

Abstract

The Study on Determination of Being Single Women in the Globalization aims to study (1) factors affecting being single of women in the globalization and their living styles, (2) opinions of single women toward single status, married or single and social value. The concepts on attitude, decision making, patriarchy, gender relations, identity, being-single factors, and social value were applied in the data analysis. Main findings were collected from in-depth interview of 20 single women, ages 40 years and above. The samples were classified into four occupational groups, namely, public health workers, government officers, company employees and business owners in Bangkok Metropolis.

The study results are summarized as follows.

1. There are several factors affecting being single women. Changing society provides more opportunities for single and increases gender roles of women. Their higher educations support women to have higher working positions. Economic and social characteristics make women gain higher incomes. Their hurt feeling from past experience drives women being single. Family link on ill parent care giving or parent's marriage prevention or insecure in married lives are factors affecting being single of women. Single women' life styles are independent and self-reliant in order to be happy.

2. Women opinions towards being single in terms of

- 2.1 Single status: Most single women are happy to be single, have thinking and working freedom and earn self-sufficient income.

- 2.2 Married and single: Most women believe that marriage is not necessary and not good for women. Single women are able to take care themselves without marriage. Marriage is not good because it is women' burdens. With regard to being single, all single women believe that single makes their lives flexible and independent in terms of living, working, finance, private time, resulting in value and happiness.

- 2.3 Social value: All single women believe that, presently, society has been positively changed. Women have more opportunities on social roles. Women have

higher education, good occupation, high income so that they are self-reliant. Thus, more women prefer being single and society, also, provide opportunities for being single, even not all parts of society. However, this is a good guideline enhancing all society to accept women who prefer being single. As a result, single women will enjoy single lives forever