

Sureeporn Chaleowjittikul 2010: Adolescents' Attitudes on Premarital Sex: A Case Study of High School Students in Chaiyaphum Province. Master of Arts (Social Development), Major Field: Social Development, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Orapin Stiramon, Ph.D. 109 pages.

The purposes of this study were to examine adolescents' attitudes on premarital sex, their upbringing styles, the level of peer support towards sex issues, and to compare adolescents' attitudes on premarital sex according to personal factor, family upbringings and the level of peer support towards sex issues. The sample consisted of 316 Chaiyaphum students between the ages of 15-18, also attending grades 10-12. The data was collected using questionnaires and subsequently analyzed by way of descriptive statistics. The statistics used for analysis were percentage mean, standard deviation, t-test, One-Way ANOVA, multiple comparisons by Scheffé's test with a significance level set at 0.05.

The results show that the sample group holds a predominately disapproving attitude towards premarital sex. It was found that most of the students were raised up under moderate levels of democracy and strict upbringing and low level of laissez-faire upbringing. The results also show low level of peer support towards premarital sex in the sample group. It was also found that students with different age and sex differed in their attitude towards premarital sex, while students whose parents differed in occupation, level of education, and marital status showed no significant difference in their attitude towards premarital sex. Moreover, the results revealed that students brought up under different level of laissez-faire and strict upbringings differed in their attitudes towards premarital sex, while no significant differences in attitudes towards premarital sex were found in students raised up under different level of democracy. Lastly, it was found that students who received different levels of peer support differed in their attitude towards premarital sex.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature