

The Relationship between Mother's Daily Occupations and Her Adolescent Son's Quality of Life

Ortal Cohen, Moran Uzan, Yael Eisenman, Tal Shohat, Sara Rosenblum

Ortal Cohen, Occupational Therapy student, Department of Occupational Therapy, The Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa. ocohe106@campus.haifa.ac.il

Moran Uzan, Occupational Therapy student, Department of Occupational Therapy, The Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa. muzan@campus.haifa.ac.il

Yael Eisenman, Occupational Therapy student, Department of Occupational Therapy, The Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa. yeisen01@campus.haifa.ac.il

Tal Shohat, Occupational Therapy student, Department of Occupational Therapy, The Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa. tshoha03@campus.haifa.ac.il

Sara Rosenblum, Head laboratory of Complex Human Activity and Participation (CHAP), Dept. of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Social Welfare & Health Sciences, University of Haifa. rosens@research.haifa.ac.il

Key words: Quality of Life, Activities of Daily Living, questionnaires, mothers, adolescence, family

Abstract

A mother's occupation has a substantial impact on society in general, and even more so on their adolescent offspring. Adolescence is a crucial phase in which the individual's sense of autonomy is being developed within his family and other surroundings. The family centered approach emphasizes the importance of considering the person as a part of the family system to which he or she belongs, in order to provide the best possible treatment. **Objective:** To examine the relationship between a mother's occupational features and her adolescent child's

quality of life. **Method:** 40 mother-adolescent child pairs were given both the Youth Quality of Life questionnaire, which was translated to Hebrew for the first time in the present research, as well as the Occupational Questionnaire. **Results:** Significant correlation was found between a child's quality of life and the mother's feeling of empowerment together with the satisfaction she experiences in her occupation. The adolescent's self esteem and their quality of life were found significantly correlated with the importance a mother attributes to her work. **Conclusions:** Considering the potential connections between a mother's occupation and her adolescent child's quality of life, it may be incumbent upon therapists to contemplate a mother's occupation and the possible consequences on their children when applying a family centered approach.

The research was conducted as part of the requirements for a research seminar course under the supervision of **Prof. Rosenblum**, in the bachelor's program at the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Haifa.

Implementing iPads as an Individual Accessibility Tool for Students with Special Needs; A Needs Assessment and Development

Rakefet Dvir, Debbie Rand

Rakefet Dvir, MSc, OT, Department of Occupational Therapy, Tel Aviv University. rakefetdvir@gmail.com

Debbie Rand, PhD, OT, Department of Occupational Therapy, Tel Aviv University. drand@post.tau.ac.il

Key words: Tablet, accessibility

Abstract

Background: Technology development has brought a new era for the world of treatment, with the touch-screen tablet being a popular device. Since 2016, as part of the personal accessibility project, the Israeli Ministry of Education has provided iPads for students with special needs to improve their daily function. Although individual accessibility is an innovative field, the use of iPads and other devices for learning, play, leisure and preparation for employment have already been studied. These studies emphasized the need for professional training in order to better utilize iPads and therefore, the Ministry of Education is formulating courses. This project aimed to develop training for educators (school/kindergarten teachers) who are responsible for iPad implementation for individual accessibility. **Methods:** The needs assessment included interviews with Ministry of Education policy-makers and a pilot survey filled out by seven educators with students using iPads. The survey assessed the educator's level of confidence regarding implementation of iPads. **Results:** Low levels of confidence were found regarding "setting of personal student goals", "integrating the iPad in the educational institution" and "parent involvement". The policy-makers reported a need to provide training in these domains, as well. **Conclusions:** Together with Ministry of Education policy-makers, it was decided to develop a training program for educators. This program will aim to train educators to better utilize and implement iPads as a personal device to improve student's daily function. Occupational therapists will contribute significantly to this training development by ensuring that iPads are used appropriately as tools to facilitate participation and by adapting tasks to the environment for student's needs.

The article was written as part of the requirements for attaining a master's degree in the project track, Department of Occupational Therapy, Tel Aviv University, supervised by **Dr. Debbie Rand**.