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Research on Earthquake Disasters and Gender in China (2003–2023)

Jing LI¹ and Junko OTANI²

Abstract

In Japan, the topic of “Disasters and Women” emerged after the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Although Japan, being disaster-prone, has extensive research on disaster-related subjects, studies exploring women’s perspectives in disaster contexts are still in their infancy. Sociological research in Japan on “Disasters and Women” has concentrated mainly on vulnerability theory, examining the harm that women endure and the roles they assume in disaster prevention and recovery. With regard to harm to women, prior studies have underscored issues unique to women during evacuation, such as health issues, unequal caregiving responsibilities during disasters, rooted in gender roles, domestic violence, and sexual violence. In China, significant seismic events such as the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake, the 2010 Yushu Earthquake, the 2013 Lushan Earthquake, and the 2014 Ludian Earthquake have occurred in a country not previously known for such incidents. Although research on earthquakes and disasters has become more common in China, studies focusing on gender remain scarce in this field. This study reviews the literature on earthquake disasters and gender in China, sourced from the China National Knowledge Infrastructure, for the period 2003 to 2023. By doing so, we aim to discern the research trends in studies related to earthquake disasters and gender in China.

Key words: disasters; earthquake; women; gender; research review; the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI)

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1. Introduction

Disasters expose gender constructs not clearly distinguishable in normal times. The concept of “gender,” which emerged during the second feminist movement in the 1960s, has been widely adopted and established by women’s studies and gender researchers since the 1970s (Ueno 2006). The concept of “sex” pertains to biological categories, whereas gender is related to social and cultural categories. Adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (hereinafter, the Beijing Conference) held in Beijing in 1995, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action proposed a process of “mainstreaming a gender perspective” to achieve gender equality. Enarson and Morrow (1998) have conducted pioneering research in disaster and gender studies using various approaches from anthropology, sociology, and so forth. According to Yang (2021), “Conventional disaster research from a gender perspective has generally emphasized women’s vulnerability, but recent studies have also focused on women’s agency and disaster countermeasures from a women’s perspective” (p. 308).

In disaster-prone Japan, the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake occurred in the same year as the Beijing Conference, resulting in the theme of “Disasters and Women” garnering significant attention (Aikawa 2006). Japan has since progressed via various legal reforms, backed by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Basic Law for a Gender-Equal Society. As a disaster-prone country, Japan has accumulated considerable research on disasters. However, disaster research from the perspectives of women and gender remains relatively underdeveloped (Asano & Tendo 2021). Sociological research on “disasters and women” in Japan has focused on the damages suffered by women and the role of women in disaster prevention and reconstruction. Concerning women’s victimization, previous studies have highlighted health problems specific to women, especially in terms of women’s shelters, gender-based uneven distribution of care responsibilities unique to disasters, domestic violence, and sexual violence. Research has also been conducted on the roles played by women, including various support activities performed by women after disasters and practical activities such as women’s leadership training in disaster prevention.

Meanwhile, the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake confirmed that major earthquakes can occur in China, which had not previously been known as an earthquake country. Although research on earthquakes and disasters in China expanded rapidly after the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake, only a few studies have been conducted on earthquake disasters and gender in China (Hu 2010). Accordingly, this study summarizes papers published in the Chinese academic literature system in the last two decades and clarifies the trends in research on earthquake disasters and gender in China.

2. Research Methods

For this study, we extracted papers on earthquake disaster recovery and gender in China published on the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI)¹⁾ and examined the research trends reflected

by the relevant papers. The search covered all literature published between 2003 and 2023. In Chinese, “gender” is translated as “社会性别.” When extracting the targets from the CNKI, we conducted three searches using the following keywords: “earthquake” (地震), “gender” (性别), “women” (女性), and “men” (男性). The subject search with “earthquake” and “sex” yielded 111 papers containing these keywords in the abstract; “earthquake” and “women” yielded a total of 98 papers, while “earthquake” and “men” yielded a total of 50 papers. Based on these results, we entered the basic information of the collected data into Microsoft Excel to eliminate duplicates, manually re-extracted literature discussing “earthquake disasters and gender,” and excluded papers for which the full text was unavailable, producing a final sample of 40 papers.

3. Thematic Analysis and Discussion of the Literature

The 40 papers cover the 2008 Sichuan Earthquake, the 2010 Yushu Earthquake, the 2013 Lushan Earthquake, and the 2014 Ludian Earthquake. Table 1 summarizes the titles and keywords.

Table 1. Papers examined in this study

Authors (year of publication)	Title (Japanese translation by the authors)	Keywords
Zhang et al. (2010)	Sichuan dizhen zaiqu ren yuan xinli zhuangkuang de diaocha yanjiu [Investigation & Study of Psychological Status of the Victims in the Earthquake-Stricken Areas of Sichuan]	Psychological health of disaster victims, sex, education level
Zhang et al. (2021)	Qingshaonian chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai zhengzhuang yu wangluo chengyin zhengzhuang de guanxi: chengfa min gansixing he gudu gan de zhongjie ji xingbie de tiaojie [The Relationship between Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms and Internet Addiction Symptoms in Adolescents: The Mediating Role of Sensitivity to Punishment Stimuli and Loneliness and the Moderating Role of Gender]	Nine years after the Sichuan Earthquake, middle school students, association between PTSD symptoms and Internet addiction symptoms, gender
You et al. (2010)	Sichuan dizhen zaihou Abazhou zhongxiaoxue jiaoshi xinli chuangshang yanjiu baogao	Kindergarten, elementary, and middle school teachers; PTSD Kindergarten, elementary, and

	[Research Report on the Psychological Trauma of Primary and Secondary School Teachers in Aba Prefecture After the Sichuan Earthquake]	middle school teachers; PTSD symptoms; social support
Liu et al. (2010)	5.12 Wenchuan dizhen qianhou zaiqu jiaolv yiyu zhang'ai bingren zhengzhuang duibi yanjiu [Control Study on Symptom of Anxiety and Depression Disorder before and after 5·12 Wenchuan Earthquake]	Disaster victims, depressive symptoms, sex comparison, comparative study
Li et al. (2010)	Chengdu, Deyang diqu dizhen 8 ge yue hou laonianren yiyu zhuangkuang ji qi xiangguan yinsu [Depression status and related factors of elderly victims in Chengdu and Deyang 8 months after the Wenchuan earthquake]	Disaster area, elderly people, depressive state
Xiang et al. (2010)	Wenchuan dizhen zaiqu 1960 ming zhongxuesheng chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai zhengzhuang diaocha [Prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms among middle school students after Wenchuan earthquake]	PTSD symptoms, women, rural students, ethnic minorities
Zhang et al. (2009)	Wenchuan da dizhen jixing yingji zhang'ai jianchu lü ji xiangguan yinsu de diaocha yanjiu [Investigation on the Prevalence of Acute Stress Disorder and Its Influencing Factors After a Violent Earthquake in Wenchuan]	ASD, Wenchuan Earthquake, survival
Lei et al. (2009)	Dizhen zaiqu jumin shehui zhichi zhuangkuang fenxi [Social support among residents in earthquake area]	Social support, Deyang City, Mianzhu City, Shifang City, Hanwang Town, women, men
Wang et al. (2009)	Dizhen zaiqu jumin chuangshang yingji zhang'ai diaocha [Posttraumatic stress disorder after earthquake in Wenchuan]	Qingchuan County, disaster victims, PTSD, women, mental health care

Zhao et al. (2009)	Wenchuan dizhen ji zhong zaiqu shequ jumin chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai fasheng lü ji yingxiang yinsu [Prevalence and Related factors for PTSD in Community Residents after the Wenchuan Earthquake]	PTSD surveys, women, men, social support
Zhao et al. (2009)	Wenchuan zhenhou yi ge yue shouzaizhe xinli yingji zhuangkuang [Psychological stress condition of earthquake victims one month after the Wenchuan Earthquake]	Sense of belonging, social support, sense of safety, psychological health
Wu et al. (2009)	Zaihou minzhong chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai (PTSD) yu shijian chongji liangbiao (IES) de fazhan he yingyong [Development and Application of PTSD and IES in Survivors after Disaster]	Disaster areas, Mianzhu, mental care, early detection
Shen et al. (2009)	Dizhen zaiqu Mao xian chengren zhenhou jixing yingji xinli fanying ji ganyu yanjiu [Study on the Post-Earthquake Acute Stress Psychic Reaction and Intervention Effects of Adults in Maoxian Which was a Worst-hit Area]	Counseling, therapy, women, psychological health
Gao & Xue (2009)	Dizhen zaihou zhuan yi shangyuan de chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai de fasheng ji qi yingxiang yinsu [Occurrence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and its Related Factors in Transfer of Wounded Persons after Earthquake]	PTSD, women, transferred injured persons
Xu et al. (2010)	Wenchuan da dizhen hou ertong ji xing yingji zhang'ai jianchu lü ji xiangguan yinsu de diaocha yanjiu [Investigation on the Prevalence in Children of Acute Stress Disorder and Its Influencing Factors After a Violent Earthquake in Wenchuan]	ASD, children, long-term care, sex

Shen et al. (2010)	Mao xian chengqu dizhen zaimin zhenhou 7–9 zhou PTSD zhengzhuang fanying diaocha [Survey on PTSD Symptomatic Response of Victims from the Town of Mao County 7 to 9 Weeks after the Earthquake]	Disaster areas, Mao County residents, PCL-C, DSM-R, PTSD formative period
Qi et al. (2010)	Wenchuan dizhen nanxing jiuyuanzhe chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai weixian yinsu yanjiu [Study on Risk Factors of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in Male Rescuer in the Wenchuan Earthquake]	Male rescue vehicle, PTSD, relief efforts
He & Chen (2010)	Dizhen jizhong zaqu xiaoxue jiaoshi de chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai diaocha [Investigation of PTSD of the Primary School Teachers in The Disaster Areas after Violent Earthquake]	Qingchuan Country elementary school teachers, PTSD, relatives
Wei (2011)	Dizhen zaiqu nongcun liushou yu feiliushou xueqian ertong tizhi zhuangkuang bijiao [Comparison of physical constitution between left-behind and non left-behind children in disaster area of earthquake]	Disaster areas, rural children, girls, boys, physical ability
Zheng et al. (2011)	Dizhen hou qingshaonian jiaolv de tezheng ji yingxiang yinsu yanjiu [Study on Symptoms and Correlates of Anxiety Disorder among Adolescents after Earthquake]	Youths, Dujiangyan City, women, men, residence, influencing factors
Liu et al. (2011)	Shaanxi Lüeyang xian jumin dizhen zaihai gan zhi yanjiu [Research on the resident's perception difference of the Earthquake Disaster in LueYang Shaanxi Province]. Xianyang Shifan Xueyuan Xuebao [Journal of Xianyang Normal University]	Disaster awareness, men, women, education, media

Qi et al. (2011)	Wenchuan dizhen nanxing jiuyuanzhe chuangshang hou yingji zhang'ai weixian yinsu yanjiu [Study on Risk Factors of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in Male Rescuer in the Wenchuan Earthquake]	Male rescuers, PTSD symptoms, PLC-C
Hu et al. (2011)	Wenchuan dizhen Qingchuan zaiqu ertong qingshaonian jingshen jibing liuxing bingxue diaocha [Epidemiological Survey on Adolescent Mental Illness in Qingchuan Earthquake Disaster Area]	Disaster areas, Qingchuan District, children, youths, psychological health
Yang (2011)	Dizhen zaihou Qinghai sheng Yushu Zangqu zhongxuesheng xinli yingji qiangdu de diaocha yanjiu [Investigation of Psychological Stress Intensity Among Middle School Students in Yushu Tibetan Area of Qinghai Province After the Earthquake]	Qinghai Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, middle school students, psychological health, sex
Du et al. (2012)	5.12 Wenchuan da dizhen hou 24 yue zaiqu xiaoxuesheng xinli jiankang zhuangkuang diaocha [Research on the Mental Health of Pupils 24 Months after 5.12 Earthquake]	Elementary school students, psychological health, disaster areas, Pengzhou, family injury level, mental health care
Liu et al. (2012)	Dizhen zhongzaiqu sangshi zinu zhe de chuangshang hou yingji zhengzhuang 2 nian suifang [Post-traumatic stress symptoms among bereaved parents in severely damaged earthquake area: A 2-year follow-up study]	Victims who lost their children, women, men, PTSD
Xu et al. (2012)	Dizhen hou 26 ge yue zaiqu gao san xuesheng shengming zhiliang diaocha [Study on Life Quality of Disaster Area Students in Senior	High school students, quality of life, psychological health, men, women

	High School 26 Months after the Wenchuan Earthquake]	
Yang (2014)	Wenchuan dizhen 5 nian hou zaqu jumin shehui zhichi xianzhuang [Social Support of Residents from Disaster Area Five Years Later after Wenchuan Earthquake]	Social support use, men, female, minors
Zhao et al. (2016)	Yunnan Ludian zhen hou qingshaonian xinli jiankang zhuangkuang ji qi yingxiang yinsu [Mental health situation and its influencing factors among adolescents after earthquake in Yunnan Ludian]	Yunnan, disaster zone, youth psychological health, material support, psychological support
Cheng et al. (2020)	Lushan diqu zhenhou 3 nian qingshaonian jiaolv xiangguan qingxu zhangai ji qi fengxian yinsu [Prevalence of multiple anxiety disorder and associated factors among adolescents three years after Ya'an Earthquake]	Lushan Earthquake, youth, psychological health, women
Yang et al. (2020)	Dizhen shouzai qunzhong san nian hou chuanshang hou chengzhang he xiangguan yinsu xian kuang diaocha [A cross-sectional study of the status of posttraumatic growth and related factors of the affected people three years after earthquake]	Ludian Earthquake, disaster zone, Longtoushan Town, PTSD, social support, women
Li et al. (2008)	Dizhen zaihou juzhu zhangpeng jumin xing shenghuo zhuangkuang yu jiaolv guanxi [Study on sex activity and its relationship with anxiety among residents dwelling in tent after earthquake]	Life in shelters, sex life, psychological health, women
Zhang et al. (2012)	Yushu dizhen hou xingcunzhe de chuanshang hou yingji zhengzhuang, shenghuo manyi du yu jiji qinggan / xiaoji qinggan [Relationship between post-	Yushu Earthquake, PTSD, life satisfaction, women, ethnic minorities

	traumatic symptoms, life satisfaction and positive affect, negative affect in survivors after the Yushu earthquake]	
Zhuang et al. (2010)	Dizhen shouzai nongmin zhudong canyu zhufang chongjian de yingxiang yinsu fenxi [Analysis of Influencing Factors for Disaster-Affected Farmers' Active Participation in Housing Reconstruction]	Housing reconstruction, participation in reconstruction activities, farmers, sex
Pei (2011)	Xing, funü chongquan yu jiti liaoshang—guanyu Sichuan dizhen zaiqu cixiu xiaozu de ge'an yanjiu [Sex, Women's Empowerment, and Collective Healing—A Case Study on Embroidery Groups in the Sichuan Earthquake Disaster Areas]	Gender, disaster zone, grassroots organizations, women's empowerment, reconstruction activities
An et al. (2018)	Shehui zhichi dui zhenhou qingshaonian chuangshanghou yingji zhangai he chuangshanghou chengzhang de yingxiang: Ziwo xiaonenggan de zhongjie zuoyong [The Relationship between Social Support, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Posttraumatic Growth among Adolescents after Wenchuan Earthquake: Understanding the Role of Self-efficacy]	Middle school students, social support, severely affected areas
Wu et al. (2018)	Wenchuan dizhen 8.5 nian hou qingshaonian shenxin zhuangkuang yanjiu [Investigation on Mental Health State of Adolescents after 8.5 Years of Wenchuan Earthquake]	Youths, physical and mental health, life satisfaction
Zheng (2015)	Wenchuan dizhen zaiqu xue sheng chuangshang hou yali fanying diaocha [Post-traumatic stress disorder among students after Wenchuan Earthquake in China]	Disaster areas, Qingchuan, PTSD, sex, school year

Shang & Liu (2012)	Nüxing—diyi zaihai de wuxing lilian [Women: The Invisible Force Against Disasters]	Traditional concepts, gender roles, disaster prevention knowledge
Yu et al. (2014)	Ziran zainan qingjing xia de xingbie yanjiu: huigu yu qianzhan [A Gender Perspective of Natural Disaster: Past and Future]	Gender, vulnerability, women's health

Source: Created by the authors.

These publications can be divided into three main categories: (i) research on gender differences in the psychological effects of earthquakes on their victims; (ii) research focused on gender-related issues in relief activities and shelter living; (iii) research on women's empowerment in the reconstruction process.

3.1. Gender Differences in the Psychological Effects of Earthquakes on Their Victims

Among the publications examined in this study, the most common type focused on gender differences in the psychological health and recovery of earthquake victims. The subjects of these studies included regular earthquake victims, elementary school students, middle school students, elderly individuals, and elementary and middle school teachers. Investigating the psychological states of victims of the Sichuan Earthquake, Zhang, Peng, et al. (2010) found that all the victims had psychological disorder reactions, with more than half in need of psychological support. Striking differences in psychological health by gender and education level were also identified, suggesting that women are more likely to respond adversely to disaster events and that the risk of adverse response tends to be lower the higher an earthquake victim's education level. Meanwhile, in a survey of PTSD symptoms among elementary and middle school teachers in Aba Prefecture, You, Zhang, et al. (2010) found that women had more severe symptoms than men. Li, Kuang, et al. (2010) studied depressive symptoms in 390 older adults living in earthquake-affected areas in Chengdu and Deyang eight months after the Sichuan Earthquake. Their results showed that depressive symptoms in older adults remained severe even eight months after the event, with 30.3% of respondents exhibiting depressive symptoms. The findings of the aforementioned studies suggest that psychological interventions after disasters ought to focus on women, individuals with low levels of education, and those who continue to work in agriculture.

Other articles included a study of 1,960 middle school students who were victims of an earthquake (Xiang, Xiong, et al. 2010), an analysis of PTSD in children (Xu, Zhang, et al.), and an examination of the relationship between sex life and psychological health at shelters (Li, Wang, et al. 2010). Meanwhile, Lei, Zhao, Tang, et al. (2009) conducted a questionnaire survey and interviews with 290 residents in areas affected by the Sichuan Earthquake and analyzed the material and emotional support available to them. Thus, they found that men are less likely than women to receive emotional support and that men's psychological health is strongly influenced by their family relationships. They emphasized that

emotional support is important for the health and psychological recovery of women and men.

3.2. Challenges for Relief Activities and Shelters

In the wake of the Sichuan earthquake, several female earthquake victims were refused aid from male helpers and medical staff, especially in remote and economically underdeveloped ethnic minority areas, resulting in delayed relief and treatment (Hu 2010). Moreover, at the time of the Sichuan Earthquake, there were no separate toilets for men and women in the temporary shelters, resulting in women refraining from drinking water and using the toilets at night to avoid sharing toilet facilities with men. Moreover, power shortages in the shelters and the lack of public bathing facilities increased the risk of sexual violence. Makeshift shelters turned into places where men exercise power and control over women, suppressing their voices through latent threats of violence. According to Hu (2010), this power structure is rooted in power relations between men and women, such that the earthquake-associated stress places an additional burden on women. Li, Wang et al. (2008) conducted a questionnaire survey and interviews to investigate the sex lives of earthquake victims evacuated to temporary housing. Results showed that some of those evacuated after the Sichuan Earthquake continued to have sex lives, indicating that an appropriate sex life may alleviate anxiety after a disaster. In particular, findings suggested the need to focus on the sex lives of women between the ages of 40 and 49.

3.3. Gender in Earthquake Reconstruction Activities

As shown above, most of the literature on earthquake disasters and gender in China is psychological, with many conducting quantitative studies using a PTSD survey scale. Few sociological studies have been conducted from a gender perspective. Among them, Hu (2010) has elucidated the unequal distribution of relief resources due to household registration issues, as well as the restrictions on reconstruction activities due to traditional gender roles. However, surveying the residents of five villages in a disaster area regarding their participation in housing reconstruction activities as well as the background factors, Zhuang, Zhang, et al. (2010) found no significant correlation between the factors associated with participation in post-earthquake housing reconstruction activities and sex. Rather, results showed a positive relationship with education level. Working from an anthropological and sociological perspective, Pei (2010) conducted a two-year study examining women's reconstruction activities and an embroidery group in Wenchuan County after the Sichuan Earthquake through participant observations, focus groups, and individual interviews. Focusing on the life stories of three women, she examined disasters and women's empowerment. Her analysis revealed how the women had been able to increase their household incomes through their embroidery group activities, enjoying more economic rights at home than they had before the earthquake. Joining the embroidery group also enabled them to acquire political rights. In this respect, the women's embroidery group was advertised as a model for village reconstruction, giving women the right to speak up, which they had previously not been allowed to do. The development of the embroidery group also served to increase organizational growth, enhance negotiations and collaboration with external organizations and groups, and foster the

leadership capacity of its members. Moreover, members of the embroidery group developed close relationships, second only to family relationships.

Pei's (2010) research touches on two points relatively overlooked in previous studies of women's reconstruction activities. First, the motivations of the women participating in embroidery group activities were strongly correlated with their work experience before the earthquake. Some of the women had worked outside the province before the earthquake, returning to Sichuan after marriage and generally performing duties related to raising livestock and farming. Such domestic work is called "play" (Sichuan dialect: 耍). According to Pei, female earthquake victims with such migrant experiences tended to soften and idealize these experiences, strongly influencing their subsequent participation in reconstruction activities. Thus, their active participation in women's recovery efforts constituted an attempt to overcome traditional gender roles, motivating them to transform into "career women." Second, although women gained economic and political rights through these activities, their daily lives and activities continued to be shaped by their "sexual relationships" with their husbands, ex-husbands, and partners. In this regard, Pei (2010) argued that the women engaged in these reconstruction activities wanted their husbands to know what they were doing and approve of them, underscoring how their value as women was strongly influenced by their sexual relationships. These themes are seldom discussed in the existing research.

Meanwhile, in Japan, numerous studies have explored women's handicrafts and group activities after earthquakes. Women's participation in such activities tends to be discussed in terms of "mental health" and "economic significance." For example, Hori (2019) conducted an interview survey with four women who began organizing free embroidery initiatives in the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2014, finding that the significance of such handiwork lay in the provision of opportunities for women to express experiences and thoughts that are difficult to verbalize. As such, the site of handiwork was transformed into "a space of intimate relationships where women can chat with each other with peace of mind," providing opportunities to talk about their experiences.

4. Conclusion

This study summated and examined the Chinese literature on earthquakes and gender published in the CNKI, an online service for Chinese academic literature, from 2003 to 2023. In China, research on the Sichuan Earthquake that incorporates a gender perspective has tended to focus on gender-related issues in relief activities and shelters and women's empowerment in the reconstruction process, with most studies examining gender differences in the psychological impact of earthquakes. In other words, most studies emphasize the vulnerability of women to earthquakes, with only a few studies taking the perspective of women's agency. Research examining women's participation in embroidery activities after an earthquake focused on the women's pre-earthquake work experiences and the relationships between women participating in reconstruction activities and men, neither of which have received significant attention from scholars, suggesting new trends for future research. As Yang (2021) notes,

“While the majority of studies highlight what women experience in disasters and portray them as normal victims and in need of male protection, they do not explore the deeper links between gender inequality and male-dominated social structures” (p. 308). Essentially, research on disasters and gender must explore gender relationships at a deeper level.

In this study, we focused on analyzing and discussing papers published on the CNKI, an online service for Chinese academic literature. However, many researchers outside of China have written about disasters and earthquakes in the country. For example, edited by Otani Junko, *Learning from the Sichuan Earthquake: Building Community and “Chinese-Style Resilience” Amid Reconstruction* (2011) systematically analyzes the Sichuan Earthquake from the perspectives of NGOs, older victims, disaster tourism, and disaster prevention education. In the future, we want to clarify issues related to disasters and gender by comparing the viewpoints of researchers in China and elsewhere.

Notes

- 1) The CNKI is a database of all Chinese literature published since 1984. The CNKI contains various databases, including academic journals, important newspapers, doctoral and master’s dissertations, papers from important academic conferences, foreign language literature, and statistical data.

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