

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITIES OF JAPAN.

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(Purpose) In a high economic growth, the living standard of Japanese improved, their lifestyle was diversified and their life activities were expanded. But these also brought about a serious deterioration in environment. We took up households waste as an environmental issue close to the general public and conducted a survey of general households on measurement of waste and methods of its disposal and a survey on the consciousness of 500 persons for environmental problems. Then we carried out another survey of children in compulsory education and their parent concerning family education on waste and environmental issues. As a results, it was found that children's understanding and knowledge of waste and environmental issues were fragmentary and inadequate, suggesting further education on these subjects in school. This time, we studied the situation of environmental education at the faculty of education of national universities for training elementary and junior high school teachers who would take charge of environmental education after graduation.

(Method) Questionnaires on the present situation of environmental education and its future tasks were distributed to the professors and students at the faculty of education of 12 national universities.

(Results) Both professors and students recognized the necessity of environmental education in general, a more positive attitude was observed among students. As for the subjects of environmental education, both of them mentioned environmental problems, pollution and nature conservation. They suggested that while environmental education for lower graders should choose themes close to them and cause them to learn problems in relation to their life, one for higher graders should introduce a more systematic learning method. The result of this survey showed the needs of more clearly defining the position of environmental education at elementary and junior high schools and of preparing guidebooks for more systematic environmental education as teaching aids.