

The research is an attempt to examine factors affecting the discontinuation of monkhood. The objectives of the research are : first, to study socialization process of monks; secondly, to study the discontinuation of monkhood; and thirdly, to study factors affecting the discontinuation of monkhood and its relationships to eleven Psycho-social factors. These factors include objectives of monkhood, duration of monkhood, educational level, educational system, rigidity of control, self-esteem, discontinuation of monkhood of intimate friends, relative deprivation, powerlessness, self-estrangement and role conflict.

A sample of 384 monks was randomly drawn from Pali-School and Buddhist University. Questionnaires were prepared for data collection. Later, the collected questionnaires were analyzed with the Chi-square technique.

The results showed that all of the eleven factors. These factors include objectives of monkhood, duration of monkhood, educational level (in Buddhist University), educational system, rigidity of control, self-esteem, powerlessness, self-estrangement and role conflict are related with the discontinuation of monkhood.

A supplementary analysis was made by multiple regression. It was found that four factors significantly are related with discontinuation of monkhood. These factors include rigidity of control, discontinuation of monkhood of intimate friends, self-esteem and duration of monkhood. These factors explained variation of the discontinuation of monkhood 76 percent.