

Research Regarding Parents of Juvenile Delinquents

– Self-help groups focusing on the functions of the family group
and the transformation of recognition –

YAMAMOTO Hazuki

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University

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In this study, we conducted semi-structured interviews with seven parents from a self-help group of R-group, and we aimed to form the process model regarding the psychological confusion of parents before joining the group, how they experienced the group, and how they were changed through their experience with the group.

Data was analyzed using a modified grounded theory approach. As a result, three stages, seven categories, and 23 concepts regarding this process were formulated.

First, before joining the group, it is seen how they confused their child's delinquency, lost their self-confidence, and began to blame themselves.

Next, as they were accepted and supported by the group, they recovered their power to face their child's delinquency, and this seemed to lead to reconstructing the recognition of their ways regarding child-rearing and their own way of living.

Third, they overcame their psychological confusion and exchanged the old recognition of their way of life to the new one, and it is found that they changed their feelings regarding their child.

In this discussion, it is seen that the function of the family group provided a pseudo-parent-child relationship for the parents, which helped and nurtured their talents as a parent.