

The purpose of this research is to investigate a moral cognition concerning self-directed behaviors of severe drug user adolescents who are currently treated in Narcotic Clinics Bangkok Metropolis. Five variables including educational level, addiction duration, duration of treatment in clinics, family's occupation and frequency of medical treatment were used as independent variables.


The subjects were drawn by simple random sampling technique of 180 severe drug user adolescents from Narcotic Clinics, Bangkok Metropolis. The instrument for collecting data was moral cognition scale : self-directed behaviors developed from Fishbein's theory. The procedures of data analysis were the t-test, one-way analysis of variance and Scheffe' multiple comparisons method.

The results are as follows :

1. The self-directed behaviors which are rated by the subjects as very good and proper were diligent, self-discipline, setting standards for oneself. The self-directed behavior which is rated by the subjects as very bad and improper is vice addiction. Self-punishment and Self-esteem were behaviors on which no agreement on what is right or wrong.

2. The five independent variables significantly affected moral cognition concerning self-directed behaviors ( $P < .05$  or lower). The variables which showed the highest degree of significance are educational level, addiction duration, duration of treatment in clinics, the frequency of medical treatment. The variable which was least significant was family's occupation.

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