

According to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities, independent living of persons with disabilities is an important goal for social inclusion and belongs to the fundamental human rights for everyone. However, community independence, which anyone can experience, is considered as a difficult task to peoples with disabilities, especially to peoples with developmental disabilities. Therefore, many with developmental disabilities who have become adults, cannot leave their families for an independent living, rather stay under their families' protection. Moreover, even families with developmentally disabled children cannot plan nor dream of their children's independence.

Families should play a role of an advocate in the independence of the person with disabilities. They should also become a place where the person with disabilities learn and become acquainted of independence. Three preconditions are needed for such role of families.

First, the community must provide families a vision for the independence of the person with disabilities. In other words, an independence of the person with disabilities cannot succeed without their family's conviction and belief. However, a social perspective that views the disability as a being difficult to gain independence and still in need of care and help prevents families from gaining expectations and hope that their children would live independently. Therefore, it is crucial for suggesting a social perspective related to the independence of the disabled and a specific policy for independence of the person with disabilities.

Secondly, a "liberation of a family from care" is needed. Namely, in a situation where a mother takes care of their child with disabilities from infancy to adulthood for 24 hours, a father has to earn money for their disabled child's treatment and education, and their siblings have to take care in the absence of their parents, a family cannot dream of an independence of the person with disabilities. The role of "care" entitled to their families must be changed to a "social care". With this change, child with disabilities and parent are eventually able to expect an independence, not being further required with endless sacrifice of a family life. Also, a family can prepare for their child's independence.

Third, everyone in the community should become a family in the matter of the independence of the person with disabilities. Independence isn't handling everything alone while living alone. Rather, independence requires another family. Namely, there is a need for a new form of family based on "solidarity", not a traditional form of family connected by blood-ties. Therefore, we have to admit how people with disabilities create and live with people they want to, like their friends and acquaintances. This carries the meaning that person with disabilities the have the right to form families with the people they want and living with affection and fellowship with them.

Finally, an independence of the person with disabilities in a community is deeply related to the family's life which the person with disabilities belongs to. The independence of person with disabilities can be formed based on the new concept of family through the dissolution of the roles of sacrifice and care assigned to the family.