

Letter in Support of Professor John Mark Ramseyer

February 6, 2021

Dear IRLE Editors,

I am a scholar in Japan specializing in modern Korean history. I have been researching the comfort women issue since 1992, and have written many scholarly essays, public-facing essays, and books on this subject. The below is a link to an English-language essay which briefly introduces my research and writing on, and provides crucial historical context to, the comfort women issue.

<http://harc.tokyo/en/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/TheComfortWomenIssueinSharperFocus.pdf>

As a scholar who has been studying the comfort women issue for nearly three decades, I can attest that the essay on the comfort women which Prof. John Mark Ramseyer published in the *International Review of Law and Economics*, “Contracting for Sex in the Pacific War” (Vol. 65, Mar. 2021), is of exceptional scholarly value. Prof. Ramseyer’s essay is of great significance in deepening the scholarly debate on the issue of the comfort women.

It is important to note here, also, that arguments and conclusions very close to those advanced by Prof. Ramseyer have recently been made within the scholarly academy in South Korea:

<http://harc.tokyo/en/?p=96>

I applaud you for publishing Prof. Ramseyer’s essay, as it will go very far toward advancing scholarly debate within the American academy, and I encourage you to stand firm in your laudable defense of academic freedom and scholarly inquiry.

Sincerely,

NISHIOKA Tsutomu
Professor, Reitaku University
Director, Historical Awareness Research Council