

The Process of Students Changing from Truancy to Advocating against Truancy

– How students grow to become advocates against truancy –

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Keywords: truant student, advocates against truancy, change process

This study focuses on the process of truant students becoming advocates against truancy, and it elucidates the meaning of their support as professional advocates.

As a result of analysis using M-GTA, firstly, it is found that there were various backgrounds and perceptions regarding truancy. The students experienced various support mechanisms, although some of them didn't accept much support at first. After that, some of them made use of their energy and considered their original truancy and how they could use their experience. However, advocates who can understand the difference between the meaning of the truancy experience of their younger days and the present situation, from the beginning, are the minority. Many of them faced difficulty with the support, as anti-truancy advocates. On the other hand, the students can make use of their truancy experience. In the process, it is proven that the meaning of a truancy experience is not that of a truant student but that of a professional anti-truancy advocate—this is redefined. From the above, this study considers that there are various understandings gained during a recovery from truancy, and this not only confirms truancy experience but also denies it, and suggests the possibility that students can come to advocate against truancy.