
Changes in Multicultural Family Formation and the Related Policy Measures

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Ten years has passed since the multicultural family policy has officially implemented in the mid-2000s. Compared with a decade ago, the multicultural family formation has experienced drastic change and it is expected to be accelerated. The multicultural family policy was introduced in the mid-2000s focusing on the families formed by international marriage couples. However, multicultural families with different characteristics from those of international marriage couples, such as general/special naturalized families and single parent migrant families, are rapidly increasing.

As there have been considerable changes in multicultural family formation as the time passes and direction of migration has become diverse, the critical review on the responsiveness of the multicultural family policy on those changes and its relations with the recently growing specific groups among the

multicultural families is necessary. This research has started from this understanding. The research first provides the detailed analysis on aspects of changes on the formation of multicultural families using the raw data of the National Survey of Multicultural Families 2012 and 2015. Also, it examines the fundamental characteristics, current living status, and policy demands of the currently increasing general/special naturalized families and the single parent migrant families as well as their relations with the existing policy through conducting interviews with the female migrants. Based on that, the research critically reviews the fundamental direction and approaches of existing policy and seeks appropriate policy measures for the target group, their formation and characteristic changes.

According to the result, multicultural families with different structure and characteristics from those the families formed by international marriage couples, the general/special naturalized families and single parent migrant families are rapidly increasing; nevertheless, those families are marginalized from the existing policies and services for being small in number. Based on this result, the research recommends integrating the changes of multicultural family formation as a major consideration of the policy and adopting policy measures to address their issues. In particular, it recommends setting the issues that the general/special naturalized families and single parent migrant families, rapidly increasing in recent years, are facing in family, economic and social lives as policy agenda and implementing various measures for their settlement and enhancing social integration.