Disposable Chopsticks

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In this report I would like to explore the use of disposable chopsticks (*waribashi* in Japanese), which are widely used in Japan. I have chosen this topic because I am interested in the environmental cost of using such disposable items as chopsticks, plastic bags, and beverage containers.

The phenomenon of disposable chopsticks is very widespread in modern Japan. According to \_\_\_\_\_\_, every in Japan some 45 million sets of disposable chopsticks are used. Elsewhere, too, they are widely used: in Thailand, for example, nearly 30 million are thrown away daily, and in China another 100 million similarly are used a single time and then thrown away (Nuwar, 2011).

The first problem is about the system of the scholarship programs. If you are not Japanese, of course you may imagine that you don’t have to pay back the scholarship you received. However, in Japan, it is not a correct interpretation. The most notable system in Japan is JASSO (Japan Student Services Organization) scholarship program, and JASSO requests students to repay the money they got in their university life after their graduation. Many people say that it is no longer the scholarship. Some people calls the JASSO’s program “a student loan.”

The second problem is about the … The third is about why students use the scholarship system. It’s simply because the tuition fee is quite expensive. For instance, the annual tuition in Chiba University is 535,800 yen. The average of the annual tuition fee in private universities such as Waseda, Meiji and Chuo is 860,266 yen [MEXT, 2015]. Furthermore, students need a lot of money to lead their daily lives. Parents have difficulty in meeting the whole cost, so there are a lot of students who use the scholarship system.

Learning opportunities should be equal despite various factors such as money, race and birthplace. If the statement is thought to be right, current scholarship system in Japan is the obstruction. By increasing stipend services in number, reducing the tuition fee and using public expense for education more and more, Japanese students will not suffer from the problems about money that much.

References

Nuwer, R. (2011, October 24). Disposable chopsticks strip Asian forests. Retrieved July 25, 2017, from https://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/10/24/　disposable-chopsticks-strip-asian-forests/