

Thesis Title Relationship Between Selected Factors and
Preschool Child's Quality of Life among Migrant
Workers in Leam Chabang Industrial Zone Chonburi

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Abstract

This main objective of this survey research was to study the quality of life of the preschool children whom their parents were migrant labour in Leam Chabang Municipal area. The relationship among variables and the interrelationship between selected predictors and the child's quality of life were also examined. Data were collected during December 1993 to January 1994 from 255 sample children through physical examination and child development test. Structured interview questionnaire developed by researcher (which comprised of 2 parts of questions:- the demographic data and other studied variables, and questions about child's quality of life focusing on 3 aspects- nutrition and health; intellectual, mental, emotion and social development; and fundamental of child right) was used to collect data from mothers of the sample. Chi-square test, Pearson's Product Moment correlation, and Multiple Classification Analysis (MCA) were employed to analysed the data.

The results of the study showed that 62.0 % of the children had good overall quality of life with about 37.7 and 49.8 percent good on nutritional and health, and children right aspects respectively. All of the samples were in the normal development scale at the tenth percentile cut of point. However, when the fiftieth percentile cut of point was used, only 27.8 % passed all activities of the development test. Majority of them (53.7 %) failed the hearing, language and concept development test and about 34.5 % failed the self- health skill test.

It was also found that education, knowledge on child care, and child care practices of the mothers; father's support; and birth weight was positively related to the overall quality of life of the children ($p < 0.05$) while the number of children and child age was negatively related to the quality of life ($p < 0.05$). About 23.2 % of the variation of the overall quality of life of the children could be explained by the ten selected predictors namely:- age, education, knowledge about child care, and child care practices of the mothers; number of children; family income; father's support; age, gender and birth weight of the children.

When the three aspects of the quality of life were considered, about 18.2, 29.2, and 13.1 percent of nutrition and health; intellectual mental emotion and social development; and the fundamental of children right could be predicted by the above 10 selected predictors respectively. Among the ten predictors, children age ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0676$) mother's education ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0289$), and mother's age ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0256$) were the most three importion predictors of the overall quality of life. When the predictors variables of the three aspects were analysed, it was found that birth weight ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0441$) mother'education ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0400$) and mother's child care practies ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0195$) were the most

three important predictors of the nutrition and health. Age of the child ($\text{Beta}^2 = .2209$), mother's education ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0225$) and number of children ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0196$), were the most three important predictors of the developmental aspect. Mother's age ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0256$), gender of children ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0225$), previous residential area of mother ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0225$) and family income ($\text{Beta}^2 = .0225$) were the most three important predictors of the fundamental children's right aspect.

The findings of this study recommended that the government should strengthen the health promotion program for the migrant labours by improving their education, knowledge about child care, child care practices. Father of the child should be motivated to be involved more in child care. Family planning and antinatal care program should be also strengthened.