

Review of the Handling of Violence among Children Through Participatory Meetings at a Foster Home Facility

– Centering on communication between care workers and children –

TAKA Shoya

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University

Keywords: foster institution, communication, *ZENTAIKAI*

For the present study, a meeting group known as the *Zentaikai* was established at a specific foster institution with the aim of examining the significance of conducting discussions on violence from a holistic approach by revealing the communication between care workers and children. By analyzing the transcripts behind these meetings, three communication patterns were revealed: 1) children reflecting on their violent behavior, 2) children that did not regret such behavior, and 3) participating children questioning the holding of such meetings. The contents behind these communication patterns were then examined, and the results suggested that care workers can make use of support skills such as “active listening,” “I messages,” and “separating emotions and behavior,” which are based on respecting identities when helping children with violent behavior. Based on such findings, it was implied that general meetings can act as one of the support methods available for violent children and that the participating children can learn by observing the care worker and their support skills.