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KEY WORDS : CHILDREN'S RIGHTS / MOTHERS / PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

SARANYA INPIROM : THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS AND THE PRACTICE OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS OF PRESCHOOL'S MOTHER IN MAUNG DISTRICT, TAK PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS: PENSRI PHUJASANIT M.D, M.P.H.,Dip.Amer.Board of Pediatrics, SUMALEE SINGHANIYOM M.S.(Bios), CHAIWAT WONGARSA M.Sc., 166 p. ISBN 974-663-033-4

The objectives of this survey / research were to study mothers' practice of children's rights with their preschool children, in terms of 4 aspects: survival rights, protection rights, development rights and participation rights and to determine the factors related to the mothers' practice of children's rights. These factors included maternal demographic characteristics, knowledge of children's rights and attitude toward children's rights. The study population was 283 mothers of grade 1 – 3 pre-school students in Muang district, Tak province. The data were collected by using questionnaire from February 15 to March 2, 1999. Statistics used for data analysis were percentage, mean, standard deviation, correlation, chi - square and t – test.

The results showed that 74.9 percent of mothers had moderate level of the practice of children's rights with their preschool children, followed by low level ( 17.3 percent ) and only 7.8 percent had high level. The levels of four aspects of the maternal practice of children's right were as follows: survival rights aspect were at the highest level; protection rights aspect, participation rights aspect and development rights aspect were at the lowest level. The factors which were significantly associated with the maternal practice of children's right were age ( p – value = 0.033 ), education, maternal income ( p – value < 0.001 ), family income ( p – value = 0.003 ), maternal experience about children's rights ( p – value = 0.003 ), knowledge of children's rights and attitude toward children's rights ( p – value < 0.001 ). The comparison of mean score showed that the mothers whose work was related to the children's rights had higher mean score of maternal practice than the mothers whose work was not related to children's rights ( p – value = 0.006 ). The factor which was not associated with maternal practice of children's right was information about children's rights that mothers received.

The results of this study suggest that it is necessary to promote and encourage practice of children's rights of preschool mothers, in terms of 4 aspects: survival rights, protection rights, development rights and especially participation rights. This can be done by promoting and encouraging mothers' knowledge and attitude toward children's rights. In addition, it should be propagate children's right information to mothers.