

C345467 : MAJOR MENTAL HEALTH

KEY WORD : PERSONALITY/STRESS/NURSING STUDENTS

SUREE HOUYTHAN, Lt : PERSONALITY AND STRESS OF NURSING STUDENTS IN COLLEGE OF NURSING, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. THESIS ADVISOR : ASST.PROF. JIRAPA SUTTIPAN, 140 PP. ISBN 974-579-862-2.

The purpose of this research was to study nursing students' personalities, the correlation between personality and levels of stress, and to compare personality and nursing students' personal histories. The population studied comprised two hundred and fifty-three nursing students from Thai Ministry of Defense. The population was obtained by proportional stratified random sampling. The research instrument was a set of questionnaire comprising nursing students' personal histories, MPI test (The Maudsley Personality Inventory) and HOS test (Health Opinion Survey). The data was analyzed by the SPSS^x program. The major findings were:

1. Nursing students' personalities were : Extraversion (scale-E \geq 28.01) = 58.9% Introversion (scale-E $<$ 28.01) = 41.1% Neuroticism (scale-N \geq 27.60) = 53.7% and Stability (scale-N $<$ 27.60) = 46.3%

Nursing students with high level of stress (HOS $>$ 34.54) were more introvert and neurotic than extravert and stable.

Nursing students with middle level of stress (HOS \geq 25.48-34.54) were more extravert and neurotic than introvert and stable

Nursing students with low level of stress (HOS $<$ 25.48) were more extravert and stable than introvert and neurotic.

2. There was a statistically significant negative correlation ($r = .3033$) between scale-E personality rating and level of stress, and a statistically significant positive correlation ($r = .5503$) between scale-N personality rating and level of stress. ($p < .001$)

3. Birthorders and number of siblings affected scale-N personality rating but parental occupation affected scale-E personality rating. However, residential location, parental education and family income had no effect on scale-E and scale-N personality rating.