

Tattoo Culture in Japan and America

Hello, my name is Shelby Lydon and I am a Japanese Major attending California State University Monterey Bay conducting this survey for my Senior Capstone. The purpose of this study is to better understand what the differences are in the perceptions of tattoos between Japan and America, as well as what motivates college students in both countries to get, or not to get, a tattoo on their persons. Please answer the following questions as honestly as possible. Your answers will be kept confidential. Thank you for your participation.

* Required

1. Gender *

Mark only one oval.

- Male
 Female
 Other

2. Age *

Mark only one oval.

- 17
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26 or older

3. Nationality *

Mark only one oval.

- Japanese
 American
 Other:

4. Ethnicity **Mark only one oval.*

- White/ Caucasian
- African American
- Native American
- Asian
- Hispanic
- Other:

5. Hometown classification **Mark only one oval.*

- Rural
- Suburb
- Small city
- Large city
- Other:

6. Academic Year **Mark only one oval.*

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Super Senior
- University Graduate

7. 1) Do you have a tattoo/ tattoos? **Mark only one oval.*

- Yes *Skip to question 10.*
- No *Skip to question 8.*

People without tattoos**8. 2) How likely are you to get a tattoo in the future?***Mark only one oval per row.*

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not sure	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. 3) Why have you chosen not to get a tattoo now?

Mark all that apply

Check all that apply.

- Future consequences (can't get a job, etc)
- Fear of pain or needles
- Unsure of what to get
- Unsure of where to get it (on body)
- Unsure of what Tattoo shop to go to
- Family or partner would disapprove
- Too expensive
- Other:

People with Tattoos**10. 4) How many tattoos do you have?***Mark only one oval.*

- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-9
- 10 or more

11. 5) How old were you when you got your first tattoo?*Mark only one oval.*

- Younger than 15
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20 and older

12. 6) Where is or are your tattoo(s) primarily located on your body?

Select the area(s) that apply

Check all that apply.

- Inner-arm
- Outer-arm
- Back
- Neck
- Legs
- Feet
- Hands
- Chest
- Other:

13. 7) How would you categorize your tattoo?

If you have multiple tattoos, please describe your favorite piece

Mark only one oval.

- Angel (wings, feathers, cherub, etc)
- Animal (mammals and insects)
- Art tattoos (Paintings, artists, pop-art)
- Celestial tattoos (stars, moons, planets, space, etc)
- Character (Hello Kitty, Daffy Duck, Hank Hill, etc)
- Religious (Cross, religious figures, rosary, etc)
- Family (Family crest, portraits of family members, hand prints, etc)
- Flowers
- Sports
- Text
- Other:

14. 8) Why is this tattoo your favorite?

Check all that apply

Check all that apply.

- The work is well done
- The meaning behind it
- It has retained it's color well (not faded)
- I like the location of it
- Other:

15. **9) Why did you get your (favorite) tattoo?**

Check all that apply
Check all that apply.

- Motivation to achieve dream or goal
- Remember the past (event, person, pet, etc)
- Last minute decision
- Matching tattoos with someone
- Proud of your history (family crest, flag, etc)
- It was cheap
- Friends/ family influenced my decision
- Other:

Ink Culture

16. **10) In general, society in your country thinks of tattoos how? ***

Mark only one oval per row.

Very positively	Slightly positive	No strong feelings	Slightly negative	Very negatively
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. **11) How many women with tattoos, aged 18-25, do you know personally? ***

Mark only one oval.

- 0
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-10
- More than 10

18. **12) How many men with tattoos, aged 18-25, do you know personally? ***

Mark only one oval.

- 0
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-10
- More than 10

19. **13) You think tattoos are more appropriate on men.**

Mark only one oval per row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. **14) In your opinion, what most persuades someone (aged 18-25) to get a tattoo? ***

Mark 3 that best apply.

Check all that apply.

- To become a member of a club, group, or organization
- Their tattoo design was personally created by/ for them
- They made the decision last minute with little thought
- To remember a past event/person/ pet
- To be proud of their history/ heritage (i.e. family crests, flags, colors)
- Peer Pressure
- To motivate themselves to achieve a goal/ dream (i.e. an aspiring painter gets a tattoo of a paintbrush)
- Other:

21. **15) In your opinion, what most persuades someone (aged 18-25) NOT to get a tattoo? ***

Mark 3 that best apply.

Check all that apply.

- Afraid it will prevent him/ her from getting a good job
- Where they live (i.e. big city, traditional community, older-community, high crime-rate area, etc)
- Peer Pressure
- Fear of pain/ needles
- Dislike that tattoos are permanent
- Unsure of what/ where to get
- Family or partner would disapprove
- It is too expensive
- Other:

22. **16) YOU think that people with tattoos are _____.***

Mark only one oval per row.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Adventurous	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interesting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Irresponsible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creative	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. 17) In your culture or society, people with tattoos are associated with

_____.*
 Mark only one oval per row.

	Very true	Somewhat true	Neither True nor False	Somewhat False	Very False
Crime	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fashion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rebellion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creativity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lower-class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promiscuity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. 18) What age range do you find appropriate for someone to get a tattoo?

Mark only one oval.

- 15-18
- 19-22
- 23-26
- 27-30
- Older than 30
- Any age

Visual Study

For the following images, please select how much you like the tattoo and what your reasons are. For additional descriptions of the tattoo, hover over the image.

Kanji Tattoo



25. **19) Please look at the image above ***

How much do you like this tattoo
Mark only one oval per row.

Strongly like Like Neutral Dislike Strongly dislike

26. **Why do you feel this way? ***

Please explain in 1-2 brief sentences

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.....

.....

Chest piece



27. **20) Please look at the image above ***

How much do you like this tattoo
Mark only one oval per row.

Strongly like Like Neutral Dislike Strongly dislike

28. **Why do you feel this way? ***

Please explain in 1-2 brief sentences

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Sailor Jerry style ship



29. **21) Please look at the image above ***

How much do you like this tattoo
Mark only one oval per row.

Strongly like Like Neutral Dislike Strongly dislike

30. **Why do you feel this way? ***

Please explain in 1-2 brief sentences

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31. **If you have any final comments or opinions of tattoos or tattoo'd people, please write here**

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You're done!

Thank you for participating in this survey. Your answers will be kept anonymous when compiled for the use of my graduation study.

