

Thesis Title A Study on the Depression Level of
 Children and Youths in Child Welfare
 Institutions in Bangkok and Nonthaburi.
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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study were to investigate the etiology of emotional disturbances and the degree of depression among children and youths in child welfare institutions in Bangkok and Nonthaburi. The sample was consisted of 420 children between the ages 7 and 18, 219 boys and 201 girls, from home for boys, Pak Kred and Mahamek, home for girls, Rajvithi, and home for disabled and crippled children, Pak Kred. The instrument employed in this study was the questionnaire divided into two parts- personal data and Children's Depression Inventory (CDI). The obtained data were analyzed by using t-test and F-test.

The results were as follow:

1. Children in the institutions had depression ranged from mild level to severe level.

2. The depression level of boys and girls, children with different age ranges, children with different durations in the institutions, and normal and crippled children did not have significant differences at the .05 level.

3. The interaction between different sexes, age ranges, durations in the institutions, and conditions of body did not have the significant association with the depression level at the .05 level.

4. Boys and girls with different age ranges had significant differences in the depression level at the .01 level, which boys aged 7-10 years had the highest depression level

5. Normal and crippled children with different age ranges had significant differences in the depression level at the .05 level, which crippled children aged 15-18 years had the highest depression level.

6. Different amount of illness in the past year, numbers of friends, degree of satisfaction with the service of the institutions and amount of participation in activities in the institutions had significant associations with depression level of children at the .01 level, which children often ill in the past year, having only one best friend, not satisfied with the service and participating a few activities had the highest depression level.