

STANDPOINT OF M. KAPLAN ON LEISURE STUDIES

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In this paper, the theory of leisure proposed by M. Kaplan who is one of the representative research workers on leisure in the United States in the present day was discussed from the points of view of the conception of leisure and the relation between leisure and work, and his standpoint on leisure studies was intended to clarify by comparing his theory with those of other workers.

M. Kaplan understands leisure as such that it includes not only the element of time but also the activities and attitudes in participating in leisure. Regarding the relation between recreation and leisure, he sees recreation as the renewal of vitality or the preparation for following work. He distinguishes recreation from leisure, which is active and has the cultural and creative values. On that point, M. Kaplan's differs from those of other investigators in the United States such as M. H. Newmeyer and G. D. Butler, whose definitions of recreation are rather active and valuable.

As the industrialization in society goes on, the traditional values toward work begin to fall down and leisure is becoming an important domain for people. Such a tendency is also accepted by D. Riesman and C. W. Mills. However, they have a doubt whether leisure will be able to get some values instead of work. They are not likely to expect much of leisure. On the contrary, M. Kaplan has a bright prospect that leisure will bring the cultural and creative values to human beings at the age of mass leisure. Namely, it will be said that he takes the position of emphasizing the significance and the roles of leisure.