

[New Book Publication: Resolving the Contemporary Tensions of Regional Places: What Japan Can Teach Us](#)

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New Book Publication:

Resolving the Contemporary Tensions of Regional Places: What Japan Can Teach Us

by Anthony S. Rausch

Resolving the Contemporary Tensions of Regional Places: What Japan Can Teach Us offers a unique view of regional society and the future of regional places. The contents take up contemporary and fundamentally universal regional-place tensions—regional relocation, local finance and leadership, local economies together with regionally-specific economic and cultural revitalization, and the potential in higher education and resident volunteerism for regional places—and outline how these tensions are unfolding in regional Japan. The objectives inherent in these themes are increasingly important for all regional areas: drawing urbanites to relocate in regional municipalities, dealing with the instability of regional banking, capitalizing on local leadership potential, addressing tax inequalities across geographically regional economies, responding to the potential loss of cultural history, and understanding the changing dynamics of higher education and local volunteerism in regional society. The responses proposed by the author build on uniquely Japanese approaches: better utilizing an *akiyavacant* house information bank, activating and connecting regional think tanks with regional banking, articulating the geographic inequality of a hometown tax scheme (*furusato nozei*) and proposing a way to achieve the objectives of the *furusato nozei* scheme through cultivation of regional cultural economies, and responding to policy trends in education and increasing individual interest in volunteering by turning these into resources for regional revitalization. The tensions are universal, the solutions reflect Japanese approaches, and the conclusions prompt consideration of the way issues are often framed, and how solutions can emerge when the tensions, and the existing solutions, are reframed. *Resolving the Contemporary Tensions of Regional Places: What Japan Can Teach Us* is accessible: chapters are approximately 6,000 words, keeping the book in total to 37,000 words. Anthony Rausch is professor at Hirosaki University (Japan), has lived in and studied rural Japan for over 30 years, holds a PhD in social sciences from Monash University (Australia) and has published extensively on regional Japan. He can be found at < <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Anthony-Rausch> > and < <https://hirosaki-u.academia.edu/AnthonyRausch> >

Resolving the Contemporary Tensions of Regional Places: What Japan Can Teach Us is available on Amazon.com in paper and kindle formats at https://www.amazon.co.jp/-/en/dp/B094L8WCHL/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&qid=1620708105&refinements=p_27%3AAAnthony+Rausch&s=english-books&sr=1-1

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