

REVADEE SIRINAKORN : THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SELECTED FACTORS AND EMPATHY OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, BANGKOK METROPOLIS. THESIS ADVISOR: ASST.PROF.PRANOM OTHAGANONT, Ed.D.,ASSO. PROF. PARNARAI SAPAYAPRAPA, Ph.D. 152 pp.

The purposes of this research were to study Empathy of Professional nurses in governmental hospitals in Bangkok Metropolis, and to study variables which would explain variances and predict the Empathy. It was hypothesized that: (1) Self Concept, Professional Values, Service Traditional Values, Nursing Experience and Age were positively correlated with Empathy, where as Work Characteristics was negatively correlated with Empathy, (2) those 6 variables would explain variances and predict the Empathy. The instruments for data collection was 4 sets of questionnaires which were developed by the researcher. Stepwise Multiple Regression Analysis was employed to analyze the obtained data.

The major findings were as the followings:-

1. Lower level of Empathy was found within Professional nurses in the governmental hospitals .

2. Self Concept and Professional Values were positively and significantly correlated with Empathy at the .05 level of significance, where as Nursing Experience and Age were negatively related to Empathy at the .05 level of significance.

3. There were no significance correlation between Empathy and Service Traditional Values, Work Characteristics.

4. The 3.10 per cent of variance in Empathy were explained by two predictors which were ranked in their power of predictor as "Self Concept" and "Nursing Experience" respectively.

5. The 4.33 per cent of variance in Empathy of Professional nurses practicing in general wards were explained by Nursing Experience and Professional Values. It was found that Nursing Experience can predict better than Professional Values.

6. The 16.79 per cent of variance in Empathy of Professional nurses practicing in Labor Room was explained by Work Characteristics only.