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ABSTRACT

This study intended to draw a profile of social behaviors among maladjusted children at the O.B. Montessori Learning Center, San Juan, Metro Manila. In addition, the study specifically intended to describe their social behaviors as seen through their play behaviors. This study also identified factors which may be related to the maladjustment of the children, such as attitudes of significant others, home environment, and school environment. These were done to support and further explain previous findings.

This is a descriptive study using the case study method to describe the social behaviors of three maladjusted children. Subjects were chosen through purposive sampling which consisted of three maladjusted children (two males and one female) from O.B. Montessori Learning Center. The ages of the subjects ranged from six to ten years old.

The procedures for data gathering were done over a period of four weeks and included observations, interviews with parents, a caretaker, guidance counsellors, teachers and examination of personal files provided by the school.

Observations results, after data gathering, show that the three maladjusted children were capable of exhibiting positive behaviors such as using rules of courtesy, and volunteering to do things and run errands for teachers. Findings from observations also show that the children would either shout at friends, say bad words when irritated, pout and stamp their foot when teased or would very often stay away from the group and play alone. Results from interviews indicate that the difficulties the children experience lay mostly in cooperating with others, following rules and regulations, finishing work on time, and being friendly and responsive. Some factors related to the children's maladjustment include inconsistent discipline and control and overprotectiveness. Finally, interviews conducted confirmed that the maladjustment of a child is related to certain family structures.

