

How are you doing, everyone? You may have more chances to attend drinking parties (“*nomikai*”) around this time of year, for example a party after the graduation ceremony. So, in this issue, we will talk about “*Alhara*”.

[What is “Alcohol Harassment”?]

“*Alhara*” is the abbreviation for “Alcohol Harassment”, alcohol-related violation of human rights which is defined as any of the following:



(1) Coercion of drinking alcohol.

The act of coercing someone into drinking alcohol by putting psychological pressure of a hierarchical nature, or the tradition of a club, cheering, “penalty game”, *etc.*

(2) “Ikki” (binge drinking).

The act of compelling someone to drink an alcohol beverage all at once (down in one shot) as a party game or to attend drinking games (competition of rapid consumption).

(3) Forcing someone to drink until unconscious.

The act of planning a drinking party to get someone drunk is recognized as a crime of inflicting injuries.

(4) Neglect of a person who cannot drink.

The act of pressing alcohol to a person who cannot or do not want to drink, not providing nonalcoholic beverage in the party, kidding or insulting a person who cannot drink, *etc.*

(5) Alcohol-related nuisance.

Verbal abuse, physical abuse, sexual harassment, and other types of nuisance in relation to alcohol.

Adapted from the website of Japan Specified Non-profit Corporation to Prevent Alcohol and Drug Problems (ASH) (<http://www.ask.or.jp/ikkialhara.html>).

Legal responsibility of a person or group who forced drinking.

There have been some sensational news reports of alcohol-related harassment in Japanese universities. In some cases, teachers who attended the party did not stop the “*Alhara*”. In other cases, teachers by themselves did “*Alhara*” by forcing the students to attend drinking parties (“*nomikai*”). “*Alhara*” occurs not only between teachers and students but also between boss and staff. To prevent “*Alhara*”, all the members of universities, including students, teachers, and staff should consider the serious risks of “*Alhara*”.

“*Alhara*” is an extremely vicious and dangerous act which may grow into a crime of inflicting injuries and in some cases students have actually lost their lives. We can not excuse ourselves by saying “**At least we never forced ikki**” or “**We just did drinking games as a tradition at our clubs.**” Please enjoy drinking parties (“*nomikai*”) but be careful with “*Alhara*”.

If you feel that you have suffered alcohol-related or any other harassment, please feel free to come to our office and talk with us. We will discuss with you how to overcome this type of harassment and together we will solve the problem.

Nagoya University Harassment Consultation Center (Our Consultation rooms are in Higashiyama and Tsurumai campus.) <http://www.sh-help.provost.nagoya-u.ac.jp>

Higashiyama section Monday~Friday (excluding holidays) 9:00~17:00 Engineering, Building 7, 2F

Tel: 052-789-5806 FAX: 052-789-5968 E-mail: h-help@post.jimu.nagoya-u.ac.jp (for both Higashiyama and Tsurumai section)

Tsurumai section Tuesday (excluding holidays) 9:00~17:00 The old west ward 452 Tel&FAX : 052-744-2827