

The Issues of Korean Teachers' Mental Health

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Abstract. The aim of this article was to explore the issues and challenges of teachers' mental health and to identify implications for policy. Literature review and analysis were performed to propose agenda.in lack of empirical support for teachers' mental health. Korean teachers were facing the crisis of mental health, as seen in indexes of high leave of absence due to mental disease and high rate of suicide. Policies for teachers' mental health should be established for their health and furthermore protection of students' education right.

Keywords: Teacher, Mental Health, Health Policy

1 Introduction

Teachers' mental health has threatened in Korea due to their high emotional labor which has been led the infringement of teachers' authority and the transition to consumer-centered education [1]. A profound crisis of mental health exists as shown in the indexes increasing the infringement of teachers, voluntary resignation and suicides [2].

This article includes comprehensive literature review and analysis to propose agenda.in lack of consensus and empirical support for teachers' mental health. Policies for teachers' mental health should be established for their health and furthermore protection of students' education right.

2 Methods

2.1 Literature review

A comprehensive review of the available research relating to teachers' mental health was undertaken using riss4u, Medline, PubMed, Google Scholar and SCOPUS in Korean and English and different combinations of search terms linked to teachers' mental health. Included works were critically appraised and thematically analyzed.

Literature included law and acts, policies of government, statistics, reports of the National Assembly and media reports.

2.2 Constructing policies

All literatures were analyzed to construct policies for teachers' mental health.

3 Results

3.1 The Present Condition of Teachers' Mental Health

One of the difficulties encountered in researching teachers' mental health that there's no exact statistics for own teachers and this issue has stigmas.

Table 1. Differences in Leave of Absence due to Mental Disease according to School Level in 2013

School level	Primary	Middle	High	Total
	202(50.9)	125(31.5)	70(17.6)	397(100)

Source : The Member of the National Assembly Lee Elisa [3]

Several council of local government, local education office and Korean ministry of education began to establish policies and investigate strategies to improve teachers' mental health.

3.2 The Teaching Profession and Mental Health

Teaching career has a significant relationship in mental health, especially hostile [4-5]. And type of school affects teachers' mental health [5].

4 Proposals

This study investigated the condition of teachers' mental health in Korea to propose policies. Korean government has built backup policies to maintain and promote teachers' mental health these days, but it's not enough and systematic.

And then the following is proposed according to the results of this study.

There should be prepared systematic screening and care for teachers. And follow-up study for factors influencing teachers' mental health in their working conditions.

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