

# Current Practice & Current Research April 3 -10



Tomohide ATSUMI, Ph.D.

Osaka University, Japan

Nippon Volunteer Network Active in Disaster

Current Practice: We learned a lot from last conference.

× **PRACTICE has THE FIRST PRIORITY!**

× Each presenter gave us much information. We learned especially from Mr. Xie Zhenhai who shared their activities for the elderly people.

× We have launched a local project, Sui-Sui-Suita, to support old residents living alone near Osaka Univ. campus.

× We cooperated with local social welfare council, local welfare volunteers, and media crew, and are about to send a letter to

# Thinking about Similarity and Dissimilarity between COVID-19 and other natural disasters...

- × *Actually* at the beginning, even our board members of disaster NPO did not reach consensus whether COVID-19 was a disaster, or not.
- × COVID-19 is DIFFERENT from other natural disasters,
  - × (1) Global (no national borders)
  - × (2) Rapid (not as climate change)
  - × (3) No Room to Escape (see Fukushima)
  - × (4) Volunteers can't stay beside with victims (who survives?)
- × But COVID-19 is SIMILAR to other natural disasters,
  - × (1) More damages on those who are weakened.
  - × (2) No expectation, no reason, no...
  - × (3) Should stay beside with victims
  - × (4) Insufficient understanding

# Current Research and Questions

- × I realized that this network (IACCR itself) is a field, so I keep coming and take fieldnotes and will write an ethnography.

## Today's questions

- × 1. What have been told in your country?
  - × Literature (e.g., Camus "La Peste")
  - × Movie (e.g., Komatsu "Virus")
  - × Animation (e.g., Akato "En attendant Rieux")
  - × Music, Poem, Painting, Calligraphy...?
- × 2. What could motivate people to learn it properly and prepare for it? (same as disaster preparedness)