

# An Analysis of Japan's Probation Measures: a Focus on the Victims' Feelings Conveyance System

Ito Fujie  
Nakamura Hidesato

**Abstract:** This study will analyze Japan's practices regarding the victims' feelings conveyance system introduced December 2007 as a measure on behalf of crime victims and will clarify its status. This system has an important function for the victims as a "window" into the criminal justice system; in that it enables them to communicate their feelings to perpetrators on probation for their crimes and to then be informed as to the results of this notification.

The analysis was conducted based upon data from the ninety-two "cases in which the feelings of victims were communicated to the perpetrators" (conducted from April 1, 2010 to May 25, 2013), which was provided in cooperation with the victim policy team from the General Affairs Division of the Probation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice. The data revealed that in response to requests from the victims of various crimes (sometimes serious offences), their feelings were being promptly heard and that the state of communication with perpetrators and the victim notification system had often been instigated for using this system. The results also indicated that, in many cases, the victim notification system is instigating the use of this system. In addition, the analysis implied that when implementing this system, a great deal of consideration was given to the victims.

To make this system more effective, further investigation is necessary to better grasp the victims' satisfaction and needs, incorporate the perpetrators' probationary treatment, and the necessary methods of cooperation of the organizations concerned.

**Keywords:** offender rehabilitation system, measures for crime victims, victims' feelings conveyance system, victim support

## I. Research Background

It has been claimed that support measures for the victims of crime in Japan are as much as twenty years behind those of Europe and the United States; however, after the enactment of the Basic Act on Crime Victims in 2004, they have been rapidly improving. In response to the Act, the First Basic Plan for Crime Victims was formulated the following year and 258 measures were introduced, which the government was to implement under its responsibility.

Four of those measures applied to offender rehabilitation, and the "Crime Victim Measures" (hereafter, "Victim Measures") were established to implement them.<sup>1)</sup> Victim Measures, which began from December 1, 2007, are considered to function as an important "window" for crime victims to examine the criminal justice system.

The Victim Measures are comprised of four systems: 1.) the hearing system, 2.) the victims' feelings conveyance system, 3.) the victim notification system, and 4.) consultation and support. For the implementation of these measures, an officer<sup>2)</sup> and the volunteer probation officers who are responsible for victims<sup>3)</sup> have been positioned in each probation office. Out of these measures, the victims' feelings conveyance system<sup>4)</sup> possesses features unavailable in any of the other systems. It enables victims to communicate their feelings (feelings relating to damage, a situation that the victim has been placed in, opinions relating to the perpetrator's life or behavior) to the perpetrators who are under probation, and then be informed of the results of this conveyance of information (Refer to Figure 1 for the implementation stream for the victims' feelings conveyance system).

Kubo (2010) and Nishizaki (2013) have discussed the development history and basic framework of the Victim Measures; Oba (2009) has summarized the measures and problems one year after implementation; and Isaka (2010) has developed reports regarding the measures' practice in the Nagoya probation office shortly after their introduction. However, studies have not analyzed

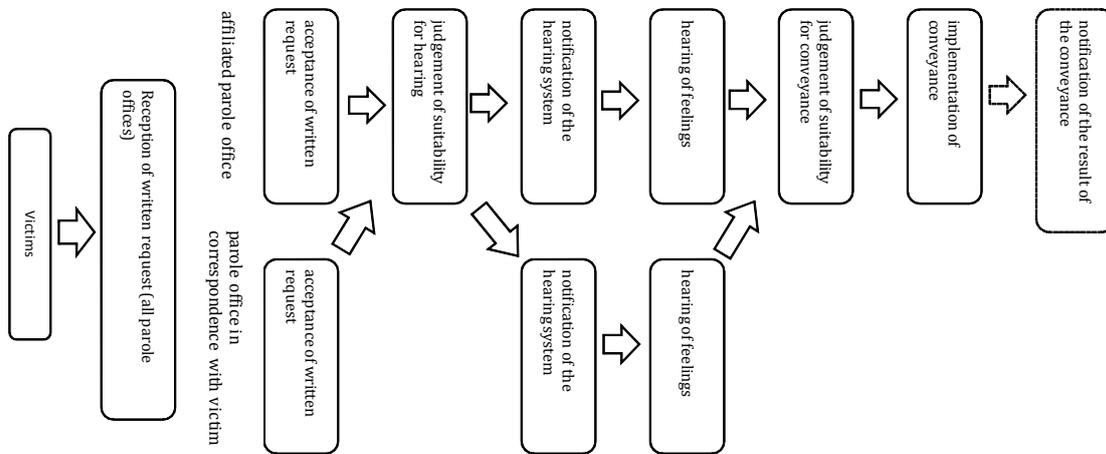
the implementation of the measures across Japan and discussed their problems.

The feelings conveyance system was implemented sixty-one times in 2008, eighty-three times in 2009, and since then it has leveled off at about 100 cases per year. While other systems generally tend to increase (Table 1), now that seven years have elapsed since the measures introduction, it is considered that a variety of issues have been revealed in its practice, including problems related to publicizing the system, procedures involved in its implementation, and cooperation with the relevant organizations.

From among the Victim Measures, this study focuses on the feelings conveyance system within the features mentioned above, and, based upon data of its implementation across Japan, will clarify the system’s current condition and problems. This analysis is provided to assess the future of this system, its consideration for the victims, and its use in perpetrator treatment.

The term “victims” in this study refers to crime victims, as well as their families and the bereaved.

Figure 1. The Main Flow of the Feelings’ Conveyance System



Note 1) The request procedure is usually conducted by the probation office (the affiliated probation office) that is responsible for the perpetrator’s probation, but all probation offices accept requests. In the case that a probation office, other than the affiliated probation office or the probation office in correspondence with the victim, receives a request, the written request will be passed on to the probation office in correspondence with the victim.

Note 2) The request will be processed by the affiliated probation office. However, the head of the probation office that is in correspondence with the victim can accept requests when commissioned by the affiliated probation office.

Note 3) The head of the probation office can permit the heads of other probation offices that are in the jurisdiction of a victim’s place of residence to conduct proceedings related to the acceptance of requests and the hearing of feelings.

## II. Research Objective

The aim of this study is to analyze the implementation of the feelings conveyance system across Japan, within the Victim Measures in offender rehabilitation, and to clarify its status and challenges.

## III. Research Methodology

The analysis was conducted based upon data presented below from 92 cases (below, feelings based upon system cases) “in which the feelings of victims were communicated to the perpetrators,” which was provided in cooperation with the victim policy team from the General Affairs Division of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice. In addition, by analyzing previous research, statistical information, and information concerning its practice in the field, this study will consider problems associated with the feelings conveyance system.

#### IV. Subject of Analysis and Analytical Methods

The subject of analysis was the data of 92 cases, provided by the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice. The method of extracting the data was as follows. From among the cases provided, 100 were chosen to be the subject of this investigation, in which the victim's feelings were communicated to perpetrators within the period from April 1, 2010 to May 25, 2013. Having decided upon the number of cases to be obtained from each probation office, considering the number of times that feelings conveyance was implemented between January 1, 2010 and December 1, 2012, the cases were chosen at random. From among them, eight cases were excluded from the investigation because they were overlapping. In the end, 92 cases were included as subjects for analysis. In addition, since the number of times the feelings conveyance system was implemented in 2013 was 99 (including overlapping cases, etc.), and because this was approximately the same number as selected to be subjects for the analysis, various 2013 statistics were compared with the data in conducting analysis.

First, tables were created and organized for each field based on the data. Then, the state of the feelings conveyance system that can be interpreted from comparisons of the data with the associated data for each table. Then, future challenges associated with how to effectively conduct the feelings conveyance system were discussed.

Table 1. Number of times the crime victims' measures have been implemented (Unit: cases)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Opinion hearing system	212	279	287	273	271	304
Feelings conveyance system	61	83	97	112	106	99
Victim notification system (all total numbers)	2,870	4,785	6,463	7,756	8,505	9,273
• On tentative release from the penal institution for trial	(1,884)	(2,389)	(2,783)	(3,092)	(3,050)	(3,276)
• Probation status of criminal cases	(809)	(1,976)	(3,157)	(4,070)	(4,722)	(5,080)
• Juvenile parole hearing	(59)	(108)	(95)	(139)	(160)	(165)
• Probation situation of juvenile cases	(118)	(312)	(428)	(455)	(573)	(752)
Consultation and support	837	1,176	1,125	1,342	1,324	1,408

Source: (2009–2014 edition) The White Paper on Crime

#### V. Results and Discussion

##### 1. Instances of Feelings Conveyance System by Probation Type and Gender of Perpetrators

Table 2 aggregates the data by gender and the type of probation of the perpetrators. Those on parole (temporarily released from a penal institution) were the largest in number, accounting for 55.4%. In terms of gender, men accounted for more than 80% regardless of the composition ratio, and 83.7% of the total.

In addition, Table 3 shows, for the purpose of reference, the number of persons beginning probation, which is to say the number of perpetrators (only offenders arrested of general offenses) from 2011 to 2013. Only the data of offenders who were arrested for general offenses (there are also victimless charges) were used, because victimless offenses, such as violations of special law and violations of the stimulants control law are the majority. The feelings conveyance system was implemented 112 times in 2011, 106 times in 2012, and 99 times in 2013, and the values in Table 2 were obtained by extracting, for investigation, 100 cases of the feelings conveyance system that occurred over that 3-year period (92 cases were ultimately extracted as a result of overlap). Because of this, the data can be considered close to an annual value.

Considering these statistical values, although the statistical data cannot be compared since the parameters differ, it is evident that the number of cases that led to the feelings conveyance system being utilized was extremely low. When looking at the types, it can be inferred that the percentage of parolees and probationers in criminal cases who have become subjects is considerably higher than when compared to juvenile probationers and juvenile parolees in juvenile cases.

In particular, the data suggests that when compared to the other types, it was often implemented more with parolees, even though the probation period is short (over 70% were within six months).

As for the reasons why this system was implemented more by those involved with criminal cases rather than with juvenile cases, this could be because 1.) The victim support system is strong and there are ample of opportunities for victims to find out about this system; 2.) Many of the cases cause a great deal of harm and the feelings of victims are stronger, and 3.) There is a trend for the victim to fear being harmed again.

Table 2. Instances of Feelings Conveyance System by Probation Type and Gender of Perpetrators (units: cases)

Type	Number of times implemented		Male	Female
Juveniles on probation	18	(19.6%)	16 (88.9%)	2 (11.1%)
Juvenile parolee	7	(7.6%)	6 (85.7%)	1 (14.3%)
Parolee	51	(55.4%)	41 (80.4%)	10 (19.6%)
Probation with suspension of sentence	16	(17.4%)	14 (87.5%)	2 (12.5%)
Total	92	(100.0%)	77 (83.7%)	15 (16.3%)

Table 3. Persons beginning probation from 2011 to 2013

(General penal code offenses only) (Units: people)

Type	2011	2012	2013
Juveniles on probation	12,385	11,941	11,056
Juvenile parolee	2,994	2,922	2,968
Parolee	10,035	9,877	9,575
Probation with suspension of sentence	2,532	2,549	2,436
Total	27,946	27,289	26,035

Source: (2012–2014 edition) The White Paper on Crime

## 2. Main Offenses

Table 4 tabulates the data and divides it into the major offenses: life and body offenses, property offenses, sexual offenses (sex crimes), traffic offenses, and “other.” When separating the major offenses into the different crimes, life and body offenses constituted thirty cases (32.6%), property offenses constituted thirty-five cases (38.0%), sexual offenses constituted twelve cases (13.0%), traffic offenses constituted fourteen cases (15.2%), and just one case was classified as “other” (1.1%).

It can be inferred from this data that the feelings conveyance system is most often used for

property offenses, and it can be surmised that its use is for restitution purposes. In regard to property offenses, five cases were related to embezzlement and/or breach of trust; the request was made by the employer in four of the cases, three of which involved corporations.

Table 4 Major offenses

(Units: cases)

Life and body offenses		Property offenses		Sex offenses		Traffic offenses		Other	
Murder	3	Extortion	4	Rape/resulting in death or injury	4	Causing death/injury driving an automobile	13	Fraudulent interference with business	1
Injury resulting in death	1	Theft	7	Indecent assault/resulting in death or injury	7	Professional negligence resulting in death or injury	1		
Injury	19	Fraud	18	Violations of the Child Welfare Act	1				
Robbery resulting in death or injury	1	Embezzlement and Breach of trust	5						
Assault	3	Law violations regarding the punishment of organized crime and restriction of criminal profiteering	1						
Capture or confinement resulting in death or injury	1								
Law violations regarding the restriction of stalker behavior	1								
Trespassing (Stalker)	1								
Total	30	Total	35	Total	12	Total	14	Total	1

### 3. Association with perpetrators' probation periods

Table 5 aggregates three relevant factors for the perpetrators' probation period: 1.) the probation period (in expected number of months), 2.) the length of time from the start of the perpetrator's probation till the first request by victims etc. 3.) the period of probation left at the time of the first request by victims etc.

First, looking at the data with respect to the perpetrators' probation periods (in expected number of months), there were no reported cases with one month, seven cases (7.6%) have two months, twelve cases (13.0%) have three months, nineteen cases (20.6%) in total have under three months, and forty-three cases (46.7%) in total have less than six months. Thus, in many cases it is necessary for the victim to submit the request in a short period of time, as it is limited by the brevity of the probation period.

Second, in regard to the time elapsed from the beginning of the perpetrator's probation period to the submission of the victim's request, thirty-two cases (34.8%) were submitted within one month, twenty-one cases (22.8%) were submitted within two months, and nine cases (9.8%) were submitted within three months, resulting in a total of sixty-two cases (67.4%) that were submitted within three months. In thirty-nine cases, the probation period (in expected number of months) was over one year; regardless, eighteen of these cases were submitted within three months. Therefore, many victims submit their request quickly at the beginning of the perpetrator's probation period

Third, looking at the perpetrator's remaining probation period at the time of the victim's request, this data reveals that sixteen cases (17.4%) were within one month, sixteen cases (17.4%) were within two months, seven cases (7.6%) were within three months, resulting in a total of thirty-nine cases (42.4%) that were within three months. Thus, it can be inferred that probation offices react quickly and implement the feelings conveyance in a short period between victims' request and the end of the perpetrator's probation periods.

Table 5. Association with perpetrators' probation periods

(units: cases)

Number of months	1. Probation period (in expected number of months)		2. the length of time from the beginning of the perpetrator's probation until the request was first submitted by the victim		3. the perpetrator's remaining probation period at the time of the victim's first request	
1 month	0	(0.0%)	32	(34.8%)	16	(17.4%)
2 months	7	(7.6%)	21	(22.8%)	16	(17.4%)
3 months	12	(13.0%)	9	(9.8%)	7	(7.6%)
4-6 months	24	(26.1%)	10	(10.9%)	10	(10.9%)
7-12 months	10	(10.9%)	12	(13.0%)	6	(6.5%)
Over 1 year	39	(42.4%)	8	(8.7%)	37	(40.2%)
Total	92	(100.0%)	92	(100.0%)	92	(100.0%)

#### 4. The relationship between the person or entity requesting the system and the victim

Table 6 aggregates all crimes and sex crimes and deals with the relationships between the person or entity requesting the feelings conveyance system and the victim. In the majority of cases (53.3%), the victims themselves requested the system (excluding corporate cases), followed by legal representatives (e.g., parents on behalf of a minor) (19.6%), parents (for adult victims) (7.6%), and corporations (7.6%).

In regard to the twelve cases involving rape and indecent assaults (and the same resulting in death or injury), and violations of the Child Welfare Act, the legal representative requested the system in seven cases (58.3%), the victim (excluding corporations) requested the system in four cases (33.3%), and the parents requested the system in one case (8.3%). The ratio of legal representative requesting the system was approximately three times the expected value of 2.34 and 19.6% when all crimes are considered. Moreover, corporations were involved in seven cases (7.6%), revealing that they as well as individuals are using the system.

The victims of sex crimes suffer intense physical and psychological damage, and in many cases, hesitate to request consultation. It is believed that many fear of becoming victimized again. Therefore, legal representatives may use this system as a means to act on behalf of minors and to understand the organizations that provide the necessary support.

Table 6. The relationship between the person or entity requesting the system and the victim

(units: cases)

Attribute	Request number (all)		Request number (sex crimes)	
Victim (except corporations)	49	53.3%	4	33.3%
Legal representative (parents of a minor)	18	19.6%	7	58.3%
Spouse	6	6.5%	0	0.0%
Parent (if the victim is an adult)	7	7.6%	1	8.3%
Child	4	4.3%	0	0.0%
Brother or sister	1	1.1%	0	0.0%
Corporation	7	7.6%	0	0.0%
	92	100.0%	12	100.0%

### 5. The hearing method

Table 7 aggregates the data regarding the method of hearings conducted for the feelings conveyance system. In sixty-six cases (71.7%), the victims came to the probation office for the hearing. In one case (1.1%) a victims officer conducted the hearing at the victim's residence (a home visit). In twenty-five cases (27.2%), the victim submitted a statement to the probation office in writing in lieu of a hearing. Under the system, written statements prepared by the victims are generally recognized, given the physical and psychological burdens on the victims.

Table 7. The hearing method (Units: cases)

Hearing method	Number of requests	
Office visit	66	71.7%
Home visit	1	1.1%
In writing	25	27.2%
	92	100.0%

### 6. The content of the hearings

With the feelings conveyance system, victims are able to describe their feelings in relation to any damage they have sustained and/or the situation in which they have been placed. Moreover, they can give opinions concerning the perpetrator's life and behavior. What is actually described in the hearings is presented below. Table 8 classifies the content of the hearings into 1.) feelings related to the damages sustained, 2.) the situation in which they have been placed, and 3.) opinions regarding the perpetrator's life, and summarizes whether each aspect is present or not.

Of the three types of content, opinions regarding the perpetrator's life constituted the highest percentage (98.9%). This suggests that victims tend to describe their opinions regarding the perpetrator, rather than their own feelings or situations when using the system. According to the report from the Nagoya probation office (Isaka 2010) that summarized the first two years of the system, the victims sought restitution for the perpetrator's damage in eight of the fifteen cases.

Table 8. The content of the hearings (units: cases)

1.) Feelings related to damages sustained		2.) The situation in which they have been placed		3.) Opinions regarding the perpetrator's life	
No	16	No	15	No	1
Yes	76	Yes	77	Yes	91
Total	92	Total	92	Total	92

### 7. Overall content of the hearings

Table 9 organizes combinations of the presence or absence of the three items mentioned in the hearings that were listed in table 8.

According to the data, the highest percentage (76.1%) was composed of those who described all three types of content in their hearing for the feelings conveyance; 1.) feelings related to damages sustained, 2.) the situation in which they have been placed, and 3.) opinions regarding the perpetrator's life.

This data suggests that the system is able to reflect a variety of victims' thoughts in the content of

the hearings.

Table 9. The content of the hearings (The combined hearing contents from Table 8)

(Units: cases)

1. Feelings related to damages sustained	2. The situation in which they have been placed	3. Opinions regarding the perpetrators' life	Number of cases implemented	Percentage
No	No	Yes	10	(10.9%)
Yes	No	Yes	5	(5.4%)
No	Yes	Yes	6	(6.5%)
Yes	Yes	No	1	(1.1%)
Yes	Yes	Yes	70	(76.1%)
Total			92	(100.0%)

8. Whether an attendant was present at the victim's hearing

When using the system, victims can be accompanied by an attendant. Table 10 tabulates the cases whether an attendant was present. Attendants include the probation officer responsible for the victim, the victim's parents, spouse, and children, counsellors from private victim support centers, and lawyers.

In sum, thirty cases (32.6%) had an attendant present, and sixty-two cases (67.4%) did not. In regard to the type of crime, the percentage of victims who had an attendant present was as follows: robbery resulting in death or injury 100% (one out of one case); indecent assault (or the same resulting in death or injury) 85.7% (six out of seven cases); embezzlement or breach of trust 60% (three out of five cases); rape (or the same resulting in death or injury) 50% (two out of four cases); negligence driving an automobile (or the same resulting in death or injury) 46.2% (six out of thirteen cases); murder 33.3% (one out of three cases), injury 31.6% (six out of nineteen cases), theft 28.6% (two out of seven cases); and fraud 16.7% (three out of eighteen cases). In cases with other crimes, there were no attendants present.

The data shows that the percentage of those with attendants is higher in cases involving dramatic physical, and psychological effects on the victim, e.g., sex crimes or death. Hearings disclosing the victim's private feelings in these cases can be a huge burden for the victim. Assumedly, having an attendant present can make the victim's feeling more stable.

Table 10. Whether an attendant was present at the victim's hearing

(Units: cases)

	Whether an attendant was present at the victim's hearing	
Not present	62	(67.4%)
Present	30	(32.6%)
Total	92	(100.0%)

9. Whether an attendant was present at the feelings conveyance for the perpetrator

Table 11 indicates whether an attendant was present with the perpetrator when the victim's feelings were conveyed. According to the data compiled by the probation officers, an attendant was present in fifty-one cases (55.4%), and there was no attendants present in forty-one cases (44.6%). Attendants include the probation officer responsible for the perpetrator, the perpetrator's parents, spouse, siblings, the victim's officer, and the probation officer responsible for the victim.

In regard to the type of crimes, the vast majority of perpetrators had attendants present for life and body crimes (73.3%) (twenty-two out of thirty cases), 25.7% had attendants for property crimes (nine out of thirty-five cases), 100% had attendants for sex crimes (twelve out of twelve cases), 50% had attendants for traffic crimes (seven out of fourteen cases), and 100% had attendants for "other" offenses (one out of one case).

In addition, the breakdown of the life and body crimes reveals that 100% had attendants for stalking cases (legal violations of regulations for stalking behavior, and burglary) (two out of two cases), 100% of robbery cases resulting in death or injury had attendants present (one out of one case), 100% of injury resulting in death cases had an attendant (one out of one case), 100% of assault cases had attendants (three out of three cases), 100% of capture or confinement cases resulting in death or injury had an attendant (one out of one case), 66.7% of murder cases had attendants present (two out of three cases), and 63.2% of cases involving injury had attendants present (twelve out of nineteen cases).

The data indicates that the percentage of perpetrator's attendants being present is higher in cases that had considerable physical or psychological effects on the victim, such as life and body crimes, rape and stalking cases. Perhaps the feelings conveyance system was undertaken in the presence of the perpetrator's relatives or the probation officer because perpetrators may become unstable when confronted with the feelings of their victims. In addition, the probation officer responsible for the perpetrator may have been present to reflect the result of conveyance in the perpetrator's future probationary treatment.

Table 11. Whether an attendant was present for the perpetrator at the conveyance

(units: cases)

	Whether an attendant was present for the perpetrator at the conveyance	
Not present	41	(44.6%)
Present	51	(55.4%)
	92	(100.0%)

10. Circumstances that led to the use of the system (free description)

Regarding the circumstances under which the victims learned of the system, the data in the free description column indicates that in most cases (70%), a referral came from the victim notification system (notification from the probation office), and the next most common was consultation and support. In addition, some victims were referred by leaflets or by other organizations.

According to the Nagoya probation office report (Isaka 2010) covering the two years since the system was implemented, in over 50% of cases the victim notification system had been the main impetus causing victims to make use of consultation and support. Examining the relationship between the four implemented systems, the victim notification system is considered to be the main impetus in encouraging victims to use each system.

11. Institutions involved in the system's utilization (free description)

In regard to the institutions involved in the use of this system, lawyers are the most mentioned group (including overlapping cases), as were victim support centers, victims' groups, psychiatric hospitals, welfare offices, and the police.

In addition to public institutions, private victim support groups have been observed to be involved with victims who utilize this system.

## VI. Conclusion and challenges

This study focused on the feelings conveyance system, part of measures for crime victims in offender rehabilitation, analyzed data provided by the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice to review the system's current status.

The nine themes apparent from this data are summarized as follows: 1) Victims in criminal cases utilize the system more than victims in juvenile cases; 2) The system has addressed many types of crimes, including property crimes, body and life crimes, traffic crimes, and sexual crimes; however, property crimes are the most common; 3) Many victims request for the use of the system within three months from the beginning of the perpetrator's probation, and there is a rapid response from the probation office; 4) The majority of requests for the system come from the victims themselves; 5) In terms of the method of the hearing, more than 70% are conducted at the office, but approximately 30% submit a written statement in lieu of a hearing; 6) The majority of the hearings involve the feelings related to the damages sustained, the situation in which they have been placed, and almost all expressed opinions regarding the perpetrator's life; 7) More victims attended the hearing without an attendant, with the exception of serious crimes; 8) More often than not, perpetrators had an attendant present at the hearing, such as the probation officer responsible, especially in serious crimes; and 9) As for the circumstances that have led to the use of the system, the victim notification system was the most common impetus for victims to make use of the system.

It was originally noted that implementation of the system "is difficult because of its double role as an institution that deals with both providing treatment to offenders and relief to the victims," and that this "could only lead to confusion in the field" (Moriyama: 2011: 212). However, from the analysis of this data, it has been shown that the feelings of victims of a variety of crimes, which include serious crimes, are being promptly heard in response to their requests and that these are being conveyed to the perpetrator. It has also been recognized from the hearing method and the presence of attendants that considerations are given to the victims of these crimes. It is also apparent that it is possible for them to ensure that the victim's feelings are rapidly relayed to the perpetrators precisely because the institutions for offender rehabilitation are in charge of implementing the system.

Further investigation is necessary to make the system more effective in the future. Specifically, in regard to victims, it is essential that their satisfaction in the system be determined. Additionally, research is necessary to discover if there is anything necessary to fulfill their needs, and whether there is anything that is necessary to promote the use of the system. As for the perpetrator's side, an investigation is necessary to determine what is required to completely utilize the feelings conveyance as part of their probation and rehabilitation, and what sort of coordination is required.

The author offers sincerest gratitude to the efforts of the victim policy team from the General Affairs Division of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice, who provided the crucial data for this study.

This investigation was conducted as a part of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C), "Building a Comprehensive Support System for Crime Victims—Toward Public-Private Cooperation (Issue No. 24530728)."

## Note

- 1) Five key issues are established in the First Basic Plans for Crime Victims: 1.) Efforts toward damage recovery and economic support, 2.) Efforts toward the recovery and prevention of psychological and physical damage, 3.) Efforts to expand involvement in criminal proceedings, 4.) Efforts to maintain support systems, 5.) Efforts to promote public understanding and to ensure the public's consideration and cooperation. Offender rehabilitation was to be initiated and the crime Victim Measures were formulated as corresponding to 3.) and 4.).
- 2) The officer responsible for the victim is a probation officer who is responsible for the crime Victim Measures (the opinion hearing system, the feelings conveyance system, the victim notification system, consultation and support). The officers responsible for victims are not in charge of the perpetrator's case, such as their probation, the regulation of their living environment, or protection in case of emergencies in their rehabilitation.
- 3) The probation officer responsible for the victim, is a probation officer who assists with the affairs of the officer responsible for the victim. The probation officers responsible for the victims are not responsible for cases such as the probation or the regulation of their living environment.
- 4) The feelings conveyance system is a system whereby, when there is a request from the victim for their feelings to be conveyed (feelings related to damage, the situation in which they have been placed, or opinions concerning the life and behavior of the subject on probation), the head of the probation office will listen to their feelings and convey them to the subject on probation (Offender Rehabilitation Act Article 65).
- 5) The requester of the feelings conveyance system is limited to 1.) the victim, 2.) their legal representative, or 3.) if the victim has died or suffered serious physical or psychological impairment, their spouse, lineal relative, or sibling (Offenders Rehabilitation Act Article 65).

## References

- Fujimoto, T. (2012). "Crime Victim Measures in Offender Rehabilitation: Do you Know What an Officer Who is Responsible for Victims Is?", *Family Register Times*, No. 680, 97-105.
- Isaka, A. (2010). "Crime Victim Measures in Practice - The Efforts of the Nagoya Probation Office," *Offender Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention*," Vol. 152, 314-330.
- Kubo, T. (2010). "The Crime Victim Measures' Efforts in Offender Rehabilitation," *Crime and Delinquency*, Vol. 164, 79-96.
- Legal Research Institute. (2009-2014). *The White Paper on Crime*.
- Moriyama, T. (2011). *British Criminology Research I*, Seibundo.
- Nishizaki, K. (2013), "The Crime Victim Measures in Offender Rehabilitation," *New Direction in Juvenile & Criminal Justice and Victim Services*, (2nd edition), (F. Ito, Ed.) Sophia University Press, 322-355.
- Oba, R. (2009). "Crime Victim Measures in Criminal Justice - Focusing on Probation," *Crime and Punishment*, Vol. 46, No. 2, 30-38.

The Victim Policy Team from the General Affairs Division of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the

Ministry of Justice. (2013). "Legal Assistance Concerning Victim Compensation That is Carried Out by the Implementation of Victim Measures in Offender Rehabilitation or by the Probationer," *Offender Rehabilitation*, No. 64. Volume 11, 13-19.