

The Depth of a Social Safety Net

How to Evaluate the Works of Welfare Commissioners in Japan

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Introduction

Redefining a Social Safety Net in Today's Context

>> different from the definition used by prof. Osawa and prof. Tamai

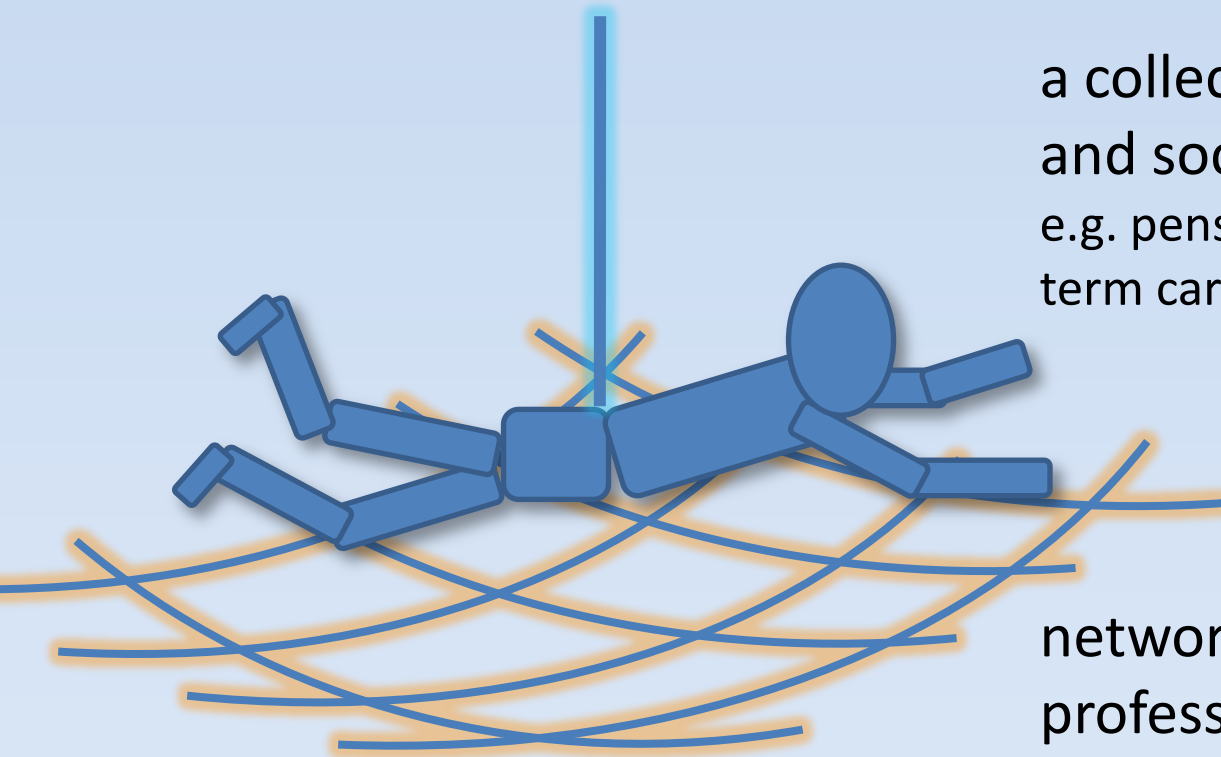
Key Element: Role of Welfare Commissioners (Minseijin)

>> based on the study of Goodman R.(1998) "The 'Japanese-style welfare state' and the delivery of personal social services"

Talking about "East Asian Model"

>> consensus-based (political) system suggested by T.H. Marshall (prof. Lee)

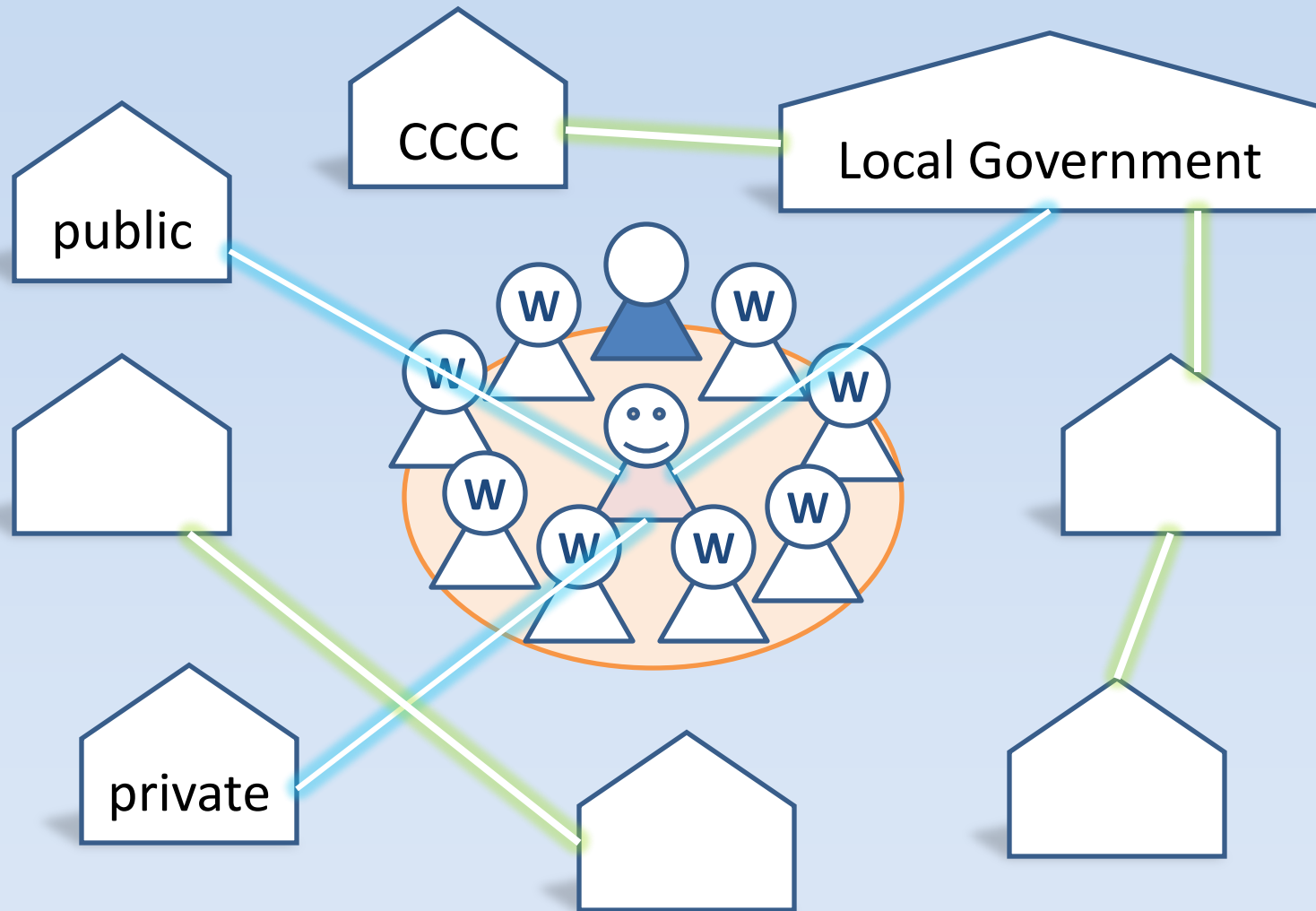
Redefining a Social Safety Net



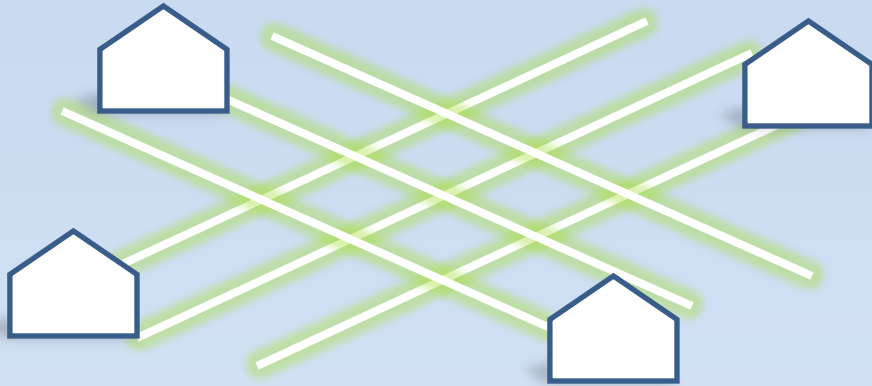
a collection of social insurances
and social security
e.g. pension, social assistance, long-
term care insurance

network of service providers,
professionals, volunteers, and
other actors

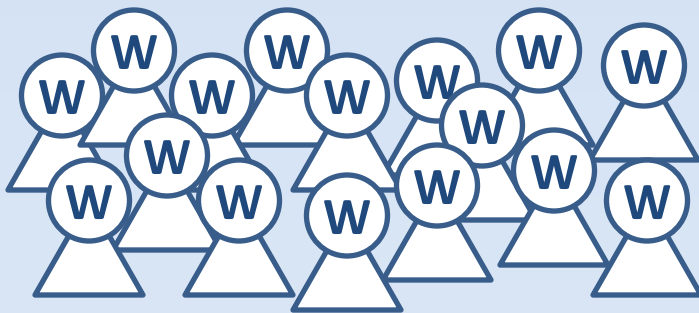
a New Form of Social Safety Net Today



the Width and the Depth defined by...



a Collaboration among Programs and Services

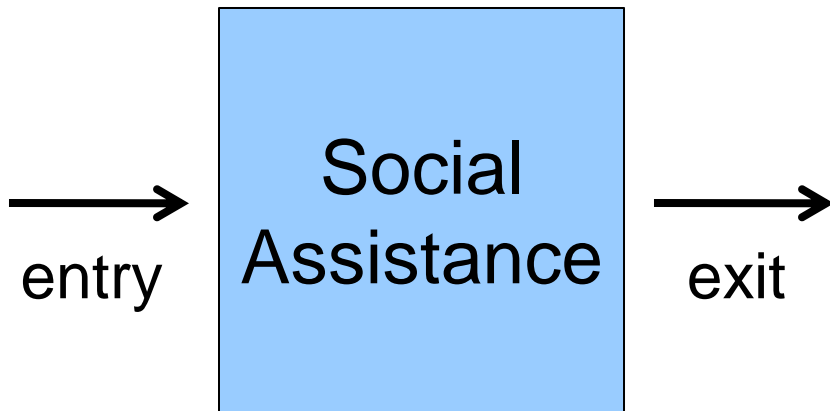


How well Welfare Commissioners and Volunteers are Organized

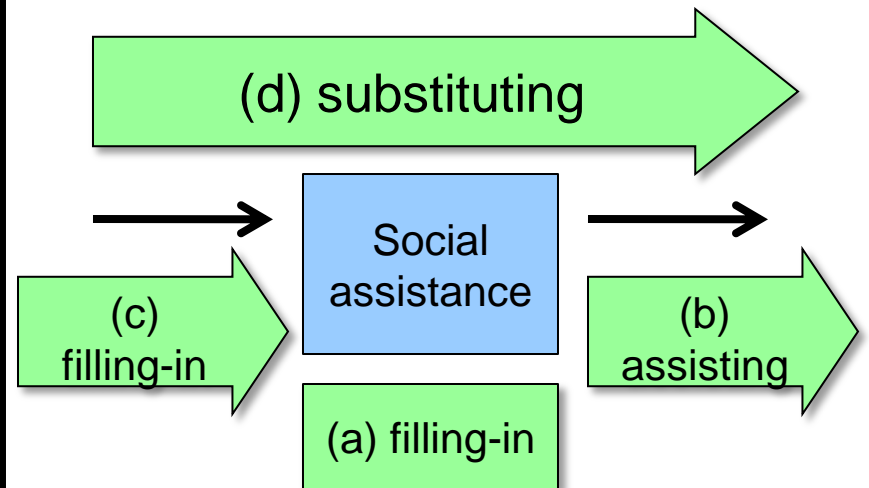
How to Widen?

case study: bet/ social assistance program and social action program

ordinal safety net
with social assistance



safety net with collaboration
between social assistance and
Social Action Program



How to Deepen?

Through the works of Welfare Commissioners/Volunteers

>>Background of Welfare Commissioners

-Its history

90 years, volunteers appointed by the Minister of HWL

98% of the area is covered

-Its operation (tasks and roles)

appointed area with 70-440 households

social research, friendly visits, disseminating information,

collaborate with government agencies and social service providers

Challenges and Improvements

- Volunteer-based
- Gaps between committed members and not-so-committed ones
- Has a strong tie to the local politics
- Members are Ageing



- Integrated into community-based initiatives
- Given authority/a new role in a local municipality

Empowerment Evaluation

- Through Participation
- Self-Determination
- Capacity Building
- Making Shifts and Improvements

Methods

- Determine the Mission
 - Taking Stock
 - Planning for the Future
- (David Fetterman)