

Thesis Title	Analytical Study on Socio - Economic and Cultural Factors of Deaf Children and Their Families in Thailand
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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was designed to analyse the etiological rehabilitative factors as well as socio-economic and cultural factors of deaf children and their families in Thailand using cross-sectional study in order to find out the major factors which affect the deaf children and inter-relating mechanism between the society and family of deaf children, to provide medical scientific as well as socio-economic background leading to effective measures for prevention and rehabilitation as well as educational and occupational further developmental plans for deaf children and families.

The researcher interviewed the parents of 200 deaf children's by using questionnaire. Data analysis is done by using EPI Info. program. The results are shown as Frequency, Percentage, Chi-square.

The results of this study indicates that most of deaf children's families are of low socio-economic class. More than 70% of those parents are of low educational level and 64% of the families have low income. Medical services found to be very satisfactory (89%), but lack of knowledge about hearing rehabilitation and prevention are noted (29%) among the parents of deaf children. There is no relationship between social satisfaction and socio-economic status among the deaf children's parents.

Finally, the researcher recommends to set up a comprehensive social system which includes socio-economic development, better basic education on medical preventative, diagnostic as well as rehabilitative knowledge. So, social welfare for the deaf and handicapped people should be emphasized as well as to upgrade the government compulsory education. A bio-social and bio-medical models for future research has been designed by researcher.