

A STUDY ON HOME MODIFICATIONS OF ELDERLY HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT FAMILIES. Kwon O.J. Department of Consumer Science and Housing, Kon-Kuk University, 93-1 Mojin-dong, GwangJin-Gu, Seoul, Korea.

The purposes of this study were : 1) to identify the present incidence and recognition of future need in home modifications; 2) to determine the variables which affect the present incidence and recognition of future need in home modifications; 3) to identify the influence of present incidence and recognition of future need in home modifications on housing satisfaction. The sample included 101 respondents over age 65 who consisted of elderly households without families. The statistical techniques used to analyze the data were t-test, one-way ANOVA, and multiple regression.

The following conclusions were made in the study: 1) In present, the respondents' housings were minimally suitable for aging-in place, already possessing several features and appliances that could accommodate normal aging-related changes. Also the majority of the home modifications were suitable for not only older people but also other people; 2) Changes made by respondents tended to be nonstructural or were relatively inexpensive to modify; 3) Many types of home modifications made by the respondents showed low incidence but most of them were needed more in the future; 4) Daily staying hours in present housing and educational level were the major variables that affect current home modifications and recognition of future need in home modifications. 5) The present incidence and recognition of future need in home modifications could not influence on housing respondents' satisfaction.

This study was only the beginning step in researching the home modifications for the elderly households. The variables that cause home modifications or intervening variables to make home modifications unnecessary were the examples to be identified in further researches.