

**Tomoya Nishira**

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PhD Student in Cultural Anthropology, Univ. of Virginia  
Executive Officer, Japan Alliance for LGBT Legislation

**Research Interests**

- Since my time as an undergraduate, my academic interest has been on the critical consideration of universalized approaches to diversity and the exploration of an alternative form of the politics of diversity.
- My PhD research will critically examine current diversity movements in the US by documenting cases where religiously conservative queer Christians experience marginalization in such movements.
- Keywords: social and cultural anthropology; the US; higher education; diversity movements; sexuality; Christianity; secularity; politics; morality

**Education**

**PhD student in Cultural Anthropology** **September 2022 – Present**  
Dpt. of Anthropology, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, University of Virginia

**PhD student in Social Sciences** **April 2021 – Present**  
Graduate School of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University

- Research Seminars (Concentrations): Takashi Osugi (Social Anthropology), Makiko Iio (Global Sociology)
- Major and Cumulative GPA: 4.10 / 4.30

**Master of Arts in Social Sciences** **March 2021**  
Graduate School of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University

- Accelerated 4+1 Master's Program (One of six selected students)
- Dissertation: Managing an "International Dormitory" in the "Age of Diversity" in Japan: A Critical Reflection on Diversity Studies
- Research Seminars (Concentrations): Fumika Sato (Sociology of Gender), Takashi Osugi (Social Anthropology)
- Major and Cumulative GPA: 4.16 / 4.30

**Bachelor of Social Sciences** **March 2020**  
Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University

- Global Leaders Program (One of 12 selected Students)
- Dissertation: International Exchange in the "Era of Diversity": An Ethnography of Student Staff at an International Residence Hall in Japan
- Research Seminars (Concentrations): Chikako Mori (Global and Urban Sociology), Fumika Sato (Sociology of Gender)
- Cumulative GPA: 3.89; Major GPA: 4.09; 4.00 and 4.30 scale  
\*GPA scale was changed from 4.00 to 4.30 in April 2017

**Student Exchange Program** **August 2018 – May 2019**  
College of Arts & Sciences, University of Virginia

- Cumulative GPA: 3.80 / 4.00

### **Selected Media Appearances**

Kiyomi Channel (Youtube) "[Kiyomi Tsujimoto Meets Young Activists: Sexual Violence and LGBTQ+ Discrimination](#)" 2021 (Jpn)  
The Ikkyo Shimbun "[It's Okay to Speak Up: Results of Sexual and SOGI Harassment Survey](#)" 2021 (jpn)  
The Tokyo Shimbun "[For a University Free from Sexual Violence: Tomoya Nishira](#)" 2020 (Jpn)  
BuzzFeed "[Five Years from a Death of a University Student: University Students Speak Up](#)" 2020 (Jpn)  
Tedx Talk "[Violence in International Exchange](#)" 2020  
Chabujo "[Change Leader Interview: Tomoya Nishira](#)" 2020 (Jpn)  
International Student Dormitory Association of Kodaira "[Resident Assistant Interview: Tomoya Nishira](#)" 2020 (Jpn)  
Maxine Platzer Lynn Women's Center at The University of Virginia "[Spotlight](#)" 2018

### **Awards and Grants**

<b>Global Leaders Program Certificate</b>	<b>2021</b>
Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University One of 12 selected students	
<b>Outstanding Academic Achievement (Top 5% GPA of Graduating Class)</b>	<b>2020</b>
Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University	
<b>Hitotsubashi University Study Abroad Scholarship (\$11,500)</b>	<b>2018 – 2019</b>
Hitotsubashi University	
<b>Overseas Fieldwork Grant</b>	<b>2017</b>
Global Leaders Program, Faculty of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University Funded week-long overseas fieldwork, including the entire cost for traveling and accommodation	

### **Teaching Experiences**

<b>Teaching Assistant (3 hrs/week)</b>	<b>September 2020 – January 2021</b>
"Gender, Sexuality and Life Design," Hitotsubashi University	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evaluated students' weekly assignments and organized in-class discussions with about 100 students on topics related to gender and sexuality</li></ul>	

### **Academic Lecture Series Organizer (3 hrs/week)**

	<b>April 2018 – July 2018 and September 2019 – January 2020</b>
Global Leaders Program, Hitotsubashi University	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organized about 10 guest lectures on campus with Prof. Naoko Hashimoto on issues regarding diversity/social justice, environmental justice, globalization, multiculturalism, etc.</li><li>• Selected Titles "Rethinking the 'Global': Who Are 'Global Human Resources?'"</li></ul>	

“Hitotsubashi Diversity Dialogue”  
“LGBT and Work: Transforming Japanese Workplaces”  
“Accessible Japan: Tourism for All”

### **Research Experiences**

#### **BA and MA Dissertation Project**

**November 2019 – January 2021**

“Managing an ‘International Dormitory’ in the ‘Age of Diversity’ in Japan: A Critical Reflection on Diversity Studies”

- Conducted ethnographic research on diversity, race, and class at an international dormitory in Japan (Writing Sample)
- Received an A

#### **Overseas and Domestic Fieldwork**

**June 2017 – July 2018**

“Migration and Care in the Local Contexts”

Global Leaders Program Overseas Research Presentation, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo

- Conducted week-long fieldwork in the Philippines and year-long literature research & domestic fieldwork under the supervision of Prof. Jun Akamine on gender, migration, and care

### **Selected Public Presentations**

“SOGIE Workshop: Safer Space for Everyone,” Chabujo Change Leaders Program, online, September 2021.

“Introduction to Diversity and Social Justice: Core Theories and Epistemic Violence,” Chabujo Change Leaders Program, online, September 2021.

“Epistemic Violence in International Exchange,” Tedx Hitotsubashi U, Tokyo, Japan, January 2020.

“Transnational Commodification of Care and Global Feminism Movement,” Multicultural Student Center at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, April 2019.

“Migration and Care in the Local Contexts,” Global Leaders Program Overseas Research Presentation, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan, July 2018.

“Can Fashion Become Free from Gender?” Global Leaders Program Workshop, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, Japan, December 2017.

### **Relevant Work Experiences**

#### **Community Building (6 hrs/week)**

**November 2021 – Present**

Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Japan, World Economic Forum

- As an intern, managing research groups for regional revitalization using Internet technology

#### **Resident Assistant, Diversity and Safer Space Promotion (5 hrs/week) April 2017 – September 2021**

International Student Dormitory Association of Kodaira, Hitotsubashi University

- Worked as Vice President of the dormitory and a founder/manager of diversity and safer space project

- Established a policy package in which the project members conduct semi-annual climate surveys on diversity and social justice among the RAs and more than 500 residents in the dormitory, identify “misunderstood” topics, and hold workshops on those topics.
- Initiated Diversity and Safer Space Program and established a Diversity Center
- Was on leave from September 2018 to March 2020

### **Relevant Volunteer Experiences**

#### **Gender-based Violence Prevention (2 hrs/week)**

**April 2021 – Present**

Chabujo, Tokyo

- Organizing public educational workshops on gender, violence, and community organizing

#### **LGBTQ+ Advocacy (3 hrs/week)**

**November 2019 – Present**

LGBTQ+ Bridge Network, Center for Gender Research and Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University

- Working as a founding member and former Vice President of the first LGBTQ+ advocacy organization on campus
- Organizing educational workshops and LGBTQ+ resource center

#### **Diversity/Safer Space Meetings (1 hrs/month)**

**November 2016 – Present**

Hitotsubashi Diversity Dialogue, Hitotsubashi University

- In monthly meetings with professors, staff, and students, discussing how to solve issues related on-campus to diversity and safer space
- Organized educational events and workshops

#### **Establishment of a Gender-based Violence Prevention Group (3 hrs/ week)**

**November 2019 – March 2021**

Bridge for All, Tokyo

- Founded the first anti-gender/power-based violence advocacy student organization on campus and worked as President
- Organized educational workshops on gender/power-based violence and bystander intervention

#### **Gender Education for Teenagers (5 hrs /week)**

**September 2018 – May 2019**

Men’s Leadership Project

Maxine Platzer Lynn Women's Center at the University of Virginia

- Taught local middle school students about gender-based violence through weekly mentoring sessions

#### **Social Justice Education on Campus (4 hrs/week)**

**November 2018 – May 2019**

Multicultural Peer Educator

The Multicultural Student Center and the Queer Center at the University of Virginia

- Organized workshops on diversity and social justice (including but not limited to, gender/sexuality, safe space, race/ethnicity, religion/faith, and socio-economic class)
- Selected Titles
  - “Introduction to Social Justice”

- “Safe Space Training”
- “Exploring Identity and Privilege”