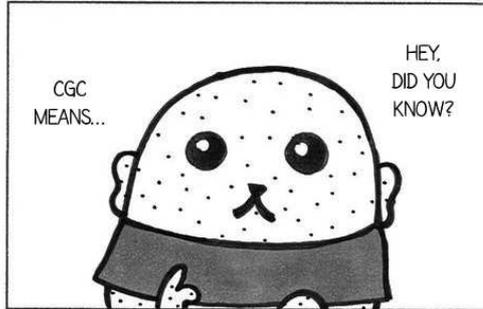


THE SECRETS OF THE JAPANESE CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRE THAT FEW CITIZENS KNOW



*The character here represents jizo in Japanese, or Ksitigarbha in Sanskrit, which is the Buddhist stone statue which stands on roads to guard travellers and children. It is a pun of the common abbreviation of the Child Guidance Centre in Japanese, Jiso.

THE CGC GETS A PER CAPITA MONETARY REWARD FROM THE MHLW FOR CHILDREN ABDUCTED

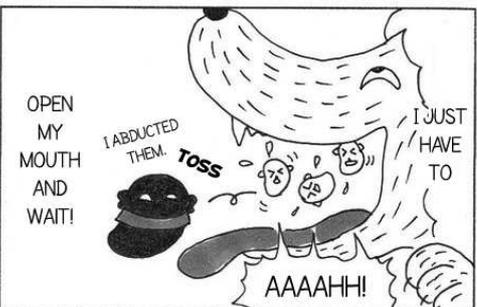
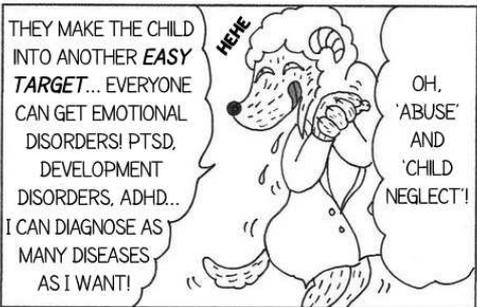


*The manual for child abuse prepared by the MHLW (the latest 2013 version) states that a CGC should take children 'into custody without hesitation and investigate the facts later', which 'suits the best interest of the children' (p.107). By ordering the CGC to abduct a child without proper prior investigation, the MHLW commits wilful negligence for misconception and concomitant infringements of human rights.

† The monetary reward is officially called 'hogo tanka' or 'unit price for custody' and stipulated by MHLW government decree called 'on the National Government Allotment for the Cost of Putting Child to Alternative Care Centre etc per Child Welfare Law'. The 'unit price' includes office expenses of the CGC, which thus runs its routine business at least in part by money earned in this way. This 'unit price' system therefore gives strong incentive to the CGC to abduct more children.

MANESHIBA © DENTSU

THE DETAINED CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO PSYCHIATRIC DRUGS...



THEN THE CHILDREN BECOME SPACED OUT

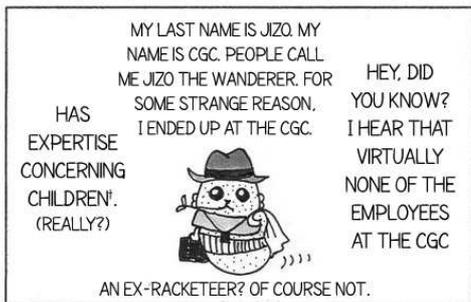


*The MHLW, by claiming that 'the act of unduly interfering with the custody measures of child guidance center's director is nothing but the act of harming the interests of the children directly or indirectly' (the 2013 manual, p. 171), equates the interest of the CGC with that of the child with no verifications. In other words, 'the best interest of a child' is automatically interpreted in the MHLW language into 'the best interest of the CGC'. This is the way how the MHLW justifies the actions of CGC that infringe the human rights at its discretion, including dosage of psychiatric drugs.

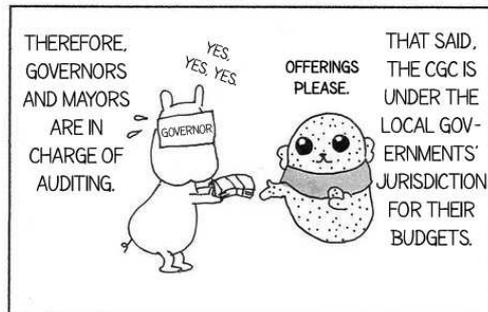
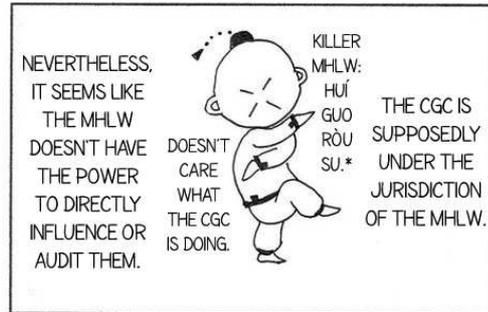
CHILDREN ARE ABDUCTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CGC, WITHOUT COURT WARRANT



THEY JUST DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE ♪



THE CGC IS LEFT TO RUN WILD



*The CGC employees in Japan believe that they are given power to abduct children (officially, to place a child under its 'temporary custody') with the slightest wounds or bruises WITHOUT a court warrant. Although many jurists in Japan have put forward that a court warrant should be made necessary for such actions, the MHLW has made no attempts to protect human rights by rectifying this situation.

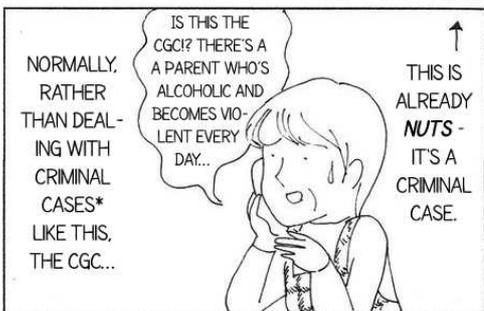
† According to a report prepared in 2014 by a US-based human rights group named 'Human Rights Watch' (HRW), former jobs of CGC personnel are often totally unrelated to youth affairs, e.g., the construction or waterworks department of a prefectural government. Only 53 percent of center directors and 65 percent of social workers have child care-related education and qualifications. Once, a medical doctor was appointed the CGC director, but the doctor was a surgeon (p. 65). (Without Dreams: Children in Alternative Care in Japan, available at http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/japan0514_ForUpload_0.pdf.)

‡ A three-year old child abducted by the Yokohama CGC died at their detention facility on 27 July 2008 from anaphylactic shock when the CGC personnel carelessly gave them food containing egg, to which the child was allergic. Many other children in CGC detention centres have been subjected to other forms of abuse, including sexual assaults and violence from CGC personnel.

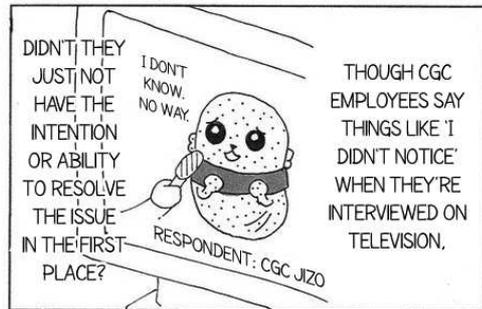
*Chinese cuisine Hui guo rou, or pork and cabbage sautéed with spicy soy bean paste, is the pun of 'Kōrōshō', the common abbreviation for MHLW, when a suffix 'su' is added (guo rou su). It also implies another pun: 'korosu' means 'to kill' in Japanese, which accuses the CGC of killing a child under detention.

† There are no governmental bodies, national or local, that have the power to supervise or rectify the measures taken by the CGC. CGC personnel order the affected citizens however they want to – just as a tyrant would do.

RATHER THAN TAKING UP CRIMINAL ABUSE CASES...



THE CGC ABDUCTS CHILDREN WHOSE CASES ARE LESS SERIOUS BUT EASIER TO HANDLE



*The police deals with serious abuse as a criminal case. The number of cases thus dealt with by the police in 2011 was 472 (Nihon Keizai Shim-bun, 7 March 2013), which amounted merely to 1/140 of those dealt with by the CGC. It implies that the CGC may occasionally concoct abuse cases and abduct children in order to obtain 'unit price for custody' allotment from MHLW and to fill vacancies in alternative care facilities.

THE PROVISION OF BUDGET PER HEAD DETAINED GIVES THE CGC INCENTIVE TO ABDUCT MORE CHILDREN

IN THE CITY OF SHIZUOKA, THEY GOT 90 MILLION IN ONE FISCAL YEAR.

WE NEED MONEY...

HEHEHE... BOO HOO

THE CGC ASKS FOR THEIR BUDGET FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

THAT THE CGC IS CLEARLY TRYING TO USE UP THEIR BUDGET.

zoom

SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB

THE REASON WHY THE BUREAUCRACY SHOWS A SUDDEN TEMPORARY JUMP IN DETENTION CASES AT THE END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR FROM NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY IS

BUT WITH THE CGC CHIEF'S DISCRETION, THERE'S NO LIMIT IN EXTENDING THE LENGTH OF DETENTION.

WAHHH! YOU OLD GEEZER!

WHAT A CHEEKY BRAT. WANT TO MAKE ME KEEP YOU HERE A BIT LONGER?

IN PRINCIPLE, THE CGC CAN TAKE CHILDREN AWAY FROM THEIR PARENTS TEMPORARILY FOR 'CUSTODY' FOR TWO MONTHS.

DRAG

THEY'RE PAID 400 THOUSAND YEN PER MONTH FOR EACH DETENTION CASE. AND SINCE THERE'S NO BUDGET CEILING, THEY DETAIN AS MANY CHILDREN AS THEY WANT.

AAHHHH!

HEEELP!

CUSTODY CATCH

THE CGC THREATENS PARENTS INTO AGREEING TO PUT THEIR CHILD IN AN ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITY

THEY HAVE TO SWITCH TO PLACEMENT IN AN ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITY*.

IN ORDER TO USE UP THE BUDGET,

THOUGH THEY CAN DETAIN FOR AS LONG AS THEY WANT, CUSTODY ISN'T INCLUDED IN THE YEARLY BUDGET.

TEMPORARY CUSTODY

ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITY

PLACEMENT IN AN ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITY NEEDS PARENTAL CONSENT TO GET POINTS.

THOUGH CUSTODY CAN BE DONE WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT,

IT'S KIND OF LIKE SUPER MARIO

ching

PLACE IN A CARE FACILITY

0x150

(THE TRUTH IS, IT'S A RULING, NOT A COURT TRIAL.)

IF YOU DON'T SAY I COMMITTED ABUSE AND AGREE TO PLACEMENT IN AN ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITY, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET YOUR KID.

SAY YES, YES.

HOWEVER, SINCE THE PARENTS MIGHT NOT REMEMBER COMMITTING ANY ACTS OF ABUSE, THREATS ARE NEEDED.

THERE WILL BE A COURT TRIAL.

IT'LL COST YOU.

THAT'S WHY THE CGC DOES ITS BEST TO AVOID THAT.

YOU'RE NOT GONNA AGREE?!

LEGALLY, THE CHILD MUST BE REFERRED TO FAMILY COURT IF THERE'S NO PARENTAL CONSENT - THINGS GET TROUBLESOME.

THAT'S... YOU WON'T ADMIT IT'S ABUSE!?

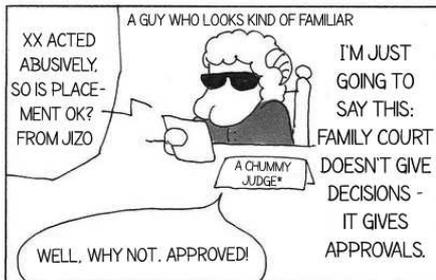
*In an alternative care facility, the children receive only obligatory accommodation and meals, with little personal attention towards sound development. The children are exposed to widespread abuse there, as the Final Observation to Japan issued in 2010 by the UN Committee of the Rights of the Child pointed out.

© NINTENDO

THE CHUMMY JUDGE OF FAMILY COURT GIVES BLIND APPROVAL TO THE CGC TO PUT CHILDREN IN ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES



A RULING. NOT A TRIAL.

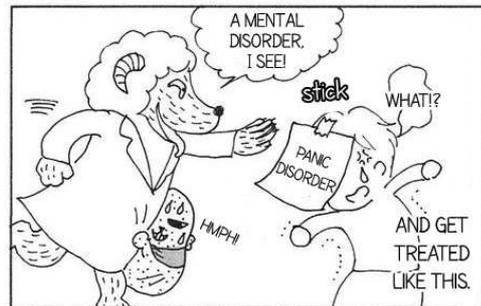


WHAT KIND OF MISLEADING IS THAT?

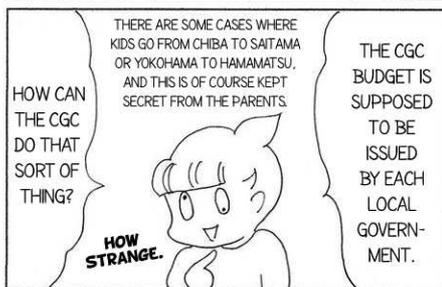
*The family court approves as much as 85% of the referrals from the CGC to put children in alternative care facilities. Many parents have been complaining that the family court in Japan doesn't listen to them, is NOT functioning properly, and just rubber-stamps CGC's claims without duly investigating CGC's dishonest administrative measures and human rights infringements.

† Alternative care facilities were originally meant to protect orphans, street urchins and starving children until they found proper parents or guardians right after WWII. Yet, as the Japanese economy and society recovered, they decreased in number and the alternative care facilities came to require 'new guests' to fill the vacancy for their own sustenance. Currently, as much as 90% of the children staying in alternative care facilities are estimated to have been brought to the facilities because of alleged 'abuse' (HRW Without Dreams, p.32). This means that these illegitimate and unjust CGC procedures are essential for running alternative care facilities and for persuading the Ministry of Finance to pay government money to these facilities via the MHLW.

CORRUPTION: A CGC GAVE BACK A CHILD IN EXCHANGE FOR X MILLION YEN



THE CGC DOES NOT DISCLOSE THE ABDUCTED CHILD'S WHEREABOUTS TO THE PARENTS



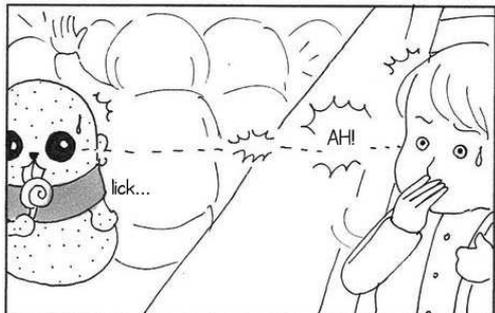
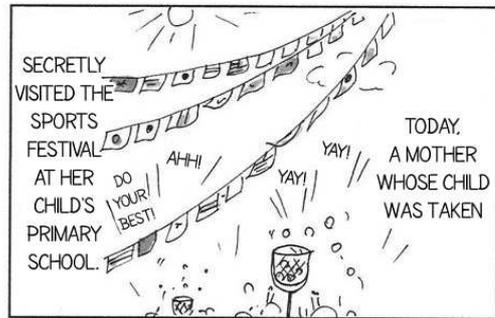
*This measure is obviously against Article 16(3) of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, stipulating 'The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State'.

THE CGC ONLY ASKS DOCILE AND IGNORANT PARENTS FOR MONETARY CONTRIBUTION FOR ALTERNATIVE CARE PLACEMENTS.

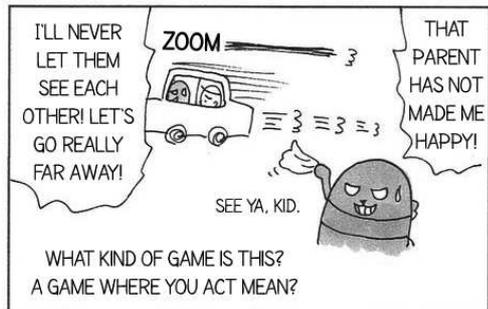
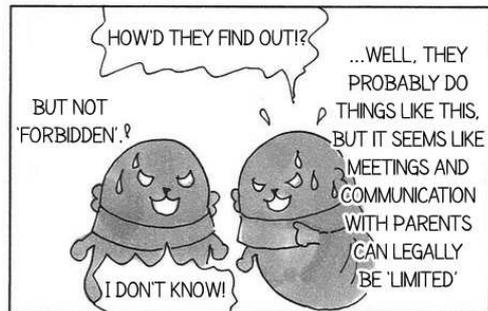
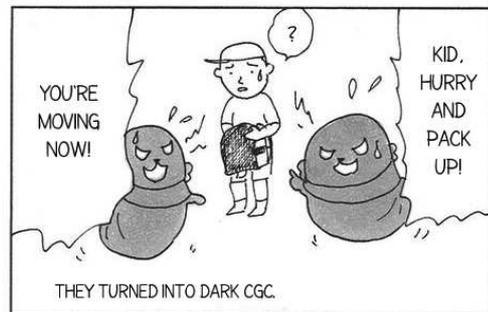
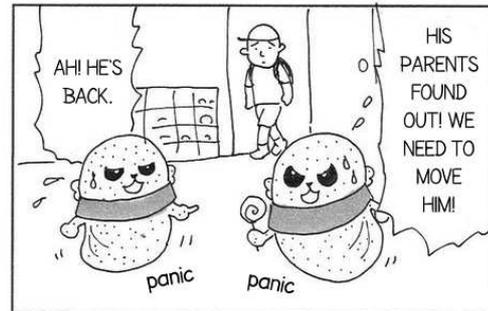


*The HRW concluded in Without Dreams that 'the very system of institutional care may itself be abusive' (p.4) based on the dismal condition of living and poor education provision to the child brought by the CGC at the alternative care facility that they investigated.

THE CGC MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO DESTROY FAMILIAL TIES



THE CGC TAKES EVERY MEASURE TO FORBID ENCOUNTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE CHILD AND THEIR PARENTS



*The MHLW has kept complaining about the shortage of CGC personnel and insisting on more budget to hire more, but what is the point in allocating more taxpayers' money to the CGC when they've done something so daft?

† Kikuji Minamide, an attorney-at-law specialising in the problems associated with CGC, advocates that the prohibition of encounter between the child and their parents for more than a month should in itself constitute the infringement of human rights.

ALL FOR \$\$\$: THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THE CGC IN JAPAN UNDER NEO-LIBERALISM



*The pseudonym of the original author of this 4-cell cartoon series. Her generosity in allowing us to publish her work in English here is greatly appreciated.

*Original Cartoon by Mendusa
Translated into English by Amimaru
Annotated by Fujio Mizuoka*