An exploratory descriptive study of parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting style among foster parents and non-foster parents

Lois M. Moss
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ATTITUDES AND AUTHORITARIAN PARENTING STYLE
AMONG FOSTER PARENTS AND NON-FOSTER PARENTS

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AN EXPLORATORY DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF PARENTAL ATTITUDES AND AUTHORITARIAN PARENTING STYLE AMONG FOSTER PARENTS AND NON-FOSTER PARENTS

Advisor: Professor Hattie M. Mitchell

Thesis dated May, 2001

The overall objective of this study was to explore parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting style among foster parents and non-foster parents. The Index of Parental Attitude Scale was used to measure foster and non-foster parents' attitudes towards their child or foster child.

The authoritarianism scale was used to determine if authoritarian was a style of parenting that is used by foster and non-foster parents.

The treatment included a ten-minute questionnaire on the following topics: parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting style used in rearing a birth child or a foster child. Thirty participants completed the questionnaire, 15 foster parents and 15 non-foster parents. The study showed no significant difference in parenting attitudes used by foster parents and non-foster parents. The study also
showed no significant difference in the use of authoritarian parenting style among foster and non-foster parents.
AN EXPLORATORY DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF PARENTAL ATTITUDES AND AUTHORITARIAN PARENTING STYLE AMONG FOSTER PARENTS AND NON-FOSTER PARENTS

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

BY
LOIS M. MOSS

WHITNEY M. YOUNG, JR., SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

There is a crisis in foster care, according to Roche (2000). There are about 55,000 to 560,000 children in the country's foster care system. It costs at least $7 billion a year or about $13,000 per child for America's foster kids. It is estimated that African American children who make up 50 percent of the foster care population are disproportionately represented in the foster care system. The foster care system is viewed as a universal system that has been grossly mismanaged.

This exploratory descriptive study of parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting style among foster parents and non-foster parents addresses a critical need for social work practitioners. This timely and challenging study yields new information about foster parents and their child-rearing skills.

On any given day, three million children, or more, experience situations and conditions that place them in or near crisis. Social workers have the responsibility of responding to children and their foster parents by using a wide array of service interventions in ways that ameliorate distress.
African American children continue to be disproportionately removed from their families by the child welfare system and placed in alternate care (Billingsley & Giovanni, 1972; Leashore, 1991). Poverty is closely associated with circumstances that result in out-of-home placement. Children from families with incomes below $15,000 were 22 times more likely to experience maltreatment than children from families whose incomes exceeded $30,000. They were 18 times more likely to be sexually abused, almost 56 times more likely to be seriously injured. Children of single parents had an 87 percent greater risk of being harmed by physical neglect and an 80 percent greater risk of suffering serious injury or harm from abuse and neglect (Hollingsworth, 1998). Social workers should find this instructive. One of the most significant circumstances that cause out-of-home placement is poverty.

The concept of family brings with it a sense of belonging, caring, and a sense that propels individuals to step forward and take responsibility for raising a child when the child's parents are unable to do so. Foster parents are on the front line of service delivery and their perceptions are important. This exploratory study of parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting style of foster and non-foster parents will prove helpful for social work practitioners.
Social work practitioners will come to understand the nature of effective foster parenting within the context of parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting. The study will yield relevant information to assist social work practitioners in addressing a gap in social work research.

Growing concern among social work practitioners about the crisis in foster care, and the widespread and chronic shortage of foster parents, require informed empirical knowledge to be used as a guide for satisfactory service delivery. It appears that research on foster parent's motivation to serve as foster parents is sparse.

This study is relevant for social workers because relatively few studies address parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster parents and non-foster parents. A substantial deficit exists in social science literature about parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster parents. It will also be useful because of the exploratory nature of the study, which may prompt more detailed research in this area.

Statement of the Problem

This exploratory descriptive study is concerned with foster parents’ parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting style. Is there a clear distinction between the parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles of foster parents and non-foster parents?
Specifically, social workers need to understand how foster parents view their role as provider of service to children at risk. Do foster parents view their role as natural parents to the foster children in their homes? This research is relevant for social work practitioners to appreciate and understand the implications for practice with foster parents.

Do foster parents have a preference for physical discipline for the children in their care? Are African American foster parents more prone to physical discipline for the children in their care? Social work practitioners often view a commitment to physical punishment as evidence of a lack of appropriate parenting skills (Cox, 1998).

While African American children make up only 15 percent of the population, they comprise approximately 27 percent of the reported cases of abuse (Hampton, 1991). According to Hill (1987), 24 percent of the African American children reported for child abuse end up in foster care.

Foster homes have been in use for almost 1500 years; today they constitute an alternative solution for the exceptional child based on the assumption that they offer physical, emotional and social supports in assuming the likelihood of normal development for the foster children in their care. Despite the benefit of foster homes, they often lack professional appreciation.
The fact that there are few definitive studies in the area of parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles of foster and non-foster parents, and that studies are of uneven quality, means that social workers should take a close look at this important area. There is very little theoretically guided empirical social work on this topic from which to build.

In order for social work practitioners to get a better understanding about these concerns, it is important to understand the foster parents' perspective about what motivates them to serve as foster parents and how they perceive their role. The role of foster parent is a complex one. Van-Hook (1987) found that over 50 percent of foster parents view their role as closer to the natural parents.

Purpose/Significance of the Study

The purpose of this exploratory descriptive study is to examine parental attitudes and authoritarian parental styles among foster and non-foster parents. Despite years of social work research on parenting, we still know little about the perceptions and motivations of foster parents' parenting role. For the time being, social work practitioners need a much firmer empirical foothold in order to access the validity of the relationship between parental attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster and non-foster parents.
Social workers need information on the potential role of parenting attitudes and authoritarian parental styles and their influence on foster children. A final note worth mentioning is simply the shortage of literature attempting to examine this issue.

Thus, the significance of this study lies in the social work practitioners' understanding of parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster parents and non-foster parents. Findings from this research on foster and non-foster parents' parenting styles and authoritarian parenting can be useful in planning strategies and programs to meet the needs of the growing foster care population. The significance of the study lies in comparing parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster and non-foster parents because prior research has clearly indicated that parenting attitudes influence parenting practices and behaviors which in turn influence children's development, and that parenting attitudes are influenced by one's cultural group (Trawick-Smith, 1997).

Social Work practitioners have a responsibility to support foster parents in effective discipline and argue against the use of physical punishment in the homes of foster parents and non-foster parents.
CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

A review of the literature focuses on foster care, foster parenting, parental attitudes, parenting, African American child rearing beliefs, parenting styles and authoritarian parenting as they relate to foster parents and non-foster parents.

Foster Care

According to Chestang and Heyman (1973), what has been long known from experience and practice has now been established through empirical research: The child who remains in foster care for more than eighteen months is likely to remain there indefinitely. If he is older or African American or for other reasons "hard to place", the obstacles for making permanent living arrangements for him are increased.

Social worker practitioners need to understand that extended foster care with its vicissitudes is damaging to children. Research suggests that once placement has occurred -- once there has been a physical separation between parents and their child -- there is serious erosion of the parent-child relationship.
Research on foster care notes that there is a widespread and chronic shortage of foster parents (Chamberlain et al., 1992) as foster care agencies and departments of child protection experience increasing difficulties in both recruiting and retaining foster parents. In addition, the children coming into care are older (Appathurai, 1996), more "experienced" in the system, or coming into foster care later.

Walter (1993) asserts that the shortage of foster homes and the difficulty recruiting and retaining foster parents has been blamed largely on an inadequate system and support. Support to foster parents, in differing forms, has been found to be positively associated with increased retention, quality care, and decreased placement breakdown (Sellich, 1992).

Parenting

Many African American parents report concerns about oppression, racism, and prejudice that their children will face. African American parents in poor urban areas have concerns about school achievement, physical safety, gang involvement, and drug and alcohol usage (Boyd-Franklin, 1989).

Research has shown that communities with the highest maltreatment rates were those with conditions including, poverty, unemployment, female-headed households, racial segregation, abandoned housing, and population loss
(Coulton, et al., 1995). Sampson and Laub (1994) suggest that in the context of poverty, parents may be less effective in controlling their children and may be less affectionate and accepting, and, as a result, youngsters are at greater risk for adjustment problems.

It has been argued that the confusion of African American child rearing techniques with abuse is at least partially responsible for the fact that African American children are grossly over represented in the foster care system across the United States (Pinderhughes, 1991). Does the cultural nature of the African American preference for physical discipline result in unwillingness on the part of African American parents to alter their parenting styles? African American parents who believe in the validity of their own parenting styles, a belief supported by most members of their own community, will not welcome the claims of white social workers that they are abusing their children (Williams, 1990).

While the preference of African American parents for physical discipline is frequently mentioned in the literature, only a handful of studies have examined actual parent child interactions (Siegel, 1994). The preference for physical punishment seems not to have been examined in any detail as a practice in its own right.
Parental Attitudes

What are attitudes? What purpose do they serve in parents' day-to-day activities? Lippa (1994) defined an attitude as a "learned evaluative response, directed at specific objects, which is relatively enduring and influences and motivates our behavior toward these objects."

In social work, one assumes that if one changes the attitudes of clients, it will influence behaviors. This assumes that one can predict behaviors from attitudes. Ross A. Thompson et al. (1999), in a study of 1,000 parents concerning parent attitudes, disciplinary practices and other predictors of competent parenting were analyzed. The research identified three subgroups based on their profiles of parenting attitudes and discipline. The first was high on physical discipline, neglect, verbal abuse, and attitudes that devalue children. They reported childhood abuse, domestic violence, marital difficulty, and problems in managing anger. The second group was high on non-physical, as well as physical discipline, and had a more positive attitude toward children, but also had a profile of psychosocial risk. The third group had low scores on all disciplinary practice, low perceived disciplinary efficacy, and a healthy marital history. The findings confirm theoretical predictions concerning the correlates of parenting problems and raises new questions concerning the
convergence of physical punitive discipline practices with non-punitive discipline practices.

The research revealed that child management difficulties arise in families who are beset by constellations of problems. Parenting attitudes and behaviors and their influence on children have been an area of concern for social work practitioners. However, most of the research studies on minority parenting have examined parenting practices rather than attitudes or beliefs.

Current research findings on African American parents' parenting attitudes: promote respect for the authority figure; emphasizes a work ethic, achievements, and a sense of duty and obligation to kin; and values freedom of expression and a strong religious background (Taylor, et al., 1990).

Parenting Styles

Many researchers have documented the positive effects on children raised by parents who are warm and affectionate and who set consistent, reasonable rules for their children, as opposed to those that behave in a punitive or aloof manner (Baumrind, 1971). Research studies of lower-income and lower educational status families suggest that these parents tend to be more authoritarian in their child-rearing practices, expect more obedience from their children, engage in less verbal exchange, and exhibit less warmth (MacCoby, 1980). Garman-Smith et al. (1996) propose that it might be
useful to fine tune the current family research by
distinguishing parental styles and practices from the more
general family processes. They suggest that parental styles
and practices focus on the parental behaviors used to manage
and socialize the child.

Baumrind recently (1991) summarized her several studies
of parenting styles, through which she has developed a
typology of three major styles. Parenting with an
authoritarian parenting style typically relies on coercive
techniques to gain children's compliance, and their power is
based on position in the family. Parents with laissez-faire
style provide little direction or guidance and may be quite
inconsistent in their compliance requests. The
authoritative parenting style is characterized by use of
inductive disciplinary techniques.

Chao (1994) noted that research that aligns parenting
styles to child and adolescent competence has traditionally
examined the effects of mothers' parenting styles on child
outcomes.

Authoritarian Style Parenting

Authoritarian parenting includes the use of physical
punishment. It enforces or favors strict obedience to
authority. Baumrind (1969) has identified authoritarian
parenting as a high controlling and low responsive pattern.

Bartz and Levine (1978) conducted a study in which they
found that African-American parents believe in the value of
strictness, and expect early assumption of responsibility by the child for his or her own bodily functions and personal feelings. Parents expect the child's time will be used wisely and not wasted, and encourage the child's involvement in decision making. A stricter parenting style, across social class lines, is thought necessary to develop effective coping abilities in the face of the harsh realities of racism and discrimination (Bell-Scott & McKenry, 1986; Hammer & Turner, 1990; Taylor, et al., 1990).

Major characteristics of African American families are reflected in parenting and are strongly upheld. These include respect for authority figures; a strong work ethic and emphasis on achievement; a balance between the rights of individuals and the needs and requirements of the group; a sense of duty or obligation to kin; and the notion that good deeds will be reciprocated in either the short- or the long-term. The value of a variety of responses, abilities, and talents; expression of emotions by both males and females and a strong religious orientation are values that are strong characteristics of the African American family (Hill, 1972; Rashid, 1985).

Authoritarian parenting, in Bratz & Levine, is portrayed as being positive. Other researchers view authoritarian parenting as very punitive and developmentally damaging to children.
Theoretical Framework

Ecological and family systems theory provide a framework for considering the boundaries of foster and non-foster parents. The boundaries of a foster family must be open to constant monitoring by the agency and the children's biological family. The relationship and other family systems are open to criticism. Other family members may play a part in caring for the child. The family and all of its subsystems are looked upon as a whole when families make the decision to become foster parents.

The ecological theory should also be used in the case of the child being placed into care. The child's needs should be considered when placing the child in foster care; the strengths and needs of the child, and what that child will need in order to be successful in care. As well, how the child will be affected by an out-of-home placement is an important consideration.

Another family theory to be considered is theory of Life Span Development and Erikson's stages of development. There are questions regarding the developmental stage of the child being placed in care. Depending on the abuse the child suffered, he or she may not be developmentally delayed and may be stuck in a stage. Many times children in placement are at the trust v. mistrust stage. Also, foster parents may be relating to life-cycle issues where the foster parents may be older than the birth parents. Many
foster families may decide to become foster parents once their birth children have left home and they want a younger child to fill a void in their lives.

It is important for the Social Work practitioner to understand separation, loss, grieving and attachment issues for children placed in care. Separation affects the child, foster family and the birth family.

Statement of the Hypothesis

There will be a significant statistical difference between parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster parents and non-foster parents.
CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study is an exploratory descriptive design focusing on parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting styles among foster and non-foster parents. A descriptive questionnaire design was utilized to predict that there is a significant difference in the attitudes and parenting style used by foster parents.

The questionnaire contained 38 questions. The first 7 questions contained demographic information. The next 19 questions contained a parenting attitude scale adapted from Walter W. Hudson’s Index of parental attitude scale. The remaining 12 questions assessed authoritarian personality of the parents under study. The authoritarianism personality scale, adapted from Patricia Heaven, was used. The questions were arranged to be answered by checking various categories that applied to the participant.

Sampling

The non-probability sampling is convenient, cost- and time-effective. The sample consisted of 15 foster parents and 15 non-foster parents. The majority of the respondents
were African Americans; their ages ranged from 31 to 62 years. The sample consisted of both males and females with an education of high school or higher at Creative Community Services who were willing to respond to the research questions.

Setting

The population sample were foster and non-foster parents at Creative Community Services. The participants under study lived in the metropolitan Atlanta area during the period of November 1, 2000 through January 31, 2001. The agency is located in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Data Collection Procedure

Initial contact was made with the Executive Director of Creative Community Services, a private non-profit foster care placement agency, expressing interest in using foster parents and non-foster parents for the purpose of this research. A sample questionnaire was forwarded to the director at the time of contact ensuring confidentiality and anonymity of all participants. The questionnaire contained 38 questions. The first seven questions contained demographic information. Questions 8-27 contained a parenting attitude scale adapted from Walter W. Hudson’s Index of Parental Attitude. The remaining 12 questions assessed authoritarian personality of the parents under study. The Authoritarianism Personality Scale, adapted from
Patricia Heaven, was used. The questions and statements were arranged to be answered by checking various categories that applied to the individual participants. A letter requesting permission to administer the questionnaire was also forwarded upon initial contact with the director. Upon contact with the participants, instructions for completing the questionnaire were given. A brief statement was added to the questionnaire ensuring confidentiality. The author of the study distributed the questionnaire and waited for the participants to complete them. All data were collected during the month of January 2001.

Data Analysis

Data collected were coded on the Statistical SPSS program. Statistical data analysis employed included descriptive statistics, frequency distribution, percentages and t-test.
CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

This chapter describes the findings of the study and test for the significance of the variables put forth in the hypothesis of the study. The findings are organized into three parts: frequency of demographic, analysis of the hypothesis under study, and the frequency of responses.

Demographic Data

This section provided a profile of the study participants. The demographic variables analyzed were race, age, marital status, religion, annual income and education.

Table 1
Race Classification (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19
Table 1 is a profile of 15 foster parents and 15 non-foster parents. As shown in table 1, 12 participants or 80.0 percent were non-foster parents and 10 participants or 66.7 percent were foster parents, all of whom were African Americans. Four participants or 24.7 percent were white; 2 participants or 13.3 percent were non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent was foster parents of another race; 1 participant or 6.7 percent was non-foster parents who were Hispanic.
### Table 2

**Age Level of Participants (N=30)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>39</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>42</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL:** 15 15 30 100.0 100.0 100.0
As shown in table 2, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 31; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was age 32; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 34; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents were age 35; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 37; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 38; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 39; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents were age 40; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents were age 42; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 43; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was age 44; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents were age 45; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents were age 46; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents were age 50; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents were age 53; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was age 54; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was age 55; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was age 56; and 1
participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was age 62.

Table 3

**Gender Classification (N=30)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 3, 13 participants or 86.7 percent of the non-foster parents were female and 11 participants or 73.4 percent of the foster parents were female; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents were male and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents were male.
### Table 4

**Marital Classification (N=30)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 4, 7 participants or 46.7 percent of non-foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents were married; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents were single; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents were divorced; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents was separated. Two participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents were widowed.
Table 5
Religion Classification (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>FP</th>
<th>NFP</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>FP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As indicated in table 5, 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents were Baptist; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents were Methodist; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents were Catholic; 9 participants or 60.0 percent of the foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents were of some other religion.
Table 6

Income Classification (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Income</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 19,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000-29,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,000-39,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40,000-49,000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,000-59,000</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 60,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 6, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents had incomes less than 19,000; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and foster parents had income of 30,000-39,000; 8 participants or 53.4 percent of the foster parents and 6 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents had income of 40,000-49,000; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents had income of 50,000-59,000; 1 participant or 6.6 percent of the foster parent and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents had incomes above 60,000.
Table 7

**Education Classification (N=30)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad School</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 7, 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents and 6 participants or 40 percent of the non-foster parents were high school graduates; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parents completed vocational school; 4 participants or 26.6 percent of the foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents completed college; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents was attending graduate school.
Parental Attitudes

Table 8

My child/foster child gets on my nerves? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 15 15 30 100.0 100.0 100.0

As shown in table 8, 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent said their child never got on their nerves; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 8 participants or 53.4 percent of the foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents responded with most time.
Table 9
I get along well with my foster child/child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 9, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parent said they never get along with their child/foster child; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents responded with rarely; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents said sometimes; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said most time; 7 participants or 46.6 percent of the foster parents and 10 participants or 66.7 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 10
I am very patient with my child/foster child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 10, 2 participants or 13.0 percent of the foster parents responded that they never were patient with their foster child/child; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said rarely; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said sometime; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 9 participants or 60.0 percent of the foster parents and 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 11  
I like being with my child/foster child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>56.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 11, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they never liked being with their child/foster child; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said they liked being with their child/foster child sometime; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents said most of the time; 8 participants or 53.4 percent of the foster parents and 9 participants or 60 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 12

I feel very angry toward my child/foster child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 12, 9 participants or 60.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents said they never felt angry toward their child/foster child; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time.
Table 13
I wish my child/foster child was more like others I know? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 13, 11 participants or 73.4 percent of the non-foster parents and 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents said they never wished their child/foster child was more like others they know; 3 participants or 30 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 12.2 percent of the non-foster parents said rarely; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parent said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster and non-foster said most time.
As shown in table 14, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said that they never felt their foster child/child was a real joy to them; 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 11 participants or 73.4 percent of the foster parents and 5 participants or 33.4 percent of the non-foster parents said they felt their foster child/child was a real joy to them all the time.
Table 15

I feel ashamed of my child/foster child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 15, 13 participants or 86.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 10 participants or 66.7 percent of the foster parents said they never felt ashamed of their child/foster child; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said most time; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they feel ashamed of their child/foster child all the time.
Table 16

I feel that the future looks bright for me as a foster parent/parent? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 16, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they never felt the future looked bright for them as a foster parent/parent; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said sometime; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parents said most time; 10 participants or 66.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 17
I feel that I can trust my child/foster child? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 17, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parent said they never feel that they can trust their child/foster child; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said sometime; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 8 participants or 53.4 percent of the non-foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 18

I feel that my relationship with my child/foster child is good? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 18, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said they rarely felt that their relationship with their child/foster child is good; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents said most time; 10 participants or 66.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 19

I feel that I can manage behaviors and disagreements with my child/foster child very well?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing System</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 19, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said that they can never manage behaviors and disagreements with their child/foster child; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said most time; 12 participants or 80 percent of the non-foster parents and 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 20

I can accept child/foster child who has a seizure disorder that is controlled by medication?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>53.4</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 20, 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they can never accept a child who has a seizure disorder that is controlled by medication; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parent and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 30 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 8 participants or 53.4
percent of the non-foster parents and 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster parents said all the time.

Table 21
I can accept a child/foster child who is in special education (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 21, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said they could never accept a child/foster child who is in special education; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 10 participants or 66.7 percent of
the non-foster parents and 9 participants or 60 percent of the foster parents said all the time.

Table 22.
I can accept a child/foster child who has been emotionally damaged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 22, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said they can never accept a child/foster child who has been emotionally damaged; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 3 participants or 20 percent of the non-foster parents said sometime; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said most time; 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the non-foster
parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents said all the time.

Table 23

I can accept a child/foster child who is hyperactive and requires medication?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 23, 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said they can never accept a child/foster child who is hyperactive and requires medication; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parent said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 6 participants or 40 percent of the non-foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster
parents said most time; 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said all the time.

Table 24

*I can accept a child/foster child who has a schizophrenic parent? (N=30)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP NFP Total</td>
<td>FP NFP Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2 2 4</td>
<td>13.3 13.3 13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>3 1 4</td>
<td>20.0 6.7 13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2 2 4</td>
<td>13.3 13.3 13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2 4 6</td>
<td>13.3 26.7 20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>6 6 12</td>
<td>40.0 40.0 40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15 15 30</td>
<td>100.0 100.0 100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 24, 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said they could never accept a child/foster child who has a schizophrenic parent; 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said rarely; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and foster parents said sometime; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most
time; 6 participants or 40 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said all the time.

Table 25
I can accept a child/foster child who is a sickle cell carrier? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 25, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said they can never accept a child/foster child who is a sickle cell carrier; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time; 12 participants or 80 percent of the foster parents and 11 participants or 73.4 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP  NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1   0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1   0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>0   0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1   4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>12  11</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 15  15  30  100.0  100.0  100.0

As shown in table 26, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said they can never accept a child/foster child who stutters; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parent said most time; 12 participants or 80 percent of the foster parents and 11 or 73.4 percent foster parents said all the time.
Authoritarian Parenting

Table 27

Does the idea of being a leader attract you? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in Table 27, 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said that the idea of being a leader has never attracted them; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and foster parents said most time; 11 participants or 73.4 percent of the non-foster parents and 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 28
Do you think you would make a good officer in the army?  
(N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP  NFP</td>
<td>Total F%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>3  1  4</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>2  0  2</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>5  4  9</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1  4  5</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>4  6  10</td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15 15 30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 28, 3 participants or 20 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they have never thought they would make a good officer in the army; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents said sometime; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time; 6 participant or 40 percent of the non-foster and 4
participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.

Table 29
Do you tend to boss people around? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 29, 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.0 percent of the foster parents said they never tend to boss people around; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 9 participants or 60.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of
the non-foster parents said most time; 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents said all the time.

Table 30

Do you dislike having to tell others what to do? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 30, 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents said they never dislike having to tell others what to do; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 6 participants or 40.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said most time;
2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said all the time.

Table 31

Would you rather take orders than give them? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>40.0</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 31, 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said they would never rather take orders than give them; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 6 participants or 40.0 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said most time; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster and 3 participants or 30.0 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 32
Do you tend to be the one who makes the decisions at home? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL: 15 15 30 100.0 100.0 100.0

As shown in table 32, 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parent said they rarely tend to be the one who makes the decisions at home; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said most time; 10 participants or 66.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 9 participants or 60.0 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 33
Would it upset you a lot to see a child or animal suffer? 
(N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 33, 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said it would never upset them to see a child or animal suffer; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parent said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time; 13 participants or 86.7 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 34

Do you tend to dominate the conversation? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 34, 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parent and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said they never tend to dominate the conversation; 5 participant or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said rarely; 6 participants or 40.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said most time; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said all the time.
Table 35

I often find myself disagreeing with people? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 35, 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the non-foster parents and 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents said they never find themselves disagreeing with people; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said rarely; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents said sometime; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said most time.
Table 36

When people yell at me I yell back? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 36, 8 participation or 53.4 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said they never yell back when someone yells at them; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said rarely; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the non-foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the foster parents said sometimes; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time.
Table 37

Do you think you would make a poor military leader? (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in Table 37, 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said they never thought they would make a poor military leader; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents and non-foster parents said rarely; 5 participants or 33.3 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time; 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents and 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the non-foster parents said all the time.
Table 38

If you are told to take charge of a situation, does this make you feel uncomfortable?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FP</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sometime</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Time</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in table 38, 10 participants or 66.6 percent of the non-foster parents and 7 participants or 46.7 percent of the foster parents said they never feel uncomfortable if told to take charge of a situation; 4 participants or 26.7 percent of the foster parents and 2 participants or 13.3 percent of the non-foster parents said rarely; 3 participants or 20.0 percent of the foster and non-foster parents said sometime; 1 participant or 6.7 percent of the foster parents said most time.
Table 39
T-Test Result of Parenting Attitude.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>DF</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foster Parent</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>-.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Foster Parent</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>.91</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The parenting attitude of foster and non-foster parents revealed that the foster parents mean score was 4.1, standard deviation is 1.5. The non-foster parents mean score was 4.3, standard deviation was .91 and a t-value of .31 for both foster and non-foster parents. Results revealed that both foster and non-foster parents had similar mean scores with no significant statistical differences between the two groups. DF=26

Table 40
T-Test Result of Authoritarian Parenting (N=30)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>DF</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foster Parent</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>.83</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>-.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Foster Parent</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The results of authoritarian parenting for foster and non-foster parents revealed that the foster parents mean score was 2.6, standard deviation is .83; the non-foster mean score was 1.6 and a t-value of .59 for both. The test revealed that both foster and non-foster parents had similar mean scores with no statistical difference between the two groups. DF=28
CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the demographic and personal profile of the participants provided an understanding that the majority of parents had an income of at least $30,000 with a high school education or higher. Previous studies indicated that the lower educational levels and increased emotional stress of lower-income status persons that characterize many ethnic families contribute to decreased capacity of parents to provide supportive, sensitive and involved parenting.

Limitations of the Study

The major limitation of the study was the small population sample of participants. There are several larger agencies of foster parents in the metropolitan area and the sample population of 30 parents was not a representation of the population of America's foster parents or parents. Another limitation of the study was that of the 30 participants in the study, one participant did not respond to all of the questions regarding Parenting Attitudes, so that the information was not included.
Suggested Research Directions

Research in the area of parenting attitudes and parenting styles by foster parents is limited. The number of children who require out-of-home care is increasing and, as social workers, it is important that there be additional research in this area, as well as other information regarding the parents who care for these children.
CHAPTER SIX

IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

Social workers need to be cognizant of the cultural differences in parenting, the major factors that contribute to the lack of involvement in rearing children, and the impact of economic and cultural differences in parenting among all families. The ecological perspective enables social work practitioners to access the source of the problems and focus on interventions geared for particular families. Social workers need to develop interventions that work and to eliminate grouping families and individuals together. Resources that meet the needs of one family do not necessarily meet the needs of all families. Social workers must develop strategies for early interventions for those low socio-economic families who are at risk and are unable to provide in-home guidance. Social workers must offer parenting skills that nurture and encourage children’s development. The first six stages of a child’s development are essential for normal and healthy development. Social workers have a duty to learn as much about parenting attitudes and parenting styles for both foster and non-foster parents for children who are being placed out.
of their birth homes and for those children whose birth homes are being preserved.
APPENDIX A

LETTER REQUESTING PARTICIPATION

Sally L. Buchanan-Director
Creative Community Services, Inc.
1543 Lilburn- Stone Mountain Road
Stone Mountain, Ga. 30087

Dear Ms Buchanan:

I am a Social Work student in the MSW Program at Clark Atlanta University. I am collecting data for my thesis regarding parenting attitudes and authoritarian parenting style among foster and non-foster parents. The research is being conducted under the supervision of Professor Hattie Mitchell, an Assistant Professor at the University.

I would like parents from your agency to participate in the study, by completing a four-page survey questionnaire. The questionnaire should take only ten minutes to complete. There is no need for participants to indicate their name or address since all information is confidential. It will take only ten minutes of the participant’s time to complete the questionnaire.

I will be preparing a written report of the findings of the study and will be happy to send you a copy if you are interested.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this project.

Sincerely,

Lois Moss
Masters of Social Work Student

Permission Granted: ✓
APPENDIX B
QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions:
This questionnaire is designed to measure Parental Attitudes and Authoritarian Parenting Style among foster parents and non-foster parents. It is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers. The purpose of the study is to learn more about parenting attitudes and styles among foster and non-foster parents. The findings will be used in an analysis for my thesis. The questionnaire will only take about ten minutes to complete.

Because we want all responses to remain confidential, please do not put your name on the questionnaire answer sheet. Choose only one answer for each question. Please respond to all questions. Again, thank you for your time and cooperation.

Demographic Information
Please check the most appropriate answer or fill in the blank.

1. My Racial category is: 1) African American 2) White 3) Hispanic 4) Other
2. My age is:
3. My gender is: 1) Male 2) Female
5. My religion is: 1) Baptist 2) Methodist 3) Catholic 4) Other
6. My annual income is approximately: a) less than 19,000 2) 20,000-29,000 3) 30,000-39,000 4) 40,000-49,000 5) 50,000-59,000 6) above 60,000
7. Highest Education: 1) High School Graduate 2) Vocational School 3) College Graduate 4) Attending Graduate School
Parenting Attitudes

Answer each item as carefully and as accurately as you can by placing a number beside each as follows:

1 = Never
2 = Rarely
3 = Sometime
4 = Most time
5 = All the time

*FP____ (Foster Parent)  *NFP____ (Non-FosterParent)

8. My child/foster child gets on my nerves.
9. I get along well with my child/foster child.
10. I am very patient with my child/foster child.
11. I like being with my child/foster child.
12. I feel very angry toward my child/foster child.
13. I wish my child/foster child was more like others I know.
14. My child/foster child is a real joy to me.
15. I feel ashamed of my child/foster child.
16. I feel that the future looks bright for me as a foster parent/parent.
17. I feel that I can trust my foster child/foster child.
18. I feel that my relationship with my child/foster child is good.
19. I feel that my child/foster child and I get along very well together.
20. I can accept a child/foster child who has a seizure disorder that is controlled by medication.
21. I can accept a child/foster child who is in special education.
22. I can accept a child/foster child who has been emotionally damaged.
23. I can accept a child/foster child who is hyperactive and requires medication.
APPENDIX B

(Continued)

__24. I can accept a child/foster child who has a schizophrenic parent.

__25. I can accept a child/foster child who is a sickle cell carrier.

__26. I can accept a child/foster child who stutters.

**Authoritarian Parenting Style**

Answer each item as carefully and accurately as you can by placing a number beside each as follows:

1 = Never
2 = Rarely
3 = Sometime
4 = Most time
5 = All the time

FP_____ (Foster parent) NFP_____ (Non-Foster Parent)

__27. Does the idea of being a leader attract you?

__28. Do you think you would make a good officer in the army?

__29. Do you tend to boss people around?

__30. Do you dislike having to tell others what to do?

__31. Would you rather take orders than give them?

__32. Do you tend to be the one who makes the decisions at home?

__33. Would it upset you a lot to see a child or animal suffer?

__34. Do you tend to dominate the conversation?

__35. I often find myself disagreeing with people.

__36. When people yell at me I yell back.

__37. Do you think you would make a poor military leader?

__38. If you are told to take charge of a situation, does this make you feel uncomfortable?

*F.P.- Foster parent
*Non F.P.- Non- Foster Parent

Adapted from Patricia Heaven Authoritarianism Personality Scale of Measurement 1985.
Adapted from Walter W. Hudson Index of Parental Attitudes Scale 1982.
Adapted from Carol Possin Comprehensive Training Program in adoption 1977.
REFERENCES


Time N.Y, Nov. 13, 74.


