

PRAKYEKEOW GACUM : EFFECTS OF HUNSBANDS' HELPING THEIR WIVES DURING
FIRST STAGE OF LABOR IN PRIMIGRAVIDA ON SELF-CONTROL, NEED OF
PAIN MEDICATION, DURATION OF LABOR, AND BIRTH EXPERIENCE PERCEPTION.
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This experimental research was designed to study and compare the effects of husbands' assistance during their wives went through the first stage of labor on self-control, the need for pain medication during the stage of labor and delivery, duration of labor, and perception of birth experience. Sixty primigravida clients were selected as the experimental and control groups by using the Matched Pair Technique in which education and career were matched by pairs in experimental and control groups. Observation and interview instruments used to collect data were developed by the investigator and tested for content validity and internal reliability which were 0.90 and 0.93 respectively.

The major findings were:

1. The primigravida clients who were assisted by their husbands during the first stage of labor and delivery showed good level in self-control, unused of pain medication, shorter duration of labor and delivery stage than usual and good level of birth experience perception. In addition, the results also showed at the good level in the following behavior : verbal expression, respiration control, face and gestrue expression, and vocal expression.
2. The arithmetic means indicated that the experimental samples demonstrated significantly higher self-control, lesser need of pain medication, shorter duration of the stage of labor and delivery, and better perception of birth experience than those who had no assistance at .01 level.