

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 study intends to investigate the attitude of working women, aged between 25-35 years old, towards having a child. Attitudes vary according to marital status, education and occupation of the subjects, two hundred and fifty of both married and single women who are between 25-35 years old, from various places and various backgrounds are the subject of this study.

3.2 MATERIALS

A 61-question questionnaire, divided into five sections, was used to collect data.

3.2.1 The participants' personal information: eight closed-ended questions are asked to find out their age, education, occupations, etc.

3.2.2 The participants' family characteristics: five closed-ended questions are asked to find out their family background because the family background of the participants is also considered as an independent variable influencing their attitude.

3.2.3 The participants' intention to have a child: nine closed-ended and one open-ended questions are asked to find out their intentions to having a child and how important children are in their opinions.

3.2.4 The influence on a decision to have a child, this part contains twenty closed-ended questions to seek their opinion on how important each factor influences their decisions on having a child.

3.2.5 The attitudes toward having a child: this part consists of nineteen closed-ended questions to ascertain their attitudes toward childbirth.

From part 4-5, the Likert scale is used to differentiate rates of opinion. The criteria and meaning of the rates of opinion is demonstrated as follows:

Rates of opinion	Interpretation of the scale
5	Strongly agree
4	Agree
3	Uncertain
2	Disagree
1	Strongly disagree

Importance level	Mean
Extremely important	4.21-5.00
Important	3.41-4.20
Neutral	2.61-3.40
Unimportant	1.81-2.60
Extremely unimportant	1.00-1.80

3.3 PROCEDURES

The researcher has designed the questionnaire and distributed them to 250 respondents, working women aged between 25-35 years old in various places, during December 2007. The questionnaires are collected on the same day or within one week. A descriptive cross-sectional study is used for this study.

3.4 DATA ANALYSIS

The SPSS's descriptive statistics is used to analyze the data on the attitude toward having a child by respondents, factors influencing decisions to having a child.

In summary, this chapter has shown methodology of the study. In the next chapter, the findings will be presented.