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## Evaluation of Child Love Status of Nursing Third Grade Students

### Hemşirelik Üçüncü Sınıf Öğrencilerinin Çocuk Sevme Durumlarının Değerlendirilmesi

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#### ÖZET

**Amaç:** Bu çalışma hemşirelik 3. sınıf öğrencilerinin çocuk sevme durumlarının değerlendirilmesi amacıyla planlandı.

**Yöntem:** Tanımlayıcı tipteki bu çalışma 2019 yılında bir üniversitenin Hemşirelik bölümünde 3. sınıfta öğrenim gören toplam 78 öğrenciyle yürütüldü. Öğrencilere literatür doğrultusunda hazırlanan anket formu ve “Barnett Çocuk Sevme Ölçeği” uygulandı. Elde edilen veriler IBM SPSS Statistics 21 (IBM SPSS, Türkiye) programında uygun istatistiksel yöntemler ile değerlendirildi.

**Bulgular:** Araştırmaya katılan öğrencilerin yaş ortalamalarının  $21,54 \pm 1,44$  (min=20, maks=27) olduğu, %76,9’unun (n=60) kız, %96,2’ sinin (n=75) kardeş sahibi olduğu, %71,8’inin (n=56) daha önce çocuğa bakma deneyiminin olduğu, %65,4’ünün (n=51) hemşirelik bölümüne isteyerek geldiği, %71,8’inin (n=56) okuduğu bölümden memnun olduğu, %91’inin (n=71) pediatri dersini sevdiği, %89,7’sinin (n=70) çocukları sevdiği, %56,4’ünün (n=44) mezun olduktan sonra çocuk kliniklerinde çalışmayı istemediği, %84,6’sının (n=66) çocuk sağlığı ve hastalıkları ile ilgili yeterli bilgiye sahip olmadığı belirlendi. Kızların çocuk sevme ölçeğinden aldıkları puan ortalamalarının erkeklere oranla daha yüksek olduğu ancak farkın istatistiksel olarak anlamsız olduğu belirlendi ( $p > 0,05$ ). Çocuğa bakma deneyimi olanların, çocukları sevenlerin ve mezun olduktan sonra çocuk kliniğinde çalışmayı isteyenlerin çocuk sevme ölçeğinden aldıkları puan ortalamaların diğerlerine göre daha yüksek olduğu ve farkın istatistiksel olarak anlamlı olduğu belirlendi ( $p < 0,05$ ).

**Sonuç:** Öğrencilerin çocuk sevme puan ortalamalarının cinsiyet, çocuğa bakma deneyimi, çocukları sevme durumu ve mezun olduktan sonra çocuk kliniklerinde çalışmayı isteme durumlarından etkilendiği sonucuna ulaşıldı.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Çocuk, çocuk sevme, hemşirelik öğrencileri

#### Abstract

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to evaluate the level of child liking among nursing 3rd grade students.

**Methods:** This descriptive study was conducted in 2019 with a total of 78 students in the third year of nursing at a university. The questionnaire form and “Barnett Liking of Children Scale” prepared in accordance with the literature were applied to the students. The resulting data IBM SPSS Statistics 21 (IBM SPSS, Turkey) program was evaluated by statistical methods.

**Results:** The mean age of the students was  $21,54 \pm 1,44$  (min=20, max=27), 76,9% (n=60) were female and 96,2% (n=75) were siblings, 71,8% (n=56) had previous experience of caring for the child, 65,4% (n=51) willingly came to the nursing department, 71,8% (n=56), 91% (n=71) liked pediatrics, 89,7% (n=70) loved children, 56,4% (n=44) did not want to work in pediatric clinics after graduation. It was determined that 84,6 (n=66) did not have sufficient information

about pediatric health and diseases. It was found that the mean scores of girls from child liking scale were higher than boys but the difference was not statistically significant ( $p>0.05$ ). It was determined that the mean scores of those who had experience of caring for children, those who loved children, and those who wanted to work in the children's clinic after graduation were higher than the others and the difference was statistically significant ( $p<0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** It was concluded that the students' mean scores of love for children were affected by gender, experience of caring for children, love of children, and willingness to work in pediatric clinics after graduation.

**Key Words:** *Child, child liking, nursing student.*

## Introduction

The concept of love is the basic element that should be among individuals. Adult individuals can satisfy their need for love and belonging as well as being part of a group. For children, this is met with direct affection and the family is the basis of this situation. To love a child must be in its purest form. Children should be treated with great care, respect and tolerance (1-3).

“A child needs understanding and love to develop his personality” It is one of the articles of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child. In case of any deviation from health, the pediatric nurse should be able to give adequate love. One of the characteristics of pediatric nurse is to love children. The pediatric nurse should be able to feel and love the children with gestures and facial expressions, behaviors and verbal expressions. There is no need for words to show love, a smile or a warm hug is enough for love. The pediatric nurse should be able to adapt to the physical, psychological and emotional aspects of the child's developing and changing structure and help the child to support these changes (4-7).

In order to make the approach of the 3rd grade students who take Child Health and Diseases Nursing course more effective in working situations in pediatric clinics after graduation, we need to know the love of child. The importance of a loving and positive approach to patients in pediatric clinics is known. For this reason, educating the students in this context, identifying and eliminating the factors that affect negatively will have beneficial results. Knowing the approach towards children and providing the necessary training will enable the development of better quality care. For this reason, it is very important to know what future nurses think and feel about children (8).

It is seen that the studies conducted in our country are mostly aimed at teacher candidates (9). Because the studies on behalf of nurses and nursing students are new and few number; the aim of this study was to evaluate the level of child liking among nursing 3rd grade students.

## Methods

This study was designed as a descriptive study in order to evaluate the liking of children of health sciences students.

**Sample:** The population of the study consisted of 95 students studying in the third grade of the Nursing Department of the Faculty of Health Sciences of a state university in Karaman province. The sample of the study consisted of 78 students who took Child Health and Disease Nursing course between 11-15 March 2019, which is the date of data collection.

**Data collection form:** Data from the literature and in line questionnaire prepared by the researchers to the Pediatric Nursing Student "Barnett Liking of Children Scale" by applying collected.

**Data collection:** Data were collected in the classroom environment within the scope of Child Health and Diseases Nursing between 11-15.03.2019. The average duration of the survey was 20 minutes.

## Data Collection Tools

**Barnett Liking of Children Scale:** It was developed by Barnett and Sinsi (10) to measure people's attitudes towards children. It is scored as "1=I disagree and 7=I completely agree" to in the scale prepared according to the seven-point likert system. The scale consists of 14 items. The total score that can be obtained from the scale is 14-98. The higher the total score, the higher the liking of children. Items 3, 6, 10 and 13 of the scale are scored inversely. Turkish validity and reliability of the scale was performed by 243 university students by Duyan and Gelbal. 14-38 points of the scale were evaluated as low, 39-74 points were rated as medium and 75-98 points were rated as high. The Cronbach alpha coefficient of the Turkish scale was 0,92 and the test-retest reliability coefficient was 0,85 (11).

**Questionnaire Form:** Students; age, sex, having siblings (if any), having the experience of caring for a child before, coming to the nursing department willingly, being satisfied with the department, loving the pediatrics course, loving children, wanting to work in pediatric clinics after graduation and related to child health and diseases, it consists of a total of 10 questions that question the status of having sufficient information.

**Data Assessment:** The data obtained were evaluated by number, percentage, mean, standard deviation, t test in SPSS 21 program.

**Ethical Considerations:** In order to conduct the research, the approval of the Ethics Committee numbered 08-2019/42 was obtained from the Non-Interventional Clinical Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences of Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University and the institution's permission was obtained from the university.

## Results

The mean age of the students participating in the study was  $21,54 \pm 1,44$  (min=20, max=27), 76,9% (n=60) were female and 96,2% (n=75) had siblings, 71,8% (n=56) had previous experience of caring for the child, 65,4% (n=51) willingly came to the nursing department, 71,8% (n=56) were satisfied with the department, 91% (n=71) loved pediatrics, 89,7% (n=70) loved children 56,4% (n=44) did not want to work in pediatric clinics after graduation, 84,6% (n=66) did not have sufficient information about child health and diseases (Table 1).

Table 2 shows the comparison of some characteristics of the students with the mean scores obtained from Liking of Children Scale. According to this; It was found that the mean scores of girls from Liking of Children Scale were higher than boys but the difference was not statistically significant ( $p>0,05$ ). It was found that the mean scores of the children who had the experience of caring from the Liking of Children Scale were higher than those who had no experience of caring for the child and the difference was statistically significant ( $p<0,05$ ). It was determined that the mean scores of the children who love children from the Liking of Children Scale were higher than those who did not, and the difference was statistically significant ( $p>0,05$ ). It was determined that those who wanted to work in pediatric clinics after graduation had higher scores than the Liking of Children Scale and the difference was statistically significant.

## Discussion

In this study conducted to evaluate the nursing students' liking children; It was determined that there was no statistically significant difference between the mean scores of child liking according to gender. However, it was found that the female liking scores of female students were higher than male students (Table 2). Baran and Yilmaz (12) study with nursing students, it was found that the students' love of child status according to their gender was not affected. In

the study conducted by Duyan and Gelbal (11), it was observed that gender did not affect child loving status. Akgün Kostak (9), in study, found that female students' liking levels were higher than male students.

Nursing students who wanted to work in pediatric clinics were found to have a high level of child love. When other studies are examined, there are similar results. , Akgün Kostak (9) stated that nursing and midwifery students, Bektas et al. (8) nursing students and Altay and Kılıçarslan Törüner (13) nursing students have high level of child love.

## Conclusion

As a result; The students' mean scores of Liking of Children are affected by gender, experience of caring for children, love of children, and willingness to work in pediatric clinics after graduation,

It was determined that girls had higher scores than those who had experience of caring for children, those who loved children, and those who wanted to work in pediatric clinics after graduation.

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Conflict of Interest: All authors declare that there is no conflict of interest for this study.

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Table 1. Demographic and some characteristics of students (N = 78)

Demographic characteristics	Number (%)
Gender	
Girl	60 (76,9)
Boy	18 (23,1)
Having siblings	
Yes	75 (96,2)
No	3 (3,8)
Previous care of the child	
Yes	56 (71,8)
No	22 (28,2)
Willing to come to the nursing department	
Yes	51 (65,4)
No	27 (34,6)
Satisfaction with the department	
Yes	56 (71,8)
No	22 (28,2)
The liking of pediatrics lesson	
Yes	71 (91)
No	7 (9)
The liking of children	
Yes	70 (89,7)
No	8(10,3)
Request to work in children's clinics after graduation	
Yes	34 (43,6)
No	44 (56,4)
To have sufficient information about child health and diseases	
Yes	12 (15,4)
No	66 (84,6)

Table 2. Comparison of Some Characteristics of Students with the Mean Score of Liking of Children Scale

Characteristic	Liking of Children Scale Ort±SS	MU	p
Gender			
Girl (60)	83,80±12,82	,670	,480
Boy (18)	81,44±13,92		
Child Care Experience			
Yes (56)	84,60±13,65	1,472	,33
No (22)	79,81±10,81		
Status Love for Children			
Yes (70)	85,98±9,88	6,954	,000
No (8)	59,37±13,38		
Characteristic	Liking of Children Scale Ort±SS	t	p
The Status of Willing to Work in Pediatric Clinics After Graduation			
Yes (34)	89,68±8,35	4,222	,000
No (44)	78,30±13,88		