Points for Consideration in Teaching Home Economics in Elementary School in Collaboration with "Morals as a Special Subject": Analysis of Teaching Materials for "Family Love and Enriching Family Life" Unit

Yukiko SATO

Faculty of Education, Ibaraki University

------ Abstract

To present points for consideration in teaching home economics in elementary school in collaboration with "Morals as a Special Subject," this paper analyzed 71 pieces of teaching materials for one of the teaching units entitled "Family Love and Enriching Family Life." It was found that although teaching materials on morals assume unselfish parental love for their children, in reality, families are diverse thus some children do not experience this unselfish love. Therefore, the teaching materials on morals describe children's engagement in domestic tasks as an act of returning this unselfish parental love. However, in home economics, these domestic tasks should be treated as a requirement of all children for developing independence, irrespective of the family situations. Additionally, many teaching materials for morals toward older adults describe that valuing one's grandparents is premised on the history of grandparents' dedication for the family. However, home economics education on different generations views older adults as social beings, and requires teachings from the perspective of intergenerational support that goes beyond blood relations.

Key words; home economics education, Morals as a Special Subject, family, family life, textbook analysis