

# **A Study on Welfare Activities that Motivate Senior Citizens in Communities -Analyzing How the Salon Activities Influence the Network Development of Senior Citizens-**

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Our country is facing the fastest aging society in the world. Under such situation, senior citizens who live home wish to continue at-home lifestyle as much as possible in the area that they are familiar with. And there are movements which attempts to mobilize citizens and resident organization in the same community for welfares of senior citizens.

In the light of this situation, this thesis analyzed requirements that are necessary to motivate senior citizens in daily life according to the relationship between their actual lives and "moral". It also attempted to set out steps to feedback such knowledge to welfares of senior citizens.

Main achievements in this thesis are as follows.

First, the correlations between actual lives of senior citizens and "moral" in regard to "family relationship", "health" and "social status" have been found in preceding studies. Social gerontology to date mainly indicated correlation between actual lives of senior citizens and "moral" in terms of enhanced family relationship. The analysis in this research, however, identified 3 new correlations: "friendship-level relationship", "neighbor-level relationship" and "the number of support network (the number of people who provide support when senior citizens needed)". It found that "moral" of senior citizens is heightened by "network outside family relationship."

Secondly, this research was conducted to find the process of developing and enhancing senior citizens' networks in communities that they live through participating "salon activities".

Senior citizens who participate in salon activities were inquired in this research, and the result revealed that new relationships are established in a salon, leading to the network development outside the salon. And participant observations in salon activities show that "Welfare communion salon for the small community" was especially contributing to motivate participants besides "Fureai salon".

Thirdly, there was an attempt to clarify management subject of "Welfare communion salon for the small community". "Welfare communion salon for the small community" is an emerging activity in recent years. Therefore, there is few research in regard to the management subject. Under such circumstances, this research clarified the two points; "stabilization of financial source" and "system how to accept in communities," based on inquiries to the manager.

My future study will focus on establishment of salon activities that contribute to senior citizens in terms of network development and motivation as well as policy proposals that promote such activities to take root in communities. This thesis revealed management subject of salon activities. However it didn't provide a clear solution. Future researches should explore to elucidate the subject along with the issue of knowledge enhancement on salon activities.