

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE ACTUAL CONDITIONS OF LEARNING THE BASIC LIFE TECHNIQUES AND PARTICIPATION IN HOUSEWORK BY JAPANESE AND KOREAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. Kayoko Fuma, Department of Home Economics Education, Gifu University, 501-11, Gifu, Gifu, Japan

Objective: In this research for Japanese and Korean junior high school students, who have home economics education similar to each other at the junior high school stage, the time and method of learning the basic life techniques used in daily life and the relation of these subjects to the skillfulness were compared between boys and girls of the respective countries. Furthermore, to probe into the background of the actual conditions of learning the life techniques, the clarification of the relation between their participation in the housework and their view of home life was also aimed at.

Method: This research was made by means of written questionnaires on 1,678 students from four junior high schools in Japan and two junior high schools in Seoul, Korea during two different periods from December 1992 to February 1993 and from December 1996 to March 1997.

Results: From the research after the actual conditions of learning basic life techniques used in daily life both in Japan and in Korea, the following results were obtained: (1) Concerning the basic life techniques on food, both Japanese and Korean boys and girls were high in the percentage of learning from their "family" during their elementary school days. (2) Concerning the basic life techniques on clothing, it is understood that both boys and girls in Korea have learned from their "family," while the Japanese counterparts were high in the percentage of learning at "school" particularly at their higher grades of elementary school. (3) The higher in skillfulness in life technique, the higher the percentage of learning from their "family" at around the lower to higher grades of elementary school on both food and clothing techniques. In both Japanese and Korean boys and girls, a close relation was recognized in the height of skillfulness and the percentage of learning at their home at elementary school.

From the research after the actual conditions of their participation in the housework, the following results were obtained: (1) The housework hours have a strong relation with "time for meals" and "time for happy talk among family." Particularly on "time for happy talk among family," the longer housework hours are, the longer both male and female of Japan and Korea tend to take the time for happy talk among family. (2) In "Consciousness of housework," unlike "Ideal housework sharing that should be realized in the future," more males and females of Korea tend to consider that "housework should be done by family themselves as it is domestic" as compared with the Japanese counterparts.

In the research made in 1996, the trend was found to be similar to the above both in Japan and Korea, while the gap between the boys and girls tended to become narrower.