

## **The Impact of Type of Residence on the Perception of Quality of Life of People with Mental Retardation**

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The article presents findings of a study that examined the relationship between the perception of quality of life of adults with mild mental retardation and their residential settings and their characteristics. The sample included 119 adults living in one of the following settings: institution, group home, apartment or family house. Data collection was carried out using three methods, from three sources: interviews with participants, questionnaires filled out by a staff member and documentation of the physical characteristics of the settings by a researcher. The findings show that respondents who reported a higher quality of life live in apartments or with their families, in public settings and in settings with better physical characteristics, and that the policies regarding them allow for more flexibility. Multivariate analysis found that among all variables tested, the policies regarding the residential settings best explained the quality of life of respondents.

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