Social Adaptation and Support Policy for Marriage Migrant Women in Korean Community

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With the recent increasing number of marriage migrant women in Korean society, various problems are emerging as social problems. To allow multicultural family adapt to society, Korea has provided legal protection and support services since 2008. Compared to the previous services, the current ones are rich in content and support projects are improved regularly. However, nationwide service centers are operated in the same way, despite the multicultural family support projects implemented by multicultural family support centers. Thus, the current support policies are not enough to cope with the other support requirements by region. In other words, it is impossible to seek support policies unless the characteristics of community or applicants by region are taken into account. However, few researches have focused on support policies.

This study selected Gwangju metropolitan city and Naju, Chonnam and demonstrated that the characteristics of marriage migrant women and the correlation between such characteristics depended on the district. It also compared the group being for support services with the group receiving supports from different perspectives. As a result, the causes of ineffective support policies include different living environment or characteristics of marriage migrant women by district, different ways to acquire information, and enactment of support policies under central management. Such problems require improvement. To do so, it is necessary to expand and obligate multicultural understanding education for Koreans, expand voluntary decision right related to multicultural family support policies into local governments and liberalize the authority over support funds, build database for marriage migrant women, and establish support system in the community. If such support content and system-related problems are settled according to the directions, marriage migrant women living in the community can be expected to act as local community members going beyond social adaptation.