

A Study of Student Change and Maturation through Human Service Activities

Analyses Narrative from Members of KYOTO BBS Union

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Key words: university student, volunteer, M-GTA

Abstract

The aim of this study was to clarify university student change and maturation through the experience of human services volunteer activities, and how the organization supports the maturation of its members.

This study adopted an interview method and M-GTA analysis, which is one of the methods available for qualitative studies.

As a result, 5 categories, which consist of 20 concepts, were extracted. The categories were “primitive unconcern”, “attention to other members”, “emotional attachment to their activity”, “attention to children” and “attention to society”. “Attention to children” consists of 4 sub-categories; namely, “to take an interest in children”, “to gain the new point of view”, “understanding children” and “expanding permissible range”. The categories interact positively and form the process of maturation from “primitive unconcern” to “attention to society”.

This study also discovers that the KYOTO BBS union fails to work effectively to support the maturation of its members. To improve this point, this study suggests that it encourage its members to pay attention to their own emotional experience. This should occur when they review their activities and make descriptions of their thoughts about each activity.