

COLLOQUIUM

MCCAUSLAND VISITING SCHOLARS

WEDNESDAY

MARCH

13

12:30 p.m.

Sloan College 104

Department of Sociology
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

Colloquium presentation of
the McCausland Visiting
Scholars Program, "Beyond
Cool Japan: Legal and
Cultural Aspects of
Japanese Society Today,"
Department of Sociology,
University of South Carolina.



Homicide Trials in Japan: The Case of Iwao Hakamada, the World's Longest-serving Death Row Convict

presented by

Dr. Dimitri VANOVERBEKE

The University of Tokyo

Iwao Hakamada, the longest-serving death row convict in Japan (and the world), is currently undergoing retrial for a murder that occurred in 1966. Initially convicted on a confession obtained through harsh interrogations, Hakamada's case raises significant questions about the intersection of culture and criminal justice in Japan. In this presentation, I delve into the cultural factors influencing interrogation methods and legal proceedings. I shed light on the delicate balance between tradition and reform in Japan's culture and justice institutions. The case provides valuable insights into the challenges of administering justice in a dynamic society like Japan.

Dr. Dimitri Vanoverbeke is Professor of Sociology of Law at the Graduate Schools of Law and Politics, and the Faculty of Law at The University of Tokyo. His research and teaching primarily focus on law and crime in prewar and contemporary Japan.

For more information, please contact
faculty liaison: Dr. Mathieu Deflem,
Professor of Sociology
(Deflem@mailbox.sc.edu)



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

Department of Sociology