

# Meanings of parenting for mothers of children with developmental issues

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The purpose of this research is to examine how mothers who support their children with developmental issues, regarding issues such as school refusal and *hikikomori* and to clarify how they trying to keep the difficulties experienced in parenting through the process of meaning of parenting.

This study interviews mothers with children who have experienced school refusal or have been diagnosed as mental illness, and developmental disorders, the mothers were asked to look back on the difficult times of child rearing and the features of the meaning of parenting.

As a result, from the three meaning categories, meaning by emotion, meaning as special, and meaning as a part of life, five meaning patterns, as a trial accompanied by self-responsibility meaning, active and positive meaning accompanied by responsibility and role consciousness, meaning as a matter of course, meaning only by emotion, and meaning reflecting overview are clarified.

In sequence analysis, this study was able to reconstruct a story from the viewpoint of mothers as this study individuals, and in the process of the meaning of their parenting experience, this study was able to capture the features of patterns.

Ways of supporting mothers to support parenting, to support values and to transform themselves are suggested.