

ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Factors Affecting Decision of Volunteer Privates to Serve in the Royal Thai Army: A Case Study of Military Units in Saraburi Province

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Degree : Master of Art (Social Development)

Year : 2001

This descriptive study was designed to find out the factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army. The purposes of this research are to study: 1) factors affecting volunteer privates' decision to serve in the Royal Thai Army, 2) relationships between personal factors, family factors, friend factors, the Army public relations factors and the image of army officers factors in decision making to serve in the Royal Thai Army of volunteer privates, 3) relationships between volunteer privates' background which were level of education, income, occupation, marital status, and opinions about the image of army officers .

The subjects of the study were 120 volunteer privates in military units in Saraburi province. The instrument used in the study was questionnaire that composed of Demographic data and 5 factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army which were personal factors, family factors, friend factors, the Army public relations factors and the image of army officers factors. Descriptive statistics (percentage, mean, and standard deviation), F-test, t-test, and Correlation were used for data analysis.

The results of the study were as follow:

1. Factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army were the image of army officers factors, and personal factors.

2. There was a significant relationship between personal factors and the image of the army officers factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army at .05 level.

3. There were no significant relationships between family factors, friend factors, the Army public relations factors and the image of the army officers factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army.

4. Volunteer privates with different in level of education, income, occupation, and marital status did not differ in their opinions about the image of army officers.

Recommendation:

The results of the study showed that the major factors affecting decision of volunteer privates to serve in the Royal Thai Army were the image of army officers factors and personal factors. Using any different media can use this data to improve ways to publicize the positive image of the Army and to provide information about benefits and welfare that privates will gain when they volunteer to serve in the Royal Thai Army.