

Thesis Title Decision - Making Process in Maintaining
Pregnancy of HIV-infected Women

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Abstract

The purpose of this study were to understand the process of decision making and to determine factors that influence the decision-making process of HIV-infected pregnant women in terms of termination or continuation of their pregnancies and the impact after their decisions. Indepth interviews of 9 HIV-infected women were performed during 10 months period. They are 2-3 months pregnant, all of them were the first pregnancy and low economic status.

The result was : 4 women decided to do abortion, 5 decided to continue their pregnancies. The process of decision making was complicated. Not only the medical factor influence, but also social factors highly effected the decision-making process. These factors were perception and understanding of medical information from counsellor, perceived severity of AIDS and expectation of the magnitude of problems that would occur to them and their families, the economic status of their families and the ability of afford future expenses, and their status or power within their families. Nevertheless it was found that the women who decided to keep the baby faced longer and more serious problems than the one who terminated their pregnancies.