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Martial Adjustment Among Nontraditional Graduate Students

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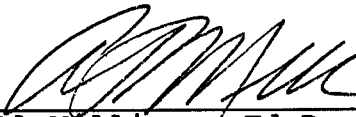
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MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AMONG NONTRADITIONAL
GRADUATE STUDENTS

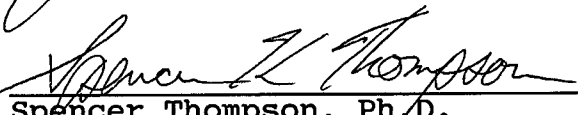
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MARITAL ADJUSTMENT AMONG NONTRADITIONAL
GRADUATE STUDENTS

BY

VIRGINIA SIEGFRIED, B.A.

THESIS

Presented to the Graduate Faculty of Education

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

in Partial Fulfillment

of Requirements

for the Degree of

MASTER OF ARTS

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

May 1995

ABSTRACT

This study used a pretest-posttest design to examine the marital adjustment of 108 nontraditional graduate students as compared with 42 adults in the general population. Participants' scores on the Dyadic Adjustment Scale showed no significant differences between the two groups, contrary to the study hypothesis. It was also hypothesized that the marital adjustment of graduate students would be better at the beginning of the semester term rather than at the end of the term, and that male graduate students would have a higher level of marital adjustment than female graduate students. Neither of these hypotheses were supported by the data. Overall, the results indicated that students whose spouses supported their academic commitments had a higher level of marital adjustment than students whose spouses did not support their efforts. Participants who had children living at home had lower levels of marital adjustment than participants who did not have children at home.