The objectives of this descriptive research were to study the maternal-infant bonding in singleton and normal primiparous adolescent mothers and the factors associated with it. The sample consisted of 230 postpartal adolescent mothers who delivered from 20th April to 4th August 1999 at Srisaket Hospital. The data were collected by using self-administered questionnaires, interviewing and observation of the mother-infant behavior. The data collection instruments included questionnaires for : demographic characteristics of mothers, pregnancy and delivery factors, newborn factors and hospital factors, the perception of birth experience of the mothers, social support, mothers' perception about their infant. A maternal-infant behavior observation tool, and the health record for pregnancy, delivery and newborn were also used for data collection. Statistics used for data analysis were percentage, mean ,median , standard deviation, chi-square test and Pearson's product moment correlation analysis.

The results of the maternal infant bonding level were 43.5 % at a moderated level ,37.0 % at a high level and 19.6 % at a low level . The factors which were significantly associated with maternal-infant bonding by using chi-square test at p-value $<$ 0.01 were: marital status, family's incomes, planning for pregnancy, gestational age at initial visit for antenatal-care, perception of birth experience, the fulfilment of mother's wishes for the newborn's sex, bodyweight of the newborn, touching and holding the newborn immediately, social support. These factors at p-value $<$ 0.05 were knowledge about child care, complication of pregnancy and rooming in. By using Pearson's product moment correlation analysis, the factors associated with maternal-infant bonding at p-value $<$ 0.0001 were: family's income, gestational age at initial visit for antenatal-care, perception of birth experience, and social support with r = 0.458,-0.687,0.780 and 0.839 ,respectively. At p-value $<$ 0.05 was bodyweight of newborn with r = 0.133.

From this study ,the recommendations were to encourage adolescent mothers to come early to attend on antenatal clinic and provide knowledge on preparation for good perception of birth experience and practices for good maternal-infant bonding as well as social support. Health personnel should be trained to realize the importance of maternal-infant bonding and to know how to encourage it.