

Whaling in Japan: Conflicts and Controversies

Ashley Harrell

VCHC Conference

April 20th, 2020

International Whaling Commission (IWC)

- ◆ The IWC was founded in 1946 to conserve whale stocks.
 - ◆ What does the IWC do?
 - Sets catch limits by whale species and area.
 - Designates specific areas as whale sanctuaries.
 - Protects calves and female whales accompanied by calves.
 - Places restrictions on hunting methods.
 - ◆ 1982 Moratorium.
-

Whaling in Three Countries

Japan

- ♦ Whales under the IWC's aboriginal subsistence clause.
 - ♦ Programs: JARPA, JARPA-II, and NEWREP-A.
-

Norway

- ♦ Whales under objection of the IWC.

U.S.A.

- ♦ No longer whales.
- 

Double Standards

- ◆ Culinary practices in the West versus the East: foie gras, veal, and whale meat.
 - Though Western nations seem adverse to whale meat, the same cannot be said about foie gras and veal.
-

Orientalism

- ◆ Edward Said: “What is “European” is rational, virtuous, mature, and ‘normal’ while the Orient is irrational, depraved, child-like, and ‘different’.”
-