ABSTRACT

Structural understanding of the mindset for supporting those with autism and consideration of "imposition"

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In this study, I consider the problem that a supporter's unawareness, sometimes due to responsibilities or good intentions, can result in self-estrangement from people with autism, a so-called "imposition problem caused by support." In order to identify the issues involved and obtain insights to overcome them, this study's purpose was to focus on the mindset of workers involved in supporting those with autism, and to try to determine and structurally organize the qualitative content of the issues. As a result of analyzing the stories of eight workers in autism support using the KJ method, three basic mindsets for "understanding," three mindsets that are always needed, and two mindsets that encourage "understanding" behind those relationships were found. It was suggested that a shortage of mindsets that focus on the workers themselves may prevent them from "understanding" and cause "imposition problems caused by support." Also, it was suggested that if a worker's mindset was open to physicality, relationships, and attention to emotions, this could help to overcome the "problem" in supporting autism.

Key Words: imposition problem caused by support, supporter, mindset, life support, autism