

ABSTRACT

Mothers with dome syndrome children often face obstacles in accepting the child's condition. An Efforts to find information are carried out to assist the adaptation process both from the closest environment and institutions such as schools. This research was conducted to get the pattern of information seeking so that it can help mothers retarded children to search for information from appropriate sources. This study uses the point of view of symbolic interactionism to capture the reasons for seeking information and information seeking theory as a tool to sharpen the analysis. This qualitative research uses a case study method that prioritizes in-depth interview techniques and direct observations in the field. The purposive sampling technique refers to the criteria of the informants and takes data from ten informants. The results showed that the process of information seeking that mothers of mentally retarded children did at the stage before sending their children to special school relied more on independent information seeking which tended to seek information from many sources with different levels of credibility. At the stage after sending their children to special school, parents turned out to rely entirely on the special school. Where it turns out that special school can be the main and credible source of information for mothers with mentally retarded children.

Keywords: *Information-seeking, Symbolic interactionism, Mental retardation*