短報

重度聴覚障害老人の終末期と死に関する意識 調査

佐久川肇 谷中恭子

川崎医療福祉大学 医療福祉学部 医療福祉学科

倉敷中央病院

1999-11-10 00:00:00+09受理

A Survey of the Elderly People with Severely Hearing Impairment Concerning their Terminal Phase Life

Hajime SAKUGAWA and Kyoko TANINAKA

Department of Medical Social Work Faculty of Wedical Welfare Kurashiki, 701-0193, Japan

(Accepted 1999-11-10 00:00:00+09)

Key words: the aged with hearing impairment, the terminal phase life

Abstract

In order to clarify the character—istics of the thoughts of aged people with hearing impairment, a questionnare investigation concerning their thoughts about death was con—ducted on 15 severely hearing impairmed. Some parts of questionnaire were conducted by sign language. Following facts were revealed. (1) None of the subjects was concerned about their physical suffering when faced with death. On the other hand, 4 subjects were more anxious about their families and friends than themselves. (2) 4 subjects wanted to donate their bodies to medical research for treatment of hearing impairment. (3) 6 subjects replied that they feel lonely and anxious about dying without being able to communicate with people close to them. (4) Many subjects strongly wished to communicate more easily with normal people by popularizing the use of sign language. In general, the subjects expressed their concerns about the welfare to have humanity which care about total welfare of people with hearing impairment than themselves.

要 約

男性5人,女性10人,計15人の52歳-75歳(平均65.1歳)の重度聴覚障害者に手話による聞き取りを含むアンケート調査を行い,以下の結果を得た.(1)回答した10人中,死に際して肉体的な苦

痛に不安を感じると答えた者はいなかった. 他方で4人が自分自身よりも残された家族や友人に対して不安を感じると答えた. (2)植物状態になった時の対処法について9人が回答したが,そのうち4人は聴覚障害の治療法に対する医学の研究のための献体を希望した. (3)死に対する不安の具体例としては,6人が親しい人と対話することができないまま死ぬことの不安を訴え,孤独であると感じると答えた. 全体として,対象者は親しい者との対話が充分に出来ないことに孤独感と不安感を強く感じ,健聴者とのコミュニケーションを強く望んでいた.そして終末期については,自分自身のことよりも,家族や友人を憂慮し,聴覚障害者全体の福利を考える謙虚で真摯な態度が伺われた.