

KEY WORD : INFORMATION/THE AGING/MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AGING

KANUNGNIT SILRAK : INFORMATION NEEDS AND USES BY MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE AGING. THESIS ADVISOR : ASST.PROF. SUPANNEE VARATORN, 206 PP. ISBN 974-581-302-8

The purposes of this research were to study information needs and uses of members of the Organization of the Aging in the areas of content and format of information and the objectives, sources and problems in using information.

It was found that most of the members of the Organization of the Aging used information to solve health problems, to be up to date, to increase their knowledge, to entertain and to be secure, respectively. The members of the Organization of the Aging needed and used information on health at high level, especially the topics on illness prevention, health care and exercises. Moreover, they needed and used information on security, housing, travel, religion and belief, geography, general knowledge, social welfare, history, culture, law and biography at medium level. The members of the Organization of the Aging needed and used information in various formats at medium level: personal communication, demonstration, and printed and non-printed media. Among these, personal communication was the most needed and used.

The members of the Organization of the Aging used information from many sources at medium level: the mass media, persons, institutions and personal collections.

The problems confronted by members of the Organization of the Aging in using information were at medium level. They were from the members, formats and sources of information respectively. The most serious problems in each aspect were: the members their health; the format-printed and non printed media were expensive; and the sources of information-books and newspapers were expensive, television and radio programs for the aging were rare and the distance of institutions that were sources of information.