ABSTRACT

Thesis Title

: The Effect of Self Help Group on the Mental Health of

Leprosy Patients at Phrapradaeng Hospital, Samutprakarn

Student's Name

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Degree Sought

: Master of Science

Major

: Counseling Psychology

Academic Year

: 1999

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The purpose of this quasi experimental research was to study the effect of self help group on leprosy patients at Prapradaeng hospital in Samutprakarn

The eighteen subjects of leprosy patients who had SCL-90 T scored (somatization dimension, depression dimension and anxiety dimension only) higher than forty-five were selected. The subjects were then assigned to experimental group and control group, each group consisted of 9 leprosy patients. The data was analyzed by the Wilcoxon Matched Pairs Signed-Rank Test and The Mann – Whitney U Test.

The results were as follows:

The two hypotheses were tested in the data analysis. It was found that two of the hypotheses were statistically significant.

The study indicated that the somatization dimension, depression dimension and anxiety dimension of the experimental group were significantly lower than before the experiment at the .05 level.

There was a significant difference between the experimental group and the control group on somatization dimension, depression dimension and anxiety dimension at the . 05 level.