A study of When We Talk About When We Talk About Love by Raymond Carver

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Abstract

The theme of When We Talk About When We Talk About Love, the 1981 collection will be examined, especially focusing on “When We Talk About When We Talk About Love,” the title story, “The Bath,” “Tell The Women We’re Going,” “Why Don’t You Dance,” and “The Third Thing That Killed My Father Off.”

Violent emotions and fears in daily life lurk beneath the surface of Carver’s fiction. The inexplicable murders of two women have been depicted in “Tell The Women We’re Going,” yet the skillfully foreshadowed crime is both motivated and intelligible. Having fallen into a coma after being hit by a car on his birthday, a young boy is taken to hospital where his parents, the Weisses, wait anxiously for him to wake up and their fears are skillfully described in “The Bath”. Carver succeeds to highlight the qualities of the menace facing the parents.

In “The Third Thing That Killed Father Off,” Jack Fraser, the narrator mentions the three causes that did Del, his father in. The story centers on Dummy’s creation of a bass pond with Del’s help and his destruction. A fourth cause is the father’s unsatisfying marriage. Del and Dummy are alienated because of their bad marriages. The magnitude of their alienation and pain increases.

“The Third Thing That Killed Father Off” insinuates the characters’ marriages are not good, and a similar effect is created by the collection’s title story, which involves two couples spending drinking gin and talking about the meaning of nature of love. Terri describes her relationship with abusive ex-lover who tied up and dragged her around on night.

While Terri is convinced this was a kind of love, her current husband, Mel disagrees strongly and asks the couple they are drinking with, Nick (the narrator) and his wife, Laura, whether the abusive relationship sounds like love. Significantly, both refuse to judge. Nick, Laura and Carver, the author implicitly question love’s definition. We realize further that, as the conversation passes, love’s meaning becomes more illusive. Various qualities of love are suggested. Mel defines love as some kind of fusion of spirituality and chivalry. Although Mel wants love to be permanent, he admits its ephemerality. The lack of an explanation for Ed’s actions or Mel’s change in feeling toward his first wife demonstrates Love’s nebulous, transitory nature.

The story’s final sentence underscores the conversation’s failure. Dissatisfaction and despair are plainly evident in the images of stasis and darkness. Finally, like every other What We Talk About story, we can see the failure of communication in “When We Talk About When We Talk About Love.” So does “Why Don’t You Dance?” which has degrees of indeterminacy generally pertaining to character motivation or plot.
Development in the knowledge of thiaminase and related health hazards.

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Abstract

Entomological thiaminase was found recently in an African silk worm Anaphe species. A human health hazard in Nigerians causing an acute seasonal ataxia and impaired consciousness is inferred to be the result of the intake of this thiaminase. Thiaminase is also causing serious economical loss in the fishery resources. Unfortunately, the meaning of this enzyme in cell biology is still unknown. Recent research results on this enzyme are summarized.

Study on subjective symptoms of children relating to their intake of carbohydrate

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This study is to analyze subjective symptoms of children relevant to the intake-style of main meal caused by their recent intake change of sweets and snacks. It is based on the investigations by the questionnaire about the life style of children, which were performed for about 10,000 school children from 6-15 years of age in Hokkaido, Iwate, Chiba, Shizuoka, Fukui, Shiga, Wakayama, Yamaguchi, Kochi, and the Kagoshima prefectures from 1990 to 1994. The more recent change in intake amount of sweets, the higher the score of subjective symptoms significantly. But, any special negative influence of sugar intake by children was not seen on their health. In the case of no intake of snacks, junior high school boys significantly have the tendency to take rice as main meal, but, on the contrary, the girls have the negative tendency to take it as main meal. However, some interactions are suggested between the ratio of rice to main meal and the intake of snacks.

Key Words: children, carbohydrate, snacks between meals, main meal, subjective symptoms

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Mental Positiveness of Children due to Atmosphere at the Table

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This is the study on the comprehension of dietary action and mental activity of children influenced by their parents' (guardian’s) attitude toward meal and the environmental atmosphere. It is based on the investigation on their life style, which were performed by questionnaire on about 10,000 school children, 6-15 years of age, in Hokkaido, Iwate, Chiba, Shizuoka, Fukui, Shiga, Wakayama, Yamaguchi, Kochi, and the Kagoshima prefectures from 1990 to 1994. Its statistical analysis gives the following results: (1) Children take meal more regularly and their parents concern more about pleasant meal, if the parents concern more about regular dietary time. (2) Children enjoy atmosphere at the table, if their parents concern more about pleasant meal. (3) Children eat more deliciously, if they enjoy atmosphere at the table. (4) Children present better tendency in mental state, if they enjoy atmosphere at the table. It is concluded that the parents’attitude and environmental atmosphere have considerable influence on children’s dietary action and their mental activity. It is thus suggested that parents are required to pay more attention to their children’s dietary life at home for improving their mental health.

Key Word: mental positiveness, children, meal, atmosphere at the table

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Study on influence of guardian’s attitude toward children on their mental health

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Abstract

This study deals with the analyses of pupil’s negative mental effect relevant to guardians’ (parents’) attitude toward their children. It was based on the cross-sectional study by questionnaires about their life style and health, which were performed by the random sampling of about 10,000 school pupils from 6-15 years of age in 10 prefectures from 1990 to 1994. From their statistical analysis were obtained the following results: (1) 1-3 rd grader girls and 4-6 th grader boys and 7-9 th grader pupils have depression feeling, which was less significantly related to the parents’attitude toward them by “often hearing children’s idea”. However, parents’attitude of “disregarding children’s opinion” was more significantly related to their depression feeling in 4-6 th grader girls and 7-9 th grader pupils. And their attitude of “giving them corporal punishment” was significantly related to their depression feeling in 1-3 rd grader boys, 4-6 th grader pupils and 7-9 th grader pupils. (2) Suicide ideation in 7～9 th grader girls was less significantly related to their parents’attitude of “often hearing children’s idea”. In the case of “disregarding children’s opinion”, its index significantly showed higher mark in 7-9 th grader pupils. In the case of the parents’attitude of “giving corporal punishment”, the higher indexes also indicated high marks were seen in 4-6 th grader pupils and 7-9 th grader girls. (3) There was seen significantly positive correlation between depression feeling and suicide ideation in all school grader pupils. (4) Depression feeling in 4-6 th and 7-9 th grader gave the higher index significantly in girls than in boys. Suicide ideation in 7-9 th grader showed higher mark of index significantly in girls than in boys. Both of depression and suicide ideation were significantly related which depend on the increment of their school grade.

As the close relation was obtained between guardians’ (parents’) attitude and negative effect in children’s mentality, especially their depression feeling, the relation with much conversation between guardians (parents) and their children was suggested more effective for the improvement of negative condition in mentality of pupils.

Key Word: guardian, school pupil, bringing-up attitude, depression feeling, suicide ideation
Study on Ingestion of Foods by Children Regarding Guardian’s Concern with Nutrition Balance

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is the analysis of mutual relation among ingestion of fat-rich fast food (abbrev. FF), 4 food groups and dietary supplement (abbrev. DS) by school children relevant to their guardians’ concern to nutrition balance. It is based on the cross-sectional study by questionnaire about their life style and health, which were performed for about 10,000 school children from 6-15 years of age in Hokkaido, Iwate, Chiba, Shizuoka, Fukui, Shiga, Wakayama, Yamaguchi, Kochi, and Kagoshima prefectures from 1990 to 1994. Their statistical analysis gave the following results: (1) Guardians’ concern to nutrition balance relates significantly to less ingestion of FF among 1-3 rd and 7-9 th grader boys, and to more ingestion of “milk and dairy products” and “potatoes, mushrooms, seaweed & vegetables” among all grader pupils. The concern also relates significantly to more ingestion of “meat, fishes & beans” among 7-9 th grader girls and the more ingestion of “grains” among 1-3 rd grader pupils, 4-6 th and 7-9 th grader girls. Besides the concern relates significantly to more ingestion of DS among 4-6 th grader girls and 7-9 th grader pupils. (2) The ingestion of FF has no significant relation to the ingestion of “milk and dairy products” and “grains”. But it has the positive mutual relation to the ingestion of “meat, fishes & beans” among 1-3 rd and 4-6 th grader boys, with negative mutual relation to the ingestion of “potatoes, mushrooms, seaweed & vegetables” among 1-3 rd and 4-6 th grader pupils, and 7-9 th grader boys. (3) The ingestion of DS does not relate significantly to the one of FF. (4) The ingestion of DS relates significantly to more ingestion of “milk and daily products” among 1-3 rd and 7-9 th grader boys, the one of “meat, fishes & beans” among 1-3 rd grader boys, and the one of “potatoes, mushrooms, seaweed & vegetables” among 1-3 rd and 4-6 th grader pupils, and 7-9 th grader boys. On the other hand, the ingestion of DS does not relate to the one of grains. These results show that guardians’ concern to nutrition balance relates to appropriate choice of foods by school children. And so, it is thought that guardians’ more concern to nutrition based on its education can improve nutrition balance in children, even if they pay little attention to it.

Key Words: guardian’s concern, elementary and junior high school pupil, fat-rich fast food, 4 food groups, dietary supplement

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Study on Change in Subjective Irritability regarding to ingestion of foods In elementary and junior high school pupils

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is the analysis of ‘Change in Subjective Irritability’ relating to ingestion of foods in school children on the basis of the cross-sectional study by questionnaire about their life style and health. It was performed in about 10,000 school children from 6～15 years of age living in Hokkaido, Iwate, Chiba, Shizuoka, Fukui, Shiga, Wakayama, Yamaguchi, Kochi, and Kagoshima prefectures from 1990 to 1994.

Their statistical analysis gave the following results: (1) Significantly bigger ‘Change in Subjective Irritability’ with the higher grade of boys and girls.(2) Significantly bigger “Change in Subjective Irritability” among girls than among boys in junior high school pupils.(3) In all grader groups, there seems significantly less ingestion of milk among girls than among boys. Significantly less ingestion of milk was seen with the higher grade of boys and girls.(4) Ingestion of vegetables tends to increase from the 1st～3rd to the 4th～6th grade, but decrease from the 4th～6th to the 7th～9th grade among boys and girls.(5) Significant relation of ingesting milk to smaller ‘Change in Subjective Irritability’ among 1st～3rd and 4th～6th grader boys, and among 7th～9th grader girls.(6) Ingestion of vegetables significantly relating to smaller ‘Change in Subjective Irritability’ among 4th～6th and 7th～9th grader boys. Thus, it was suggested that ingestion of milk and vegetables relates to ‘Change in Subjective Irritability’ in children. In connection with serious incidents often caused by going berserk of elementary and junior high school pupils, not only their mental care, but also their total care are required including improvement of dietary habits, so that school children may not go berserk.

Keywords: Change in Subjective Irritability, ingestion of foods, school children

Health Science, 20 (1), 41-51, 2004
外部発表論文

豊かな自然と人的交流、相互支援による総合的健康づくり
—行動変容による生活習慣の改善を目指して—

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要 旨
「健康日本21」推進における各県の取組みを紹介しながら、その特徴を行動変容による総合的な健康増進活動に生かせるように概説した。内容は日本体力医学会シンポジウム（平成15年4月4日）での発表内容をまとめたものである。

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The effect of lower saddle height on the knee joint during pedaling exercise

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the influence of lower saddle height on the knee joint. Five healthy male pedal at 60 rpm against the work load of 100 and 200 W. Three saddle heights of 80, 90 and 100% of trochanteric leg height are selected in this study. During each trial, the position data of the right lower limb’s joints by the video camera and the force data of the right pedal by the force sensor are measured. Using these data, the inverse dynamics analysis is done, and the following results are obtained. The peak link force acting on the knee joint and the peak knee extension moment do not indicate any change over the three saddle heights, however, the angles at their peak values shift to the knee flexion as the lower saddle height. These results indicate that the lower saddle would overload at the knee joint.