

SUNEE BANJONG : A STUDY OF PARENTS' REARING PRACTICES ON MENTALLY RETARDED PRESCHOOL CHILDREN RECEIVING SERVICES FROM EDUCATIONAL AND REHABILITATION ORGANIZATIONS, BANGKOK METROPOLIS. THESIS ADVISOR : ASST.PROF.SOPAPHAN CHAYASOMBAT, SARINTHORN VIDHAYASIRINUN, Ph.D., 227 PP. ISBN 974-582-465-8

The purpose of this research was to study the parents' rearing practices on mentally retarded preschool children receiving services from educational and rehabilitation organization, Bangkok Metropolis, about knowledge, practices, and problems and needs. The samples were 50 selected by using random sampling from the 204 population of the parents of mentally retarded preschool children receiving services from educational and rehabilitation organizations, Bangkok Metropolis.

The parents were interviewed and their rearing behavior at home were observed. The quantitative data in each aspect were analyzed by means of frequency and percentage and the details were summarized descriptively. The results were presented in 2 parts, part 1 presenting the results of each aspect: the results from interviewing, the results from observation and descriptive summary of each aspect, and part 2 summarizing all the results.

The research results indicated that most of the parents of the mentally retarded preschool children receiving services from educational and rehabilitation organizations had accurate knowledge and practiced rearing appropriately. Concerning each aspect of the problems, most of the parents said that they did not have the problem, except that of knowledge; they specified that they did not receive enough knowledge on how to rear their mentally retarded child and the wanted to know more about how to provide early stimulation, speech therapy, self-help practices, characters and behavior of mentally retarded preschool children, mainstreaming and rearing practices of a mentally retarded child. Concerning needs, most of the parents said that they did not need help in each aspect except help about getting a babysitter and having their mentally retarded child mainstreamed in the regular school with normal children