

選択番号 ①

問題 以下の英文は、ある研究論文のアブストラクト(抄録)です。この英文を読んで、以下の問いに答えなさい。

The spread of COVID-19 has caused significant mental stress, affecting people's minds and bodies in various ways. It is essential to consider the possibility that this has led to an increase or worsening of domestic violence (DV) and child abuse. In April 2020, the Cabinet Office(Naikakufu) established a new consultation service for DV (DV Consultation Plus). Between May and November 2020, the number of DV consultations increased by about 50% compared to the same months in the previous year. Given that DV consultations in 2019 increased by only 4.2% compared to the previous year, the sharp rise in 2020 likely indicates the impact of the pandemic.

In contrast, reports of child abuse during the same period showed a different trend. According to data from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare(Kosei-Roudou-Shou), the largest increase in child abuse reports to Child Guidance Centers(Jidousoudansho) occurred in June 2020 (up 12% compared to the same month in 2019), while May, July, and November saw slight decreases. Since the number of reports had been increasing by 15-20% annually in recent years, the slowdown in 2020 suggests that fewer cases were being detected. Unlike DV victims, who can report violence themselves, it is rare for children to do so, making the eyes of those around them crucial. However, due to school closures and activity restrictions during the pandemic, fewer opportunities existed for such detection, raising concerns that abuse may have become more hidden and severe.

The increase in DV consultations reflects the psycho-social impact of the pandemic, and similar effects are likely in cases of child abuse. During this period of restricted social activities, healthcare, public health, and welfare professionals and institutions must engage more sensitively and deeply with families that may be at risk.

問1 この英文を 200 字程度の日本語で要約しなさい。

問2 この英文の著者は、COVID-19 の感染拡大が DV と子ども虐待に与えた影響にどのような違いがあり、また、その違いが生じた理由をどのように推測していますか。200 字程度で答えなさい。