Japan)
- *People as leading player in the nation (Article 1: The Sovereignty of the people)
- *Fundamental human rights should not be violated. (Article 11)
- *Liberation from Feudalistic Family system (Article 24: Equality of the sexes)
- *Article 9 of the Constitution is losing validity (Article 9: Renunciation of War).
- *History of US-Japan diplomacy after the end of the war
- * Have people in Okinawa enjoyed the Japanese Constitution?
- *Toward the future: in 2016, our government introduced voting rights for young people of the age 18 and up (how the present and future generations participate in politics)

* LDP's proposal for revision of the Constitution, opinions of the advocates of protection of the Constitution, and a proposal from protective but partial revisionists of the Constitution

Participants in the Film:

Jyakuchou Setouchi, writer and Buddhist Priestess, Kyoto

Ukeru Magozaki, critic in foreign affairs/former diplomat

Yasuo Hasebe, Professor of Law, expert in constitutional law, Waseda University, Tokyo

Kenji Isezaki, Professor at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies; former special consultant of Japanese Government for disarmament of the areas in conflict

Youichi Miura, Professor and Historian at Chubu University, Nagoya

Ryoko Akamatsu, President of the UNICEF Japan; former Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

Hajime Funada, acting director at the head office for promotion of the Constitutional Amendment of LDP

Karen Van Wolfren, Dutch journalist

Jinshiro Motoyama, student from Okinawa; member of the SEALDs (The Student Emergency Act for Liberal Democracy)

Tomoko Tate, lawyer; member of "Society of Young Lawyers to Defend Liberty for Tomorrow," Saitama

Kensuke Harada, Representative Director, NPO Corporation: "How to Connect Young People with Politics," Tokyo

Suu Mizuno, housewife near Kanazawa City; author of *A Guide to the Constitution for You and Me*

Yuria Saito, idol singers' group: "The Committee for Promotion of School Uniforms"

Kazuma Hibino, high school student in Nagoya

Hitomi Tsuji, housewife; member of "The Society of Mothers Protesting against the Related Bills for Security," Saitama Prefecture

Seiko Tsuchiya (housewife), **Yoshiko Tsukimata** (mother of an official of the Self-Defense Forces, Chitose, Hokkaido), **Kanako Tsukimata** (sister of the same official), **Mao Takatsuka** (freelance worker; leader of a demonstration in Sapporo), **Yuhō Asaka**, PEER Counselor, **Umi Asaka** (student), **Mai Nakanishi** (Designer), **Mariko Nagai** (Interpreter), **Teruko Kobayashi** (Specialist in cosmetics), **Yumiko Matsumoto** (Film critic), **Ayako Miyazaki** (Voice Consultant & Voice Trainer)

Keiko Takeshita, actress; narrator of the film