

Chamaiporn Jaipang. (2012). *Psycho-social Factors Correlated with The Father Role Performance of Fathers of Children Aged 2-5 in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province*. Bangkok: Graduate school, Srinakharinwirot University. Advisor Committee: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Oraphin Choochom, Assoc. Prof. Ashara Sucaromana.

This research was a correlation-comparative study with three main purposes: (a) to study the interactions effects of psychological and social factors on father role performance of fathers, (b) to predict father role performance from psychological and social factors, and to identify at-risk father role performance of fathers. The main factors were identified by using the conceptual framework of Bandura's Social Cognitive Learning Theory, which describes social interactions in ongoing behavior. The analysis considered personal and environmental components, and the interaction between the two. The sample consisted of 300 fathers who each had children aged 2-5 years in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province. This research used Three-way Analysis of Variance with post hoc mean comparisons in terms of Scheffe' method and Hierarchical Multiple Regression Analysis in order to analyze the data.

The results were as follows: firstly, fathers with low ages, medium levels of anxiety towards their father role performance and high levels of social support, performed their father role better than the others. Secondly, fathers, who had medium levels of anxiety towards their father role performance and had strong couple relationships, performed their father role better than the others. Thirdly, fathers, who had medium levels of anxiety towards their father role performance and a lot of knowledge about child caring, performed the superior father role, especially in the group that both father and mother cared their offsprings. Fourthly, fathers, who had low level of conflict with work and family and positive attitude toward the father role, are the best father role performance in subgroups such as fathers with many children group, nuclear family group, and father and mother caring children group. Finally, social factors including (a) social support, (b) good relationship between the couples, (c) knowledge about child caring, and (d) experienced about caring from his father) and psychological factors including (a) attitude toward the father role, (b) anxiety towards their father role performance, and (c) role conflict of work and family could predict father role performance as 51.6 %.

In addition, this research has identified groups of fathers at risk of lower performing the role of father, including older and less educated fathers, the father who had extended family and many children. Emphasis should be given to develop in order to protect the selected factors including social support, good relationship between the couples, and anxiety towards performing the role of father.