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Effect of Support during Childbirth on Maternal and Fetal Outcome

Thesis

*Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the
Doctoral Degree in Obstetric and Gynecologic Nursing*

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2005

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Praise to **ALLAH**, the Merciful, the Compassionate for all the countless gifts I have been offered. Of these gifts, are those assigned to give precious hands that enabled me to fulfill this study. They deserve much more than being cordially acknowledged.

Words are never enough to convey my sincere gratitude towards a great professor, **Dr. Hany Abdel Aleem**, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, faculty of Medicine, Assiut University. To him, I express my great indebtedness for his generously offered sincere guidance, constructive critics, meticulous help, effective impetus and indispensable support. The accomplishment of this work could have never reached its destination without his supervision.

I am absolutely lucky to be supervised and directed by **Dr. Shadia Abd- El Kader Hassan**, professor of Maternal and Newborn nursing, Faculty of Nursing, Cairo University, who kindly offered her remarkable experience, guidance, encouragement, meticulous revision of every detail for precise completion of this study.

I express my indebtedness to **Dr Sahar Nagieb Mohamed**, Assistant professor of obstetric of gynecological

nursing, faculty of Nursing, Assiut University, for her magnificent assistance who has triggered off and stimulated my enthusiasm since the beginning of this study, and also for her tolerant understanding and support at all times.

Sincere appreciation and thanks are also due to Dr. **Nabila Taha**, Lecturer of obstetrical and gynecological nursing, faculty of Nursing, Assiut university, for her supervision, faithful guidance, generous advice, and continuous encouragement throughout this work.

Last but not least, I acknowledge and appreciate all doctors, nurses and all workers in obstetrics labor ward at Assiut university Hospital for helping me in the completion of this study. Very special thanks are addressed to every woman who has agreed to participate in this work.

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Labor is considered a stressful time for every mother in labor. Women during labor are exposed to series of labor discomforts such as pain, fatigue, nausea, hunger, and discomfort position. Furthermore, psychological variables as fear and anxiety can influence the degree of pain experienced, and also women's ability to cope with it (*May and Elton, 1998*). Nurses, midwives, and physicians with the potential benefits of improved labor progress, reduction in use of the harmful medications effects, patient satisfaction, and lower costs can initiate many simple, effective, low cost methods to relieve labor pain, and thus diminishing the painful stimulus at the source, providing alternate stimuli to inhibit pain awareness, and reducing the woman's negative reaction to the pain (*Simkin, 1995*). Nursing interventions during labor aim to provide suitable comfort measures, which help to relieve discomfort during labor.

Current forms of analgesia often have significant side effects for women in labor. Bathing in warm water during labor has been reported to increase a woman's comfort level and