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FAMILY DYNAMICS IN GREEK ROMA

M. Mentis<sup>1</sup>, S. Kotrotsiou<sup>2</sup>, T. Paralikas<sup>2</sup>, A. Paschou<sup>3</sup>, S. Mantzoukas<sup>3</sup>, S. Bakouras<sup>2</sup>, E. Kotrotsiou<sup>2</sup>, M. Gouva<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Postgraduate Program "Primary Health Care", Medical School - University of Thessaly, <sup>2</sup>Department of Nursing, Higher Technological Educational Institution of Larissa, Larisa, <sup>3</sup>School of Health, Higher Technological Educational Institution of Epirus, Ioannina, Greece Introduction: Roma think highly of the family. Its function is influenced by Roma's distinguished cultural system and their system of values.

Aim: The objective of the present study was to investigate the relationship between family relationships, personal growth, family system maintenance and sociodemographic factors in Roma.

Materials and methods: 145 individuals (105 male and 89 female), residents of the general area of Greece, participated in the present study. The measures used were: a) The Family Environment Scale (Form R-FES) and b) A questionnaire concerning socio-demographic information.

Results: The marital status correlated with the Cohesion in Roma family (r.=.225, P=.002). Expressiveness (r.=.188, P=.009), Conflict (r.=-.178, P=.013), Achievement Orientation, Intellectual - Cultural Orientation (r.=.184, P=.010),, Family Organization (r.=.267, P=.000), Family Control (r.=-.178, P=.013), and Family Incongruence (r.=.200, P=.005). The sex correlated with the Achievement Orientation (r.=-.253, P=.000), Moral-Religious Emphasis (r.=-.275, P=.000), Family Organization (r.=-.172, P=.016), Family Control (r.=-.280, P=.000), and Family Incongruence (r.=-.182, P=.011). The work situation correlated with the Cohesion (r.=-.207, P=.004), Achievement Orientation (r.=-.173, P=.016), Intellectual - Cultural Orientation (r.=-.177, P=.014), Family Organization (r.=-.220, P=.002), Family Control (r.=-.180, P=.012), and Family Incongruence (r.=-.205, P=.004).. The state of residence correlated with Conflict (r.=-.213, P=.003), Independence (r.=.213, P=.003), Achievement Orientation (r.=.202, P=.005), and Moral-Religious Emphasis (r.=.191, P=.008). Conclusions: In Greek Roma the different Relationship Dimensions and the Personal Growth Dimensions are influenced by certain demographic factors like the marital status, the work situation, the state of their residence (existence of bathroom, electricity) and also the possession of legal documents (ID).