乳児の泣きに対する母親の情動反応に関する縦断的研究

出生後 1 ヶ月から 1 年までの乳児の泣きに対して、母親が示す情動反応を縦断的に明らかにすることを目的とし、児が泣いた時の母親の情動反応(研究者が作成した情動尺度を使用)について、生後 1 ヶ月(調査 1) 4~5ヶ月(調査 2) 1年(調査 3)まで、縦断的に調査した。

3時期すべてに回答を得た母親は251名(初産婦124名、49.0%、経産婦127名、51.0%であり、母親の受容的情動得点(range10~40)は、1ヶ月時が最も高く、30.6±5.3点(mean±SD)、次に4~5ヶ月時29.8±5.9点、1年時28.2±5.8点で漸減した(p<0.05~0.0001)。また、非受容的情動得点(range10~40)は、1ヶ月時18.0±6.3点、4~5ヶ月時17.6±5.8点、1年時18.9±6.1点であり、1年時は他の2時期に比べて有意に高かった(p<0.05~0.0001)。さらに1ヶ月時の経産婦の受容的情動得点は31.2±5.1点で、初産婦29.9±5.5点に比べて有意に高く(p<0.05)、逆に初産婦の非受容的情動得点は19.2±6.5点で、経産婦17.0±6.0点に比べて有意に高かった(p<0.01)。

児が泣いた時の母親の情動反応を縦断的にみた結果、生後 1 ヶ月時に受容的情動が最も高く、児の月齢経過とともに漸減傾向を示した。逆に 1 年時に非受容的情動が最も高く、情動反応の逆転がみられた。

A Longitudinal Study of Mothers' Emotional Responses to Crying Infants Under 12 Months of Age

This study was undertaken to investigate the emotional responses of mothers to the crying of their 1-to-12-month old infants.

Survey 1: During a public well-baby checkup for one-month olds, a survey using a self-entry questionnaire was given to 763 mothers, for the purpose of analyzing the emotional responses of mothers to their crying infants. The questionnaire contained 20 questions to gain information about accepting and non-accepting reactions of mothers when they hear the cries of their infants.

Survey 2: When the infants reached age 4-5 months, a similar self-entry questionnaire survey was given to 429 mothers who had consented to participate in this longitudinal study during Survey 1.

Survey 3: When the infants reached 12 months of age, a similar self-entry questionnaire survey was given to 305 mothers who had consented to participate in this longitudinal study during Survey 2.

In a longitudinal survey of 251 mothers, acceptance of crying was high among mothers of one-month-olds, but decreased gradually over time. At 12 months after birth, non-acceptance predominated over acceptance (a reversal of the earlier

relationship between acceptance and non-acceptance).