

論文要旨（英文）

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| 論文題目 (研究テーマ) | Study on social associations and the intention to continue residing in the same facility among residents of housing for the elderly |
| <p>In Japan, which has a declining birthrate and aging population, the number of older single-person or couple-only households has increased. In households consisting only of older adults, problems such as difficulty in maintaining the homes, refusal of rental contracts, and lonely death have become social problems. Under these circumstances, as a policy to ensure stable housing for elderly households, silver housing within the framework of public housing in 1987 and elderly housing utilizing private capital started to be supplied in 2011. As the size of households is expected to shrink further and the number of households for the elderly only is expected to increase in the future, it is necessary to secure housing for the elderly. Therefore, research on housing for the elderly, which is related to the supply and operation of housing, is important and meaningful from various perspectives, such as policy, buildings, equipment, and incidental services; however, few studies have been conducted from the point of view of residents.</p> <p>Relocation can cause anxiety among and pose risks to residents. Thus, “whether you can continue to live” is one of the important points for older adults who have actually moved into housing for the elderly. The purpose of this study is to clarify what items contribute to the intention to continue living. Therefore, we conducted a fact-finding survey on the residents of five distinctive homes for the elderly to gain a better understanding of residents who chose to relocate to such housing and clarify their desired housing. We then analyzed the relationship between the social connection of the residents and their intention to continue living.</p> <p>This thesis is composed of the following six chapters, including the introductory and final chapters. The following is a summary of each chapter:</p> <p>Introduction: Purpose and perspective of this research</p> <p>Chapter I: Changes in population composition and family transformation</p> <p>Chapter II: Development process of housing for the elderly</p> <p>Chapter III: Analysis of an awareness survey conducted on elderly housing residents</p> <p>Chapter IV: Relationship between the social connection of the residents and their intention to continue living.</p> <p>Final chapter: Results and future prospects</p> | |

The introduction presents the background of this and previous research and describes the purpose of this study and the current necessity of housing for the elderly. Previous research has included surveys and analyses of the image of residents and businesses, but most of this research is from the perspective of the operating entity, equipment, and incidental services etc. and thus concerns equipment, the scale of the facility, and the degree of independence among the residents. Few studies have conducted their own fact-finding surveys.

In Chapter I, considering the housing problems of the elderly in Japan, an overview is provided of the quantitative changes in the composition of the population after World War II and the qualitative changes in the family.

Chapter II organizes housing for the elderly as facilities and housing and provides an overview of how silver housing was transformed as a fusion of welfare and housing policy into housing with services for the aged. In addition, the current status of serviced housing for the elderly is summarized.

Chapter III presents the results of surveys regarding resident awareness and management in five distinctive homes for the elderly. To promote the supply and maintenance of housing that meets the needs of older adults, housing for the elderly needs to be constantly reviewed in regard to its suitability. However, few studies have conducted direct surveys on older residents of such housing. In addition, since it is considered difficult to grasp the need for housing for the elderly through only an analysis of the literature, we decided to conduct a resident awareness survey. Here, we show the resulting extracted items associated with satisfaction of life, happiness, and the intention to continue living, and examine their connections to relationships within the home and community. The results suggested that “self-determined relocation” and “safety”, especially a “moderate connection with neighbors”, are linked to a consciousness of residence and a strong intention to continue living among residents. Furthermore, regarding the image of residents, tendencies were seen for each home in regard to “reasons for relocation”, “association within the house”, and “association within the community”. These results are important indicators for examining the functions and conditions required for desired housing for the elderly.

Chapter IV presents the results of an analysis of the new survey centered on “associations” and “continuation of residence” conducted based on the results of Chapter III. Here the surveyed housing is one of the surveyed housing shown in Chapter III. Twelve question items were set as socializing items in the home and area, and cluster analysis was performed between the items, resulting in the creation of three indicators: “friendship”, “friends”, and “mutual aid.” The following results were obtained in regard to the relationship between satisfaction and happiness.

1. The higher the scores for “companion” and “mutual aid”, the higher the average score for the group’s intention to continue living.

2. The higher the score for “friend” and “mutual aid”, the higher the average score for group life satisfaction.

3. The higher the score for “mutual aid”, the higher the average score for the group’s sense of well-being.

In addition, based on an analysis of the reasons for wanting to continue living, it was clear that the desire for self-actualization of a “rich natural environment” affected the continuation of living as a reason for exceeding the basic requirement of “safety” for housing for the elderly. It was speculated that this desire for a natural environment had become a common value for residents and helped to form an in-house community.

In the final chapter, we organize the survey results from Chapters III and IV, summarize the need for housing for the elderly from the perspective of residents, and clarify the relationship between connections with people and the intention to continue living. Finally, we discuss future issues and prospects.

Regarding the intention to continue residing in the same facility and connections with others, the results suggest that relationships in housing for the elderly have a positive effect on the intention to continue residing in the same facility, life satisfaction, and the sense of well-being. A close relationship, such as a “friendship”, was not related to the intention to continue residing in the same facility, but slightly weaker relationships, such as a “companion” relationship involving walking or shopping together or a “mutual aid” relationship, were related to the intention to continue residing in the same facility.

From the perspective of residents, the following points regarding housing for the elderly were clarified:

- i) In addition to being watched over by the staff as a business, an effect of watching over each other was seen among residents.
- ii) The good points of housing for the elderly were “freedom” and “safety”, in contrast to facilities for the aged.
- iii) It goes without saying that providing “safety” is the basis of housing. In addition, the provision of value-added housing leads to the provision of housing in which the resident “wants to continue residing”.
- iv) In the case of private-sector housing, it is possible to consider locations such as “easy-to-live areas” and “desired areas” rather than “aging in place”.
- v) By gathering people together who sympathize with the concept of housing, it is thought that the existence of common values facilitates communication between residents and helps to connect people and form communities.
- vi) It is necessary to eliminate the anxiety related to the idea that housing for the elderly can become the “final home”, and a flowchart that provides reassurance for such anxieties can lead to peace of mind among residents of housing for the elderly.

In summary, housing desired by the aged is based on increased diversity, guaranteed

“freedom”, and the “safety” of being watched over and having access to an emergency response. It is therefore considered that housing for the elderly should have added value that meets the needs of those who wish to live with a sense of value.

Research on housing for the elderly in the field of welfare in Japan is thought to have been influenced by the administration and social conditions at the time, as well as the regulatory system. As a result, although certain discussions and views have been presented, they have not been examined in detail nor have they led to deeper discussions.

Therefore, in this study, we attempted to draw an image of elderly housing that can be considered from the perspective of residents by conducting a survey of elderly housing residents. The results are different from the conventional wisdom of "a familiar area" and "under professional watching." We have proposed living options for the elderly, which are "easy to live in" and "want to live", which support diverse values, and "under the watchful eye and help of each other through loose relationships between the elderly." This provided an important perspective when considering housing for the elderly in Japan, where the population is aging.