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**Abstract**

Factors that support children who left children's homes in going on to university and graduating

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This study aims to examine the factors that support children who left children's homes and successfully entered and graduated from university, using a qualitative analysis of semi-structured interviews. Currently, the rate of former children who left children's homes continuing on to higher education is increasing; however, it has been pointed out that the dropout rate for these children is increasing compared to the general population. Interviews were conducted with three such children who had received social care to clarify the support they received which enabled them to continue on to higher education, complete their education, and graduate. In interviews, participants discussed the psychological aspects and supporting factors related to continuing university studies and graduating. The collected data were analyzed using the Trajectory Equifinality Model. The study examined and discussed (1) the factors that motivated university enrollment, (2) the factors that enabled continued study, and (3) the factors that led to graduation, by reviewing the TEM diagrams based on the stories shared during the interviews.

**Keywords:** children who left children's homes, going to university, continuing to study, graduation, Trajectory Equifinality Model

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