

Thinking About Prejudice and Discrimination Based on Rumors

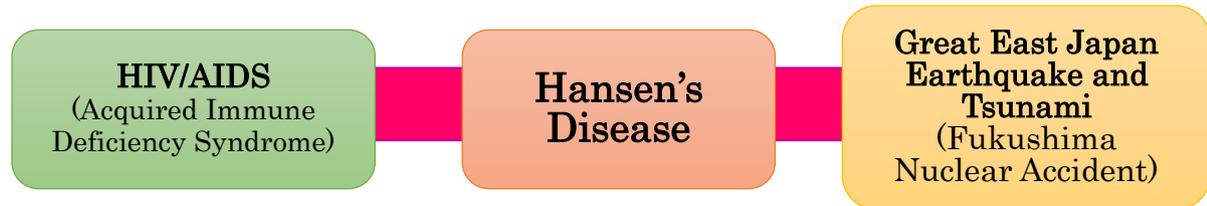
What is a rumor?



A rumor is information that is spread from person to person with no clear source given to verify if it is true or not.

Rumors can be dangerous and inflict economic or physical damage to others. How might prejudice and discrimination make them worse?

This isn't the first time we've seen this, is it?



False rumors are spread through various methods from people to people, and they can make people view someone or something one-sidedly and/or exclude others in some way. Those whose dignity has been hurt by false rumors don't easily recover from their pain. In order to **prevent repeating the same mistakes** made in the past, consider the following.



COVID-19 isn't an exception!

The coronavirus has spread throughout Japan and across the world. Information provided from a variety of different sources changes by the day, and many people are gripped with anxiety. Behaviors that avoid or lower the risk of infection are essential for protecting everyone.

However, don't you think that **asking medical institutions, etc. for the addresses of those infected and denying people access to a facility or business based on assumptions of their relations with people infected by the virus** is going too far?

It's possible that similar cases could happen in the future. Each can provide an opportunity for people to realize the potential weakness and nastiness of the human heart and learn to do their best not to hurt others through their words and behavior.

