

DV

To Flee from Husband's Violence:

Which path of your life would you take after divorce?

🌀 DV victim and Status of Residence 🌀

One of the main projects of Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center (FICEC) is life counseling for foreign residents. Among various kinds of matters we have dealt with, domestic violence is a remarkably serious issue. The violence can be started by very unacceptable reason like nationality difference. But before you divorce or separate from DV abuser, we would suggest to reconsider in terms of visa and child(ren).



Case A

With Japanese Spouse and Permanent Residence Visa

Unless you are convicted of crime, you can keep Permanent Residence Visa and there is no need to inform Immigration about divorce.

Case B

With Japanese Spouse and status of residence (Spouse of Japanese)

① If you have child(ren)

If you live with child(ren) together and raise them, Permanent Residence Visa is obtainable. Even if you lost parental authority or you stay on welfare, you are allowed to stay in Japan as long as you live with child(ren) together. That is, leaving child(ren) with your parents in home country and staying in Japan to work are not acceptable for visa change.

② If you don't have child(ren)

If you have lived with the Japanese spouse over 3 years before divorce, the current visa might be changeable to Permanent Residence Visa. In this case, however, certificate of employment and guarantor are necessary.

③ If you live separately from partner

You can extend your visa as spouse of Japanese, but you need to tell Immigration your strong will for divorce and current situation if during mediation. However, 2nd time of application in a year is difficult to extend visa. So you need to consider and plan very well for future before you give first apply.

www.ficec.jp/foreign/

● The back numbers of "Information Fujimino" are available at online.

Case C

With common-law marriage but no status of residence

DV victim is still target of forced repatriation basically. But if during pregnancy the unborn child is recognized by Japanese husband, residence special permission might be able to be obtained.

First, please go to Tokyo Regional Immigration in Shinagawa with your guarantor. If name on passport is different from your real name, you should apply for visa under the real name.

Furthermore, there are many of people who are hardly able to speak Japanese language. The poor language ability can be considered as difficulty in future living. So we can say it is hard enough for those people to obtain visa.

The immigration takes about 6 month for assessment.

● In all cases, statement of reason should be submitted to Immigration in order to acquire visa. It is important to clearly explain DV and current life situation in detail.

The statement of reason is basically written by oneself, but you can ask someone to write it instead of you due to language difficulty.

But please be noted to start writing it calmly and state from the first situation DV has started. Below is an example.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| ○ Marriage or starting date of living together | Year/Month/Date |
| DV starting date | Year/Month/Date |
| When you get out of house | Year/Month/Date |
| Place | |
| ○ Life plan or thoughts for future | |
| ○ Reason, work, friends, supporters if you want to keep living in Japan | |
| ○ Relationship between child(ren) and father | |
| ○ Apology for overstay (in case of overstay) | |



 **Notice small sign for help**

Last month was “Child Abuse Prevention Month”. Many parents come to our center to get advices for child matters including bullying.

For child abuse and consultation on child-rearing, please contact consultation office for children, public office or even our center. Civic power is needed to protect children. Please see the following website for more detail: (<http://www.mhlw.go.jp>)

 **Japanese Language Class of FICEC**

Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center provides Japanese language class to foreigners who have to study Japanese for their comfortable stay in Japan. The class is held from 10:00 to 12:00 on Thursdays.

Don't worry about your Japanese language level. From beginner to advance level, we help any students.

After the class, we also provide Computer Class starting from 13:00 on 2nd & 4th Thursdays.

Professional instructor teaches you closely, but the classes are free of charge.

www.ficec.jp/living/

● Living Guidance translated in 6 languages is available.