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TATIYA TUMSEN : THE RELATION BETWEEN SELECTED FACTORS AND
MENTAL HEALTH BEHAVIOR IN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS, UNDER MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION, BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISORS : CHARUVAN HEMATORN, M.P.H.,
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Mental health behavior of adolescents is important, because it affects students' future mental health. The purpose of this study is to analyze the relation between predisposing, enabling, reinforcing factors and mental health behavior of students. The method of this study is survey research. One thousand three hundred-eighty subjects were chosen from 13 schools using three stage cluster sampling technique. Data was collected with self administered questionnaires. The study was conducted from May to July 1998. The data was analyzed using frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, Pearson product moment correlation coefficient and Chi-square test.

The results revealed that the level of mental health behavior in senior secondary school students was fair. There were also significant relations at p-values from 0.05 to 0.01 between mental health behavior in senior school students and the following factors : predisposing factors (sex, study efficiency [GPA], number of children in the family, personality and mental health knowledge), enabling factors (economic status, method of caring, families' relationship and families' life style) and reinforcing factors (learning appreciation, school regulations, and relationships with friends). However, there were no significant relationships between predisposing factors, (child status), enabling factors, (kind of family) or reinforcing factors (sanitation of the school, relationships with teacher) and mental health behavior in senior secondary schools.

The study suggests that families and schools should put more effort through various strategies to give students information on mental health and how to create the right mental health behavior. Predisposing, enabling and reinforcing factors should be considered when attempting to change students' mental health behavior.