

# Comparative Study of the Attitude toward Nuclear Power Generation of Junior High School Students in the Victimized area and a Solitary Island ---Perceived Change through 100 minutes Class-on-Demand

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This paper is a comparative study of the Attitude toward Nuclear Power Generation, radiation and radioactive waste management of Junior High School Students in the 2011 Fukushima NPP accident victimized area and a solitary island in Kagoshima through 100 minutes radiation education. Due to the lack of an established scheme for radiation education, experience of the Fukushima NPP accident had influenced the Fukushima children was expected; however, the accident itself was not the only influence element.

**Keywords:** radiation education, Energy Environmental Education, Nuclear Power Generation, High-Level Radioactive Waste Management, Me-You Cafe

## 1. Introduction

7 years have passed since the great earthquake and the Fukushima Daiichi NPP accident. It has been many critical opinions and change in the field of radiation education. Many children of victimized Fukushima area have grown to the age of 15 who are to study radiation in junior high school due to the new curriculum. Question arose how children of that age have acquired knowledge of radiation in the environment they have been in and learned in schools. Have the accident influenced their knowledge about radiation or eagerness to learn about radiation? The two schools under different region and location were chosen to give radiation education and the result was studied comparatively.

## 2. Method

100 minutes radiation education was given to a 14-15year old students (3<sup>rd</sup> grade in Junior High School) in Iwaki city, Fukushima pref. and in town of Kikai, a Solitary Island in Kagoshima pref. First half of the class was informational, basic knowledge of radiation, Nuclear Power Generation and High-Level Radioactive Waste Management were taught. Latter half, Me-You café was performed (discussion followed by presentation). The Five surveys were evaluated, 1) pre-survey of impression and willingness to learn about the subject, 2) mid-survey of impression, 3) post-survey of impression, 4) discussion and the presentation at the end of the class and 5) interview to school teachers in Iwaki city and town of Kikai.

## 3. Conclusion

Because of the childhood experience of not only the earthquake and the NPP accident, it was expected to have significant difference between the two groups especially the pre-survey taken before the class; however, the accident itself was not the only influence element; there were issues of evacuation, radiation education to young children and social involvements. In order to provide sufficient information and knowledge to children and school teachers, education takes greater part.



Fig.1 Location of Fukushima NPP, Iwaki and Kikai