

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes: (1) the subjects, (2) the materials, (3) the procedures used in the collection and analysis of the data, and (4) the data analysis.

3.1 SUBJECTS

The population of the study was Matthayom6 students studying at schools in Bangkok areas. Those schools include St.Francis Xavier Convent School, Streewitthaya School, and Wat Bowonniwet School. The subjects of the study consisted of 200 students both male and female having parents of different ages, educational levels, occupations, and incomes. Random sampling technique was used to select the subjects.

3.2 MATERIALS

The research instrument in the study was a questionnaire. It was divided into eight parts. The first part consisted of eleven closed-ended questions asking about the personal information of the respondents and their parents such as their genders, types of school they are studying at, and their parents' educational levels, income, occupations.

The second to seventh parts were used to measure the respondents' attitudes towards the issues related to their parents' influence on their decisions in choosing to enroll in the prospective faculties for Bachelor's Degree. These parts consisted of 48 questions presented in five-point likert scale. The questions in these parts covered possible parental influence on the Matthayom6 students' decisions such as parents' income, educational levels, occupations, expectations, and academic support. Moreover, these parts also asked the respondents to mark in provided blank spaces the answers that most represented their attitudes. The below table was the five-point rating scale, ranging from "Strongly agree" to "Strongly disagree", which was used to examine the respondents' attitudes in these parts.

Rating Score	Interpretation of the Score
5	Strongly Agree
4	Agree
3	Uncertain or Undecided
2	Disagree
1	Strongly disagree

The last part consisted of two opened-ended questions used to examine the students' attitudes towards their freedom to make decisions in choosing to enroll in the prospective faculties for Bachelor's Degree and their parents' participation in helping them make those decisions.

3.3 PROCEDURES

This section describes the procedure for research design and data collection as follows:

3.3.1 Research Design

This research study was a cross-sectional design aiming to describe the parental influence on Matthayom6 students' decisions in choosing to enroll in prospective faculties for Bachelor's Degree and their attitudes towards their freedoms and their parents' participation in helping them make those decisions. The study was designed to collect information of the levels of parental influence on decisions made by Matthayom6 students living in Bangkok areas in choosing to enroll in prospective faculties for Bachelor's Degree. The structure of the questionnaire was based on five-point likert scale questions, some parts of which included closed-ended and opened-ended questions.

To make the survey reliable, the researcher had studied a great number of related thesis, research, books, and questions before conducting the survey. After the information gained from those sources was gathered and analyzed, the questionnaire was completely developed. To collect the data from this particular group of Matthayom6 students, a self-administered questionnaire was used as the instrument of the study, and the respondents were asked to answer the questionnaires by themselves.

3.3.2 Data Collection

The process of data collection was that the researcher went to the field and asked the teachers in each school for the permission to let the researcher distribute the questionnaires to those Matthayom6 students. However, in practice I leave the questionnaires to the teachers because they prefer distributing those to their students by themselves.

3.4 DATA ANALYSIS

The Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) program for Windows version 13.0 was used for statistical analysis of data in this study. Statistical devices employed in the calculation process were frequency, percentage, means, and Standard Deviation (S.D.).

In summary, this chapter has shown the subjects, materials, procedures, and data analysis of the research. In the next chapter, the results of the research will be presented.