

Examination of the Self-evaluation of Later-middle-aged People Regarding the Loss of a Parent

– Interviewing those in their 50s and 60s who lost at least one parent –

TAHARA Misao

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University

Keywords: middle aged, loss of a parent, generativity

This study explores the feelings of later-middle-aged people who have lost one or more parent. This research was conducted by interviewing later-middle-aged men and women in semi-structured style (n=8). As a result, four categories were uncovered: positive evaluation, negative evaluation, positive & negative evaluation, and understanding. The results show that latter-middle-aged people often compare their lives with those of their parents, and that they develop their personality based on this. At the same time, this study concludes that these later-middle-aged people are experiencing generativity. The results suggest that later-middle-aged people often reflect deeply on their lost parent and think about themselves or the next generation.