

WOMEN'S HEALTH

My interest in women's health extended directly from my two dissertations in Fiji. The programs in women's health that followed in subsequent years, were the patterns and context of breast feeding and adolescent response to menarche.

Adolescents Response to Menarche

This was a mixed methods research program commencing with a qualitative study of the responses of 7th and 8th grade girls. 135 girls completed a semi-structured questionnaire about their feelings and attitudes towards menarche.

Publications

- Morse, J. M., & Doan, H. Mackinnon. (1987). Adolescents' response to menarche. *Journal of School Health*, 57(9), 385-389.
- Doan, H., & Morse, J. M. (1985). *Every girl: Learning about menstruation*. Monograph for premenstrual adolescents. Toronto: General Publishing. *French translation (1987): La menstruation: Je veux savoir*. Montreal: L'es Editions La Presse. *Malaysian edition (1987) Every girl*. Selanger, Malaysia: Pelanduk.

These results were so interesting that we used these data to create a Likert scale. We then administered it to 860 pre- and 1013 post menarcheal girls from 49 randomly selected schools in Canada. These results provided us with normative distribution of menstrual symptoms and attitudes towards menarche. The reliability and validity data are available in Morse & Kieren (1993). This scale is attached in the next file, and may be downloaded for printing. Note that there are two versions, one for girls who have not yet had a period, and one for girls who have started their periods.

Publications

- Morse, J. M., Kieren, D., & Bottorff, J. L. (1993). The Adolescent Menstrual Attitude Questionnaire, I: Scale Construction. *Health Care for Women International*, 14, 39-62f.
- Morse, J. M., & Kieren, D. (1993). The Adolescent Menstrual Attitude Questionnaire, Part II: Normative Scores. *Health Care for Women International*, 14, 63-76
- Kieren, D. K., & Morse, J. M. (1995). Developmental factors and pre- and post-menarcheal menstrual attitudes. *Canadian Home Economics Journal*, 45(2), 61-67.
- Kieren, D., & Morse, J. M. (1992). Preparation factors and menstrual attitudes of pre- and postmenarcheal girls. *Journal of Sex Education and Therapy*, 18, 155-174.
- Donahue, P., Morse, J. M., Kieren, D., & Bottorff, J. L. (1990). 'I just pretend it's completely normal': Strategies for surviving data collection when researching menarche. *Applied Nursing Research*, 39, 39-43.
