

A STUDY ON FAMILY HEALTH CARE AND WOMEN'S ROLE

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For the purpose of understanding the style of influencing factors identifying the high risk groups who might need more social support, and testing sociological theories, one cross-sectional studies were carried out in Taipei area in 1987.

A proportional probability sampling with clusters was done to obtain 50 clusters, 1590 households and 862 cases with self-reported illness. A Structured questionnaire interview with home visit was performed. The influences of the characteristics of the community, the family and the patients themselves were analysed with Chi-square test and stepwise multiple logistic regression. The main results were:

At the family level, over 95% of the health care works were performed by the family members living together. At the individual level, after controlling all other variables, the

influence of urbanization was not significant, patients in nuclear families before the stage of launching tended to take care of themselves, (odds ratio 1.42), those in nuclear families both before and after the stage of launching tended to be cared by the upper generation (odds ratio 3.42 and 4.34); children tended to be cared by the upper generation, actually, mothers (odds ratio 19.68 and 20.17), while the elderly did not get the same level of care as children. Mother-wives did play an important role in family health care, however, when they only needed others' care their needs were not found to be neglected or postponed.

The issues in theoretical basis, concept and measurement, as well as the policy implication were also discussed. (*J Natl Public Health Assoc (ROC)*: 1992;11(1):1-12).

Key Words: Parents of Mental Retarded, Eugenic, Family Planning

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