MATERNAL SOCIAL NETWORKS OF KOREAN FAMILIES WITH PRESCHOOL CHILDREN. Rhee U.H.* & Lee M.R. Department of Child & Family Studies, Yonsei University, Seoul 120–749, Korea.

The purpose of this study was to describe the characteristics of maternal social networks and to examine differences in network characteristics depending on demographic variables. One hundred and thirty-three mothers of preschool children responded to a questionnaire, which was designed to collect social network characteristics. Data were analyzed by Pearson r and one-way ANOVA with the Scheffe test.

Korean mothers reported an average of 6.5 persons in their networks, including primarily with her own mother, the husband, mother-in-law, and sisters. While support was provided mainly by her husband and her own family members, the kinds of support varied depending on the person in the network. It was also found that support functions were different in terms of maternal employment status, sex of the child, and the child's previous experience in day care or early childhood education settings.