

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : The Impact of Thai Traditional Medicine on the
Development of Quality of Life of Rural People

Student's Name : Miss Pachacarasri Srimuang

Degree Sought : Master of Arts

Major : Political Science

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Advisory Committee :

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| 1. Assoc.prof.Dr. Suraphol | Rajbhandarads | Chairperson |
| 2. Assoc.Prof. Suraphan | Thabsuwan | |
| 3. Asst.Prof. Wutisak | Lapcharoensup | |

The objectives of this research were to study the development of Thai traditional medicine and that of rural people's quality of life as well as the relationship between the development of Thai traditional medicine and that of rural people's quality of life. The population consisted of staff members working in the field of Thai traditional medicine in 75 provinces, and the sample which composed of 150 staff members was obtained from 20 provinces through multi-stage random sampling. Questionnaires were despatched by mail for the collection of data. SPSS/PC+ was used in the analysis of the data. The statistics presented in this research were in the form of percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation and Chi-square, with the level of significance at .05.

It was found that :

1. About three quarters of the respondents were female.

2. About 35 percent of the total respondents were 35-49 years old, the youngest and the oldest being 14 and 74 years old respectively and the average age being 36.27;

3. Nearly half of them had obtained bachelor degree;

4. More than one-third were engaged in medicine, nursing and public health profession;

5. Nearly half of them were public health officers;

6. More than half dealt with the development of Thai traditional medicine;

7. The development of Thai traditional medicine in economic and social aspects was of moderate level; and

8. The development of rural people's quality of life was also of moderate level.

As regards the hypothesis test, education, nature of the job, position, the development of Thai tradition medicine in economic and social aspects and Thai traditional medicine itself had were related to the development of rural people's quality of life, while gender and age had no significant relationship with the development of rural people's quality of life.