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KEY WORD : PERCEPTION / FATHER'S ROLES PERFORMED / PRESCHOOL

JARUNEE ARUNYAPOOM: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELECTED FACTOR'S THE PERFORMED ROLE IN CHILD CARE AND CHILD REARING OF THE PRESCHOOL'S FATHER. THESIS ADVISOR : PHITAYA CHARUPOONPHOL DIP. THAI BOARD OF PREV.MED., M.P.H.M., POONSOOK SHUAYTONG B.Sc.,M.S., NUTKAMOL CHANSATIPORN B.Sc., M.Sc, 227 p. ISBN 974 -662-557-8

The objectives of this research were to study the perception of father roles and the relation between the father's factors, (age, education, occupation, preschool care, experience) family's factors, (relationship between father and mother, type of family, family income) child's factors (sex of children, birth order) and father's roles performed in child care and child rearing of preschool children. The subjects of the study were 200 fathers with preschool children, 3-5 years old, attending the 12 day-cares centers of the Department of Health, Bangkok Metropolitan Administration. Data collection was done between February 17th March 16th, 1999 by using interviewing questionnaires. The data was analyzed by descriptive chi-square test, Pearson's Product Moment Correlation coefficient and stepwise Multiple Regression.

The results showed that 64.0 per cent of the sample had a moderate score of role perceptions in child rearing and 64.5 per cent of the sample had a moderate score of father's roles performed in child care and child rearing of chi-square test and Pearson's Product Moment Correlation coefficients were applied and the results revealed that the factors which were statistically significantly related with father's roles performed in child care and child rearing were the father's education ( $P$  - value = 0.0001), family income, ( $r = .1702$ ,  $P$  - value = 0.008), the relationship between father and mother ( $r = .3383$ ,  $P$ -value < 0.001) and father's roles perception ( $r = .4792$ ,  $P$  - value < 0.001). In addition father's roles perception, the relationship between father and mother and father's education could predict statistically significant ( $P$ -value < 0.001) 38.847 of father's roles performance in child care and child rearing.

Therefore, in order to promote father's roles in child care and child rearing, there is a need to promote the relationship between father and mother and encourage father participation in nurturing their children. The father should be educated and trained for their roles and skills in child care and child rearing to serve as an important member of the family.