

# First Full-scale Deliberative Poll in Japan!

## Before-deliberation Questionnaire on “Doshusei” Starts from October Respondents Gather at the Deliberation Event on December 5

Kanagawa Institute for Local Autonomy has been collaborating with Tokyo Institute of Technology on Deliberative Polling, a new polling method which combines questionnaire surveys and a deliberation event. Based on the results of our pilot survey last year, we will conduct a full-scale Deliberative Poll this year in the first ever attempt in Japan.

### 1 What is Deliberative Polling?

In Deliberative Polling, after an initial questionnaire survey is conducted, respondents are invited to a deliberation event where they discuss with other participants and experts, and compare and consider various opinions. At the conclusion of the event the participants answer the same questionnaire again. This method is considered a way to hear the well-informed opinions of the people. It has been conducted several dozen times in other countries such as America and European countries as an effective way to listen to citizens' opinions as input to the policy-making process.

(Note: Refer to Appendix 1 for an overview of Deliberative Polling, Appendix 2 for examples of DPs in other countries.)

### 2 Purpose of Studying Deliberative Polling

It has become more crucial than ever to implement policies based on citizens' opinions. In this context we are researching the effectiveness and practicality of Deliberative Polling, which is considered in other countries to be a method to gauge deliberative, well-balanced opinions of citizens.

(Note: Refer to Appendix 3 for information on the implementation system of the survey.)

### 3 Visit of Professor James S. Fishkin

Deliberative Polling was invented by Professor James S. Fishkin of Stanford University in the U.S. To conduct this survey project we need to have the approval of the Center for Deliberative Democracy, Stanford University, of which Professor Fishkin is the director.

Professor Fishkin has come to Japan to give advice on conducting the survey and to meet with Governor Matsuzawa in preparation for running the first Deliberative Poll in Japan.

(Note: Refer to Appendix 4 for profile of Professor Fishkin.)

### 4 Before-deliberation Questionnaire on Doshusei Started

In early September, we began the pre-questionnaire survey among 3,000 randomly selected citizens and asked for their cooperation. From mid-October we will conduct the 'before deliberation' questionnaire survey on Doshusei among those who agree to cooperate.

(Note: Refer to Appendix 5 for information on the survey process.)

## 5 Respondents Gather at the Deliberation Event on December 5

We will invite respondents of the before-deliberation questionnaire to the deliberation event where they will exchange their opinions on Doshusei.

(1) Date and Time: From 9:30 to 17:00, Saturday, December 5, 2009

(2) Venue: Kanagawa Institute for Local Autonomy Center

(Note: Refer to Appendix 5 for an overview of the event.)

### Reference:

Appendix 1 "Overview of Deliberative Polling"

Appendix 2 "Examples of Deliberative Polls in Other Countries"

Appendix 3 "Implementation System for the Kanagawa Deliberative Polling"

Appendix 4 "Profile of Professor James S. Fishkin"

Appendix 5 "Process of the Survey and Deliberation Event"

### Contact:

Kanagawa Institute of Local Autonomy Center

Vice Director: Nakamura

Phone: 045-896-2921 (direct)

Research Team: Kataoka, Ogawa and

Nagai

Phone: 045-896-2932 (direct)