

Thesis Title	Knowledge and Awareness on Environmental Pollution Problems of Distance Learning Students who work in Factories in Samut Sakhon Province.
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### ABSTRACT

The purposes of this research were : 1) to conduct a survey on the level of knowledge and awareness on environmental pollution among distance learning students, 2) to compare the level of knowledge and awareness of environmental pollution between distance learning students of different genders, age groups, income levels, working experience, housing locations, and levels of interest in information pertaining to pollution. The questionnaires were made and the data were collected. The samples consisted of 378 distance learning students who worked in Samut Sakhon Province. Data were analyzed in terms of percentage, one-way analysis of variance, multiple comparison (LSD), mode and Pearson's product moment correlation.

The results of the study were as follows :

1. The distance learning students showed a medium level of knowledge in environmental pollution. The samples with a different income and housing location had a statistically different level of knowledge on environmental pollution ( $\alpha = .01$ ). The samples who earned 10,001 Baht and up per month showed a statistically better knowledge than the samples who earned between 5,001 - 10,000 Baht per month and those who earned 5,000 Baht or less. However, students of different genders, age groups, working experience, and levels of interest in information pertaining to pollution did not have a statistically different level of knowledge of environmental pollution.

2. The samples showed that their level of awareness of environment pollution was high. The samples of different age levels received a statistically different score on environmental pollution awareness ( $\alpha = .01$ ). Those who were over 30 years old showed a significantly higher score than those who were 19 years old and under. Subjects of different genders, monthly income, housing location, and levels of interest in information regarding environmental pollution showed a statistically different score on environmental pollution awareness ( $\alpha = .05$ ). Those who earned 10,001 Baht and up per month showed a substantially higher score for awareness than those who earned 5,000 or less per month and those who earned 5,001-10,000 per month. There was no significant difference in terms of environmental pollution awareness between the subjects who spent a different number of years working in the factories.

3. The finding showed a substantially positive correlation between the knowledge and the awareness of environmental pollution ( $\alpha = 0.001$ )

4. In order to solve the environmental problems, the majority of the subjects suggested : a) issuing an effective law to deal with water pollution (36.31%), b) a mandatory of law to check vehicles and factories that cause air pollution (35.89%) and, c) an effective law should be issued to solve garbage problems (28.24%).

The other environmental solutions proposed by the distant learners are as follows 1) to solve water pollution problems, it is essential to install the water cleaners in industrial factories, to publicize knowledge and to establish a water conservation group to observe the rivers and canals, 2) to solve air pollution problems, it is essential to increase general knowledge in environmental conservation, 3) to solve rubbish problems, it is essential to increase the number of garbage treatment plants, rubbish trucks, rubbish collectors and to designate the areas for disposing of rubbish.