MANAGING EVERYDAY LIFE AMONG THAI MEN WITH PARAPLEGIA: A GROUNDED THEORY STUDY

LADDAWAN SINGHAKHUMFU

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN NURSING

GRUDUATE SCHOOL
CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY
MARCH 2002

MANAGING EVERYDAY LIFE AMONG THAI MEN WITH PARAPLEGIA: A GROUNDED THEORY STUDY

LADDAWAN SINGHAKHUMFU

THIS THESIS HAS BEEN APPROVED TO BE A PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Ratanavidee Cleantainen	CHAIRMAN
Associate Professor Dr. Ratanawadee Chontawan	
achara Bukonthasan	MEMBER
Assistant Professor Dr. Achara Sukonthasarn	
Wanger Entryt	MEMBER
Assistant Professor Dr. Wanapa Sritanyarat	
cerclit Sw. pc	MEMBER
Associate Professor Dr. Wichit Srisuphan	
K D R	MEMBER
Assistant Professor Dr. Mark Andrew Ritchie	

2 March 2002

© Copyright by the Graduate School, Chiang Mai University

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This dissertation represents the support and commitment of many people to the advancement of knowledge and higher education in nursing. I would like to first express my deep appreciation to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichit Srisuphan, chair of the nursing graduate school, Faculty of Nursing, Chiang Mai University, for her immeasurable effort and dedication to the development of nursing education in Thailand. I wish to thank the Ministry of University Affairs who has provided partial financial support for my dissertation. My deepest appreciation is also extended to all of the individual participants who shared their experiences with me and provided their insights in regard to managing everyday life among Thai men with paraplegia.

My sincere gratefulness is expressed to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ratanawadee Chontawan, chair of my dissertation committee and my academic advisor, for the knowledge she has shared with me and the support she has offered to me throughout my program of study. I gratefully acknowledge the members of my dissertation committee: Asst. Prof. Dr. Wanapa Sritanyarat for her invaluable guidance, for sharing with me her expertise in grounded theory methodology and for guiding me through the process of data analysis; Asst. Prof. Dr. Achara Sukonthasarn, for her help, support, and valuable suggestions; Asst. Prof. Dr. Mark Andrew Ritchie, for his contribution to my knowledge of methodology, and the culturally sensitive approach he has provided.

I would like to express my thank to Prof. Dr. Mavis Bickerton and Assoc. Prof. Ester Chang, for providing an opportunity of extended study in grounded theory research in Australia. I wish to thank Prof. Dr. Jennifer Greenwood for her insightful, creative suggestion and contribution to my knowledge and understanding of coping in paraplegic persons. I want to thank Dr. Annette Clare Walker, for her guidance and for teaching me the data analysis of grounded theory research. I would also like to thank Dr. Mike Clear for providing his valuable articles.

I would like to express my thanks to the director of the Public Health Center of Chiang Mai and Lumphun provinces, for his permission to conduct the study. I am deeply grateful to Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai Hospital for allowing me time to study, and to my colleagues, who shared my responsibilities during my study. Finally, I am truly indebted to my family, for the immeasurable support that they have provided me throughout this academic endeavor. Their love, understanding, and encouragement have been invaluable.

Laddawan Singhakhumfu