

Research Abstract

Love Expression Patterns of Mothers as Related to Child Personality and Emotional – Social Characteristics

By

Assistant Professor Laddawan Kasemnet

Archan Tasana Thongpukdee

The purpose of this study was two – fold. First it aimed to investigate love expression pattern of mothers with different family backgrounds, second to compare introvert – extrovert personality, leadership, adjustment and mental hygiene including depression, anxiety and aggressiveness of student with four types of love expression patterns.

The sample comprised 221 Prathom Suksa IV students with 113 females and 108 males, and 240 Mathayom Suksa II students with 150 females and 90 males from 10 schools in Bangkok during the 1996 academic year. A questionnaire consisting of 3 parts was administered. The first part concerned student backgrounds and characteristics. The second part was about mother's love expressions. And the third one was about the feelings about oneself in the introvert – extrovert aspect of the personality, in the areas of leadership, mental hygiene and adjustment. The data were then analyzed using means, standard deviations, analyses of variance and coefficient correlations.

The results revealed that :

1. The student perceived mother's love expressions through material gains mean that Love was expressed materially rather than mindful which included word or gestures. Love expressions patterns of mother could be classified into 4 patterns as follows ; 1) mother's love expressions through material and mindful ways at a low level, 2) mother's love expressions through material ways at a low level and through mindful ways at a high level, 3) mother's love expressions through material ways at a high level and through mindful ways at a low level, and 4) mother's love expressions through material and mindful ways at a high level. The results revealed that the fourth pattern was used as much as the first pattern, both as a whole and in sub – groups. The only exception was the Mathayom Suksa II students whose mothers used the fourth pattern more than the first pattern.

2. Student as a whole and Mathayom Suksa II students who received mother's love expression in the fourth and third patterns showed the more extrovert personality, more leadership, better mental hygiene as a whole and in sub – categories of depression, anxiety and aggressiveness than those who received mother's love expressions in the first and second patterns. However there was no significant difference in adjustment. For Prathom Suksa IV student no significant difference was found in the introvert – extrovert aspect of the personality.