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| Helsingin yliopisto - Helsingfors universitet - University of Helsinki ID 2005-144 |                                      |   |            |
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| Työn nimi-Arbetets titel-Title<br>African traditional medicine and we              | estern medicine and infant healtl    | ı in Ghana  |            |
| Oppiaine-Läroämne-Subject<br>Demography  |                                      |   |            |
| Työn laji-Arbetets art-Level<br>Master's thesis                                    | Aika-Datum-Month and year 2005-11-21 | Sivumäärä-Sidantal-Number of pages<br>91              |            |
| TEN A LINE COLLAND   |                                      |   |            |

Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract

This thesis studies and analyses the effects of the interplay between African Traditional Medicine land Western Medicine on infant health and attempts to restore their health in the Central region of Ghana. The core of the study was to detect parents actions when their infants fell sick as well as measure the socio-economic conditions with infants health. The primary aim however, is to look for parents/social meaning of illness, methods and problems of medication in Ghana and their 1significance in reducing infant mortality.

The study is based in Cape Coast, the ancient capital of Ghana, it is descriptive, exploratory and the japproach of my research is qualitative methodology and the principal research method was; unstructured and semi-structured interviews with 50 respondents. Also the materials of the thesis contain secondary sources such as published data from surveys.

The study shows that the first people to act with regard to an attempt to restore a child's health may be the parents. The study further shows that people make sense of illness through known; relationships such as, family members, care providers, and known cultural categories such as wichcraft/oracles, and biomedical health care promotions.

The study provides evidence to conclude that there are two medical systems in Ghana, African !traditional medicine and Western medicine and the two systems should be allowed to work side by side.

Avainsanat-Nyckelord-Keywords

infant mortality

Ghana

infanticide

socialisation

mortality

kuolleisuus - lapsikuolleisuus - Ghana

lapset - terveys - Ghana

kansanlääkintä - Afrikka - Ghana

terveydenhuolto - Ghana

lapsenmurha

sosialisaatio

Säilytyspaikka-Förvaringsställe-Where deposited

Muita tietoja-Övriga uppgifter-Additional information