

Thawachinee Sangkunchai 2009: Factors Affecting the Father's Role in Raising of Pre-School Children in Amphoe Mueang, Changwat Kamphaeng Phet. Master of Arts (Social Development), Major Field: Social Development, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Nath Bhunthumnavin, Ph.D. 193 pages.

The objectives of research were 1) to study the basic factors in social and economic aspects, social factors and practice as the father's role in raising pre-school children and 2) to investigate the independent variables which affected the father's role in raising those children. The sample consisted of 123 fathers from 4 kindergarten schools in Amphoe Mueang, Changwat Kamphaeng Phet. They were selected by simple random sampling. The data was collected by questionnaires and was analyzed by using descriptive statistics and stepwise multiple regression analysis with the level of statistical significance at .05.

The study result showed that the pre-school children fathers had high level of good self-concept. They also had good attitude towards having children as well as their previous experiences of being raised at high level. In order to consider their roles of children raising in physical, psychological, social, mental, and moral aspects, they practiced regularly.

The independent variables testing indicated three basic factors in social and economic aspects and social factors affected the father's role in raising children at pre-school age. Those factors consisted of 17 independent variables and there were 2 of them shared the prediction of father's role in general picture of 32.6%. They were the self-concept of being father (27.8%) and the attitude towards having children (4.8%). According to the physical practice of father's role, there were 5 independent variables shared the prediction of 38.9%. They were the self-concept of being father (27.5%), attitude towards having children (3.9%), previous experiences of being raised (2.6%), the amount of children (2.4%) and the family characteristics (2.5%). As a result of psychological practice, there were 3 independent variables joined the prediction of 24.2%. They were the self-concept of being father (17.0%), the amount of children (3.7%) and the desire of having children (3.5%). In addition to the social practice, there were 3 independent variables shared the prediction of 28.2%. They were the self-concept of being father (21.0%), total income (4.4%) and attitude towards having children (2.8%). Moreover, the mental aspect of the father role practice indicated 3 independent variables shared the prediction of 25.8%. Those were the self-concept of being father (19.0%), attitude towards having children (4.2%), and previous experiences of being raised (2.5%). Finally, the 2 independent variables joined the prediction of 31.1%. Those were attitude of having children (23.7%) and the self-concept of being father (7.4%).

In conclusion, good practice as the father in raising the children at pre-school age required the valued awareness of being father and the good attitude towards having children as well.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature