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KEY WORD : FATHERS' PARTICIPATION IN CHILD REARING/ AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT AGED 0-6 YEARS

RATIPORN TEUNGFUNG : FACTORS RELATED TO FATHERS' PARTICIPATION
IN CHILD REARING AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AGED 0-6 YEARS.

THESIS ADVISOR : KUSOL SOONTHORNDHADA, M.A., Ph.D., SUREEPORN
PUNPUENG, M.A., Ph.D., POOLSOOK SRIYAPORN, M.S.N. 101 p. ISBN 974-589-753-1

This study used secondary data from the Indicators of Thai Children Development Survey (Udom Laksanavicharn, et.al., 1987) collected in 1987 by using questionnaires and child development tests. The study aims to explore the relationship between fathers' participation in child rearing and development of children 0-6 years and factors influencing the participation of children's fathers. The multi-stages sampling technigue of the primary study used a sample of 5,424 children and their fathers to represent the urban and rural population from 4 regions of Thailand.

The descriptive statistics, correlation and logistic regression were used. The data analysis found that only 3.3 percent of fathers participated in child-rearing as major care takers. The study had also found a statistically negative relationship between these fathers' participation in child rearing and their children's development. Children whose fathers were the major care takers had lower developmental scores by ages in all developmental areas except hearing language and concept development compared which those children who did not have father as their major care-takers. Factors which were found to be statistically significantly related to the fathers' participation in their child-rearing were ages of fathers and children, and occupations of fathers and mother.