

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ACTUAL CONDITIONS OF "ISOLATED DEATH" OCCURRENCES AND RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENTS IN DISASTER RESTORATION PUBLIC HOUSING

Case of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

This study focuses attention on the "isolated death" occurrences in Disaster Restoration Public Housing and attempts to grasp the relationship between the actual conditions of the "isolated death" and residential environments. The main data are reports issued by the medical examiner's office and the police. The result of analysis is as follows:

- 1) "Isolated death" occurrences in the public housing are not limited to the elderly, and the number has continued to increase.
- 2) There are connections detected between the characteristic features of residential environments and "isolated death" occurrences. They strongly affect residents who are in a disadvantageous situation in economic and physical terms.
- 3) When residents with such disadvantages live in large residential buildings or in upper floors, they are more likely to lose opportunities for social contact and end up in "isolated death" occurrences.