

Residents' Attitudes and Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku:

Research from the Seibu and Siojiri Districts of Ueda City

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This study will try to describe the residents' "discriminatory attitudes against Buraku" structurally through survey research and make clear its relation to Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku (social enlightenment activities related to the Buraku problem) in order to find a way to break through the wall which Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku faces.

Using the (H3) method for 37 items in 18 categories related to "discriminatory attitudes against Buraku" among other results of the survey research, we could extract from the combination of axis 1 and axis 2 four types of attitudes which may be termed "separatist" "liberationist", "assimilationist" and "retainist" Each of these types were analyzed crossed with other items, and we found that the "liberationist" type is the most positive and the "retainist" is the most negative in terms of the elimination of discrimination against Buraku. Comparing the "assimilationist" with "separatist" attitudes, the former is more positive.

From the analysis of these four types of "discriminatory attitudes against Buraku" crossed with attitudes toward, and the evaluation of, Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku, it became clear that the more positive the person, the more he/she takes part in Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku, and the more he/she evaluates its effects affirmatively; recognizes changes in his/her attitudes through participation, and has an image of Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku as "cheerful", "deep in its content", "comfortable", "easy to understand" and "interesting".

From these and the other results of the analysis, we can draw a chart for the following stages: "participation in the Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku and the acquirement of a positive image toward it" → "rise in motivation to learn about the discrimination problem" → "repeated participation" → "consciousness raising" → "liberationist". Thus for the reform of Shakai Dōwa Kyoiku, it is necessary to make its contents, methods and atmosphere so that the participants can see it as "cheerful", "deep in its content", "comfortable" and "easy to understand".