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KEY WORD: WIVES' POWER OF DECISION MAKING IN FAMILIES/INDUSTRIALED

SOCIETY

METINEE THAISOMBOON: WIVES' POWER OF DECISION MAKING IN FAMILIES

IN AN INDUSTRIALIZING SOCIETY: A CASE STUDY OF TAMBON OMNOI, KRATHUMBAEN, SAMUT SAKHON PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR:

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The research problem for this thesis is; what are the factors effecting wives' familial power in an industrializing society.

Hypotheses for the study are:

- 1. Among wives, those who are professional workers have more familial power than those who are unskilled labourers or jobless.
- 2. Among wives, those with professional career husbands have more familial power than those with unskilled labour husbands.
- 3. Among wives, those with high education have more familial power than those with low education.
  4. Among wives, those with highly educated husbands have more
- familial power than those with lowly educated husbands.

  5. Among wives, those with higher income than husbands have
- more familial power than those with lower income than husbands.
- 6. Among wives, those who are older than husbands have more familial power than those who are younger than husbands.
- 7. Among wives, those with longer marriage have more familial power than those with shorter marriage.
- 8. Among wives, those who are community active have more familial power than those who are not community active.

Data for the testing of the above hypotheses are from 200 wives and 200 husbands of Tambon Omnoi, Krathum Baen, Sumut Sakhon Province

Four of the stated hypotheses (No. 1, 3, 5 and 8) substantiated while the rest are refuted by the empirical data. No matter what outcomes of the study are, a number of useful information as to the family life of husbands and wives in an industrializing community is shown and ready to be appropriately applied elsewhere relevant.