

Pandemic Story

Hyogo Prefectural Kobe High School

◆ Main Point

We will review Japanese law about COVID-19 by referring to countries which comparatively succeeded in controlling the virus to make it strict that infected people go out without permission.

◆ Background - Purpose

There were cases where people with COVID-19's infection went out medical facilities and hotels without permission just because they were asymptomatic. The law punishing the person was light, and the law needs to be changed to make it stricter. To do so, we must change the constitution or change the interpretation of the constitution. So, look up the constitution of each country.

Level of Freedom

Japan	Freedom of movement is guaranteed by Japanese constitution unless it does not interfere with the public welfare.
New Zealand	Depending on alert level, we may be allowed to go out for a specific purpose. (Alert level is unique to New Zealand.)
Singapore	Property and social rights are not guaranteed in the Constitution. But freedom of speech, assembly and union are guaranteed. It also guarantees a ban on deportation and freedom of movement.
China	Freedom of speech, publishing, assembly, association and so on is guaranteed by the Constitution, but freedom of movement is not specified. The Doorway Registration Ordinance severely restricts movements that involve the relocation of doorways, especially from rural areas to cities.

Penalties

Japan	Fines of 500,000 yen or less		
New Zealand	Inprisonment for a period not exceeding 6 months or A fine not exceeding 4,000 dollar		
Singapore	<table><tr><td>First offender → Fine up to 1,000 dollar or Imprisonment up to 6 months</td><td>Second and subsequent offenders → Fine up to 20,000 dollar or Imprisonment for up to 12 months</td></tr></table>	First offender → Fine up to 1,000 dollar or Imprisonment up to 6 months	Second and subsequent offenders → Fine up to 20,000 dollar or Imprisonment for up to 12 months
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China	Spreading infectious diseases → 3 years to 10 years imprisonment (Causing serious loss → 10 years imprisonment or death penalty) Rejection of quarantine forced isolation and treatment or obstruction of authorities → 7 years imprisonment		

◆ Conclusion

◇ Level of Freedom

Japan is not restricted unless it goes against the public welfare.

It is restricted depending on the situation in New Zealand and Singapore.

China is severely restricted by ordinance.

◇ Penalties

Japan has only a fine and no criminal record, but other countries are subject to penalties or imprisonment. In China, it can lead to the death penalty.

◆ Consideration ▪ Future Outlook

We found that the level of freedom and penalties are different depends on countries. There are penalties about movement restrictions in countries which succeeded in controlling the virus. We would like to search the laws set by each country in more detail and think about what kind of law is needed in Japan.

◆ Reference

[Law of New Zealand\(legislation.govt.nz\)](http://legislation.govt.nz)

Chinese Constitution

http://www.gov.cn/guoqing/201803/22/content_5276318.htm

Chinese Law

<http://xingfa.org/>

<http://www.hljcourt.go.cn/public/detail.php?id=29723>

Law on Special Measures for New Influenza,etc (Japanese)

<https://elaws.e-gov.go.jp/document?lawid=424AC0000000031>

Singapore Law

<https://www.moh.gov.sg/docs/librariesprovider5/pressroom/press-releases/annex-for-notification-8-apr-2020.pdf>