

Thesis Title Social Support and Social Adjustment of Mothers
 with Developmentally Disabled Children

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Abstract

The purpose of this descriptive research was to study social support and social adjustment of mothers with developmentally disabled children. The samples composed of 100 mothers with developmentally disabled children under 15 years old who came to follow up at pediatric neurological clinic at Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai hospital during August - November 1992. All samples were married and lived with their husbands and had children with mental and physical impairment associated with cerebral palsy or mental retardation (moderate to profound degree) or Down's syndrome or post encephalitis. The disability had been diagnosed by physicians for more than 3 months.

The instrument using for data collection was an interview form for demographic data, social support and social adjustment. Content validity was verified by experts. Reliabilities for social support and social adjustment were 0.83 and 0.76 respectively.

Demographic data was analyzed by using frequency and percentage. Social support and social adjustment scores were computed and classified into 5 levels. Social support and social adjustment scores were also analyzed for frequency in each level.

The results of the study showed that :

1. Mothers with developmentally disabled children received overall social support in moderate level. Detailed analysis showed that mothers received emotional support at high level while receiving informational support, instrumental support, esteem support and network support in moderate level.

2. Mothers with developmentally disabled children had overall social adjustment at high level. Detailed analysis showed that mothers had high score in every aspect of social adjustment.