사회교환론적 판점에서 본 노모를 부양하는 성인녀자가 지각한 대가, 보상 및 관계의 질
- 한국과 재미교포여자의 비교 -

Rewards, Costs and Relationship Quality perceived by caregiving adult children
- a comparison between Koreans and Korean Americans -

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Abstract

This research, using an exchange framework, was to examine how the relationship quality perceived by adult children was affected by the rewards and costs resulting from the caregiving of the aged mothers. The data for the study was collected from 167 adult children (daughters-in-law/daughters) taking care of their aged mothers who are living in Seoul, and 158 adult children (daughters-in-law/daughters) living in 4 major cities in the U.S.A. There were no differences in the level of activities for daily living of the aged mothers and the total amount of caregiving behaviors towards the aged mothers by the adult children between the two groups. Korean adult children perceived similar level of rewards from caregiving of their aged parents, however they reported higher costs than Korean Americans. The perceived relationship quality by Korean children was found to be lower than that of Korean Americans. For Korean children, rewards and costs resulting from supporting the aged mothers/mothers-in-law influenced the relationship quality, accounting for the 38% of the variance in the children’s relationship quality scores. As for the Korean American children, rewards, costs, the relationship between parents and children, and caregiving behavior towards mothers/mothers-in-law influenced the relationship quality with the aged mothers and these variables account for 63% of the variance in the children’s relationship quality scores. Based on these findings, utility of social exchange framework as a theoretical framework to understand the relationship between adult children and aged parents are discussed.

I. 서론

평균 수명의 연장과 시기적으로 길어진 부모자녀관계 및 노인부양문제로 인해 노년기의 세대 간 지원에 관한 연구는 우리나라나 서구의 경우 노년학의 주된 연구 초점이 되어 왔다. 그 동안 진행된 우리나라의 성인자녀 노부모 관계에 관한 연구는 자녀세대의 입장에서 본 부양에 관한 연구가 주류를 이룬다(강유진·한경혜, 1997; 김경신·이선미, 1998; 김병자·이윤정, 1995; 김윤정·최혜경, 1993; 윤현숙·차홍봉·조양순, 2000; 이가옥·이미진, 2000; 정경희 외 1998; 한경혜·윤성은, 2002). 특