Evaluate the living environment in the city center based on the "future child-rearing image" that children feel

Tokyo and Seoul

The seriousness of declining birth rates and the tendency of population concentration to the metropolitan are very similar between Japan and Korea. However, there are various facilities and functions in the central city, and it is also highly convenient and diverse. It may be possible to create a better child-rearing environment to use this advantage properly. The primary purpose of this study is to evaluate the living environment of the city center based on children's image of their "child-rearing image in the future." When this research started in April 2020, a global pandemic of COVID-19 occurred at the same time. So, this study adds the second purpose to clarify the change of children's lifestyle under these circumstances. This study conducted a questionnaire survey for children and their guardians living in Tokyo and Seoul.

This study analyzed the relationship between child grouping and attributes such as residential city, area, parents' employment, age of parents based on factor scores and cluster analysis. Based on the grouping, we also explored what kind of environment the children considered the most essential in their future child-rearing. "Safety," "Playground," "Medical system" is thought to be important in their future childcare; it was the same tendency in both cities. The group of high interest in child-rearing and high satisfaction to residence took the child-rearing environment essential. Also, we researched the influence of COVID-19 on lifestyle by compared from the aspect of "daily life," "communication," and "information use" in Japan and Korea. This study shows that the environment from an early age is vital for the child to draw an image of future child-rearing and become actively involved. It is required to utilize the convenience and diversity of urban areas and to have a mechanism and education for society to support child-rearing.