

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

The result of the study is divided into five sections: the participants' personal information; the participants' family characteristics; the participants' intention to have a child; the influence on a decision to having a child and the attitudes toward having a child. All the results were analyzed by the SPSS program, version 12.0 as follows.

4.1 PARTICIPANTS' PERSONAL INFORMATION

The participants' personal information consists of age, marital status, education, occupation, income, personal problem as regards becoming pregnant and experience in pregnancy.

Of all the participants, 125 (50%) are 25-30 year-old working women and 125 (50%) are 31-35 year-old working women.

Table 2. Age

Age	Frequency	Percent (%)
25-30 years old	125	50.0
31-35 years old	125	50.0
Total	250	100.0

Regarding the marital status of all the participants, 56.4% are single, 40.4% are married and 3.2% are widowed, divorced and separated

Table 3. Marital Status

Marital Status	Frequency	Percent (%)
Single	141	56.4
Married	101	40.4
Others (Widowed, Divorced, Separated)	8	3.2
Total	250	100.0

For the education of all the participants, 75.2% had obtained a Bachelor's degree, 13.2% lower than a Bachelor's degree and 11.6% higher than a Bachelor's degree.

Table 4. Education

Education	Frequency	Percent (%)
Below Bachelor's Degree	33	13.2
Bachelor's Degree	188	75.2
Master Degree or higher	29	11.6
Total	250	100.0

Regarding their occupation, most of the participants are employees of private companies (48.0%), followed by government officials (22.0%), employees of state enterprises (21.6%), other occupations: housewives and students (4.4%); and business owners (2.8%). Only 1.2% was unemployed.

Table 5. Occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
Business owner	7	2.8
Government officer	55	22.0
Employee for private company	120	48.0
Employee for state enterprises	54	21.6
Unemployed	3	1.2
Others (housewife, student)	11	4.4
Total	250	100.0

With regard to position, most of the participants are general officials (78.8%), followed by supervisors (9.6%), and Owners (6.4%). Only 5.2% are managers or have higher positions.

Table 6. Position

Position	Frequency	Percent (%)
Owner	16	6.4
Manager or higher	13	5.2
Supervisor level	24	9.6
General official	197	78.8
Total	250	100.0

Regarding their income, 41.2% earn below 15,000 Baht/month and 40.0% 15,000-50,000 Baht/month whereas 16.8 earn 30,000-50,000 Baht/month and 2.0% earn more than 50,000 Baht/month.

Table 7. Income

Income	Frequency	Percent (%)
Below 15,000 baht	103	41.2
15,000 - 30,000 baht	100	40.0
30,000 - 50,000 baht	42	16.8
More than 50,000 baht	5	2.0
Total	250	100.0

Of all the participants, 90% did not have any personal problem as regards becoming pregnant, but 10% had their personal problems as regards becoming pregnant. Most of the problems were from their physical health, for example Endometritis, the Powerlessness of women with infertility, Achilles tendonitis. Some problems were for other reasons such as no time, low income.

Table 8. Personal Problem As Regards Becoming Pregnant

Personal problem as regard becoming pregnant	Frequency	Percent (%)
No	225	90.0
Yes	25	10.0
Total	250	100.0

Regarding an experience in pregnancy, 72.8% had never been faced with this experience whereas 27.2% had experience in having children.

Table 9. Experience in Pregnancy

Experience in pregnancy	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	68	27.2
No	182	72.8
Total	250	100.0

4.2 PARTICIPANTS' FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

The participants' family characteristics comprise the status of participants' parents, participants' living status, partners' education, partners' occupation and partners' income.

Regarding the participants' family background, 72.8% come from functional families, 16.4% come from one-parent families (where one of the parents had passed away) and another 10.8% come from broken families.

Table 10. Status of Participants' Parents

Status of participants' parents	Frequency	Percent (%)
Live together	182	72.8
Separated / divorced	27	10.8
Widow (father / mother has pass away)	41	16.4
Total	250	100.0

According to table 11, the result shows that 31.6% of the participants live with their own parents, 23.6% live alone or with friends or cousins, 17.2% live with their partners, 10.8% live with their mothers, 9.6% live with their partners and children, 4.0% live with their fathers. Only 3.2% of the respondents live with their partners' families.

Table 11. Living Status of Participants

Participants' living status	Frequency	Percent (%)
Your own parents	79	31.6
Mother only	27	10.8
Father only	10	4.0
Your partner's family	8	3.2
Partner only	43	17.2
Partner and children	24	9.6
Others (friend, cousin, alone)	59	23.6
Total	250	100.0

Of all the participants, 26% have partners who are educated with a Bachelor's Degree, 10.8% have partners who are educated below a Bachelor's Degree and 6.8% have partners who are educated with a Master Degree or higher. 56.4% of the respondents skipped this question because of their single status.

Table 12. Partners' Education

Partners' education	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	141	56.4
Below Bachelor's Degree	27	10.8
Bachelor's Degree	65	26.0
Master Degree or higher	17	6.8
Total	250	100.0

Regarding the partners' occupation of the participants, 20.4% are employees for private companies, 11.2% are government officers. The portion of the partners' occupations between business owners and employees of state enterprises are equal at 4.8%. And 1.2% are unemployed, another 1.2% are students of a Master Degree or higher. The rest, 56.4%, skipped this question because of their single status.

Table 13. Partners' Occupation

Partners' occupation	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	141	56.4
Business owner	12	4.8
Government officer	28	11.2
Employee for private company	51	20.4
Employee for state enterprises	12	4.8
Unemployed	3	1.2
Other (student)	3	1.2
Total	250	100.0

Regarding their partners' income, 17.2% earn 15,000-30,000 Baht/month and 9.2% 30,000-50,000 Baht/month whereas 8.8% earn 30,000-50,000 Baht/month and 8.4% earn more than 50,000 Baht/month. Another 56.4% skipped this question because of their single status.

Table 14. Partners' Income

Partners' income	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	141	56.4
Below 15,000 baht	22	8.8
15,000 - 30,000 baht	43	17.2
30,000 - 50,000 baht	23	9.2
More than 50,000 baht	21	8.4
Total	250	100.0

4.3 PARTICIPANTS' INTENTION TO HAVE A CHILD

The participants' intention to have a child consists of an expectation for a child, plan to have children, quantity of children desired, expected age for having a child, experience in having the first child, expected age to have the last child, objective of having children, and fecundity start and end in women.

Most of the participants, 74% did not expect to have children when they married, whereas 26% expected to have children.

Table 15. Expectation for a Child

Expectation for a child	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	65	26.0
No	185	74.0
Total	250	100.0

69.6% of the participants never plan to have a child, whereas 30.4% have plans to have a child.

Table 16. Plan for Having a Child

Plan for having a child	Frequency	Percent (%)
Yes	174	69.6
No	76	30.4
Total	250	100.0

Of all the participants, 52.4% desire to have two children, 22.0% desire to have one child, 6.0% desire to have three children, and 0.8% desire to have more than three children. Another 18.8% skipped the question because of no expectation to have children when they are married and have no plans to have children.

Table 17. Number of Children Desired

Number of children desired	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	47	18.8
One	55	22.0
Two	131	52.4
Three	15	6.0
More than three	2	.8
Total	250	100.0

Regarding their expected age for having a child, 42.0% expect at the age of 31-35 years old, 28.4% expect at the age of 25-30 years old, 5.6% expect at the age of 20-25 years old and 5.2% expect at the age of 36-40 years old. Another 18.8% skipped the question because of no expectation to have children when they are married and no plans to have children.

Table 18. Expected Age for Having a Child

Expected age for having a child	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	47	18.8
20-25 years old	14	5.6
25-30 years old	71	28.4
31-35 years old	105	42.0
36-40 years old	13	5.2
Total	250	100.0

59.2% of the participants have never been faced with experience of having the first child, whereas 22.0% experienced having a first child. The rest 18.8% skipped the question because of no expectation to have children when they are married and no plans to have children.

Table 19. Experience in Having the First Child

Experience in having the first child	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	47	18.8
Yes	55	22.0
No	148	59.2
Total	250	100.0

46.0% of the participants expect to have the last child at the age of 35 years old, 13.2% expect at the age of 40 years old, 10.8% expect at the age of 30 years old, 2.4% expect at the age of 25 years old, whereas 8.8% have never planned about their age to have the last child. The rest 18.8% skipped the question because of no expectation to have children when they are married and no plans to have children.

Table 20. Expected Age to Have the Last Child

Expected age to have the last child	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	47	18.8
25 years old	6	2.4
30 years old	27	10.8
35 years old	115	46.0
40 years old	33	13.2
No plan	22	8.8
Total	250	100.0

Most of the participants (31.6%) indicated children are natural extensions of a committed relationship. 18.4% informed that children would take care them in their old age, 13.2% said it was time for them to have children, 11.6% indicated they want to have grandchildren. 5.2% informed that they have children because of the husband's need, child loving and family's willpower to have. Only 0.8% indicated they had children to save the marriage and 0.4% said they wanted to be respected in the motherhood status. Another 18.8% skipped the question because of no expectation to have children when they are married and no plans to have children.

Table 21. Objective of Having Children

Objective of having children	Frequency	Percent (%)
Skip the question	47	18.8
To create grandchildren	29	11.6
To be taken care of in old age	46	18.4
The biological clock says it's time	33	13.2
To save the marriage	1	.4
To save the marriage	1	.4
As natural extension of a committed relationship	79	31.6
Others (Husband's need, love children, family's willpower)	13	5.2
Total	250	100.0

From all the participants, 41.2% answered that fecundity in women starts at 30-39 years old, 18.8% answered that they have never known about it, 12.4% answered that it starts at 40-49 years old, and 6.0% answered that it starts at 20-29 years old. Only 2.8% answered that it starts at 10-19 years old. Other 18.8% did not give the answer to this question.

Table 22. Fecundity Start in Women

Fecundity start in women	Frequency	Percent (%)
No answer	47	18.8
10-19 years old	7	2.8
20-29 years old	15	6.0
30-39 years old	103	41.2
40-49 years old	31	12.4
Do not know	47	18.8
Total	250	100.0

From all the participants, 38.0% did not give an answer to this question, 22.0% answered the fecundity in women ends at 41-50 years old, 18.8% answered they have never known about it, 15.2% answered it ends at 31-40 years old, and 3.2% answered it ends at 51-60 years old. Only 2.8% answered it ends at 21-30 years old.

Table 23. Fecundity End in Women

Fecundity end in women	Frequency	Percent (%)
No answer	95	38.0
21-30 years old	7	2.8
31-40 years old	38	15.2
41-50 years old	55	22.0
51-60 years old	8	3.2
Do not know	47	18.8
Total	250	100.0

Most of the participants (83.6%) agreed to continue their married lives without children, 10.8% accepted to undergo IVF, only 5.6% decided to adopt some babies to be their own children.

Table 24. A Decision When Non-ability to Have Children

A decision when non-ability to have children	Frequency	Percent (%)
Undergo IVF	27	10.8
Adoption	14	5.6
Abstain from children	209	83.6
Total	250	100.0

4.4 FACTORS INFLUENCING TO DECISION OF HAVING A CHILD

From the table 25, eight very important factors are: a stable relationship with mate (48.8%); a partner who can share the responsibility with (48.4%); a sufficient maturity (46.0%); a good monetary condition (51.2); job security (51.2%); good physical health (46.0%); good mental health (47.2%); partner's job security (48.4), respectively. The eleven important factors are: a sufficiently large home (56.8%); time for leisure and social activities (52.4%); Stress and worry to raise children (46.0%); Finding good affordable childcare (42.0%); Medical service (49.6%); Feeling about body changes (43.6%); Participants' age (43.6); Partner's age (47.6%); Partner's original family (41.2%); Your original family (41.2%); difficulty to raise a

child (40.4%). Only 36.0% of participants believed the government fertility control program is important factor.

Table 25. Factors Influencing to Decision of Having a Child

Factors Influencing to Decision of having a child	Extremely important	Important	Uncertain	Unimportant	Extremely unimportant	Total	\bar{X}	SD	Degree of Important
1. A stable relationship with mate	122 48.8%	88 35.2%	20 8.0%	19 7.6%	1 0.4%	250 100%	4.24	.923	Extremely important
2. A partner who can share the responsibility with	121 48.4%	102 40.8%	17 6.8%	10 4.0%	0 0%	250 100%	4.34	.776	Extremely important
3. Sufficient maturity	115 46.0%	111 44.4%	16 6.4%	8 3.2%	0 0%	250 100%	4.33	.738	Extremely important
4. Good monetary condition	128 51.2%	101 40.4%	13 5.2%	8 3.2%	0 0%	250 100%	4.40	.733	Extremely important
5. A home that is sufficiently large	48 19.2%	142 56.8%	34 13.6%	23 9.2%	3 1.2%	250 100%	3.84	.883	Important
6. Job security	130 51.2%	96 40.4%	13 5.2%	11 3.2%	0 0%	250 100%	4.38	.778	Extremely important
7. Time for leisure and social activities	54 21.6%	131 52.4%	41 16.4%	20 8.0%	4 1.6%	250 100%	3.84	.907	Important
8. Good physical health	113 45.2%	115 46.0%	13 5.2%	9 3.6%	0 0%	250 100%	4.33	.737	Extremely important
9. Good mental health	118 47.2%	111 44.4%	11 4.4%	10 4.0%	0 0%	250 100%	4.35	.746	Extremely important
10. Stress and worry to raise children	63 25.2%	115 46.0%	45 18.0%	22 8.8%	5 2.0%	250 100%	3.84	.970	Important
11. Finding good affordable childcare	40 16.0%	105 42.0%	44 17.6%	44 17.6%	17 6.8%	250 100%	3.43	1.153	Important
12. Medical service	83 33.2%	124 49.6%	26 10.4%	15 6.0%	2 0.8%	250 100%	4.08	.863	Important
13. Feeling about body changes	62 24.8%	109 43.6%	41 16.4%	34 13.6%	4 1.6%	250 100%	3.76	1.024	Important

(Table continues)

Table 25. (continued)

Factors Influencing to Decision of having a child	Extremely important	Important	Uncertain	Unimportant	Extremely unimportant	Total	\bar{X}	SD	Degree of Important
14. Your age	80 24.8%	131 43.6%	18 16.4%	20 13.6%	1 1.6%	250 100%	4.08	.863	Important
15. Partner's age	56 22.4%	119 47.6%	40 16.0%	31 12.4%	4 1.6%	250 100%	3.77	.987	Important
16. Partner's job security	121 48.4%	103 41.2%	14 5.6%	11 4.4%	1 0.4%	250 100%	4.33	.804	Extremely important
17. Partner's original family	33 13.2%	103 41.2%	62 24.8%	43 17.2%	9 3.6%	250 100%	3.43	1.036	Important
18. Your original family	39 15.6%	103 41.2%	58 23.2%	42 16.8%	8 3.2%	250 100%	3.49	1.046	Important
19. A difficulty to raise a child	44 17.6%	101 40.4%	63 25.2%	35 14.0%	7 2.8%	250 100%	3.56	1.025	Important
20. Government fertility control program	32 12.8%	90 36.0%	73 29.2%	38 15.2%	17 6.8%	250 100%	3.33	1.092	Neutral
Total							3.96	.904	Important

4.5 THE ATTITUDES TOWARD HAVING A CHILD

Table 26 suggests that the participants agreed that the children are representatives of the love between the husband and the wife (3.96) and they are the center of the family (3.94). The aspect with the lowest degree of agreement is related to children in terms of no-wage labor of the family (2.66).

Table 26. Positive Attitudes toward having a child

Attitudes toward having a child	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	\bar{X}	SD	Degree of Agreement
1. Children are the center of the family.	68 27.2%	129 51.6%	29 11.6%	19 7.6%	5 2%	250 100%	3.94	.934	Agree
2. Children are the family's offspring.	59 23.6%	140 56.0%	24 9.6%	22 8.8%	5 2.0%	250 100%	3.90	.926	Agree
3. Children will take care of the parents when they are old.	39 15.6%	78 31.2%	101 40.4%	26 10.4%	6 2.4%	250 100%	3.47	.958	Agree
4. Children are proof of the good health of the couple.	25 10%	71 28.4%	85 34.0%	56 22.4%	13 5.2%	250 100%	3.16	1.047	Neutral
5. Children are gifts from heaven.	34 13.6%	87 34.8%	61 24.4%	44 17.6%	24 9.6%	250 100%	3.25	1.181	Neutral
6. Children represent the love between husband and wife.	73 29.2%	122 48.8%	33 13.2%	15 6.0%	7 2.8%	250 100%	3.96	.958	Agree
7. Children are the product which the wife has to serve the husband.	25 10.0%	66 26.4%	60 24.0%	62 24.8%	37 14.8%	250 100%	2.92	1.226	Neutral
8. Children can raise their social status	26 10.4%	81 32.4%	69 27.6%	52 20.8%	22 8.8%	250 100%	3.15	1.133	Neutral
9. Children are no-wage labor of family.	20 8.0%	43 17.2%	63 25.2%	79 31.6%	45 18.0%	250 100%	2.66	1.190	Neutral
10. Children are heir productions.	39 15.6%	126 50.4%	47 18.8%	25 10.0%	13 5.2%	250 100%	3.61	1.032	Agree
11. Children bring the couple closer together.	62 24.8%	115 46.0%	34 13.6%	28 11.2%	11 4.4%	250 100%	3.76	1.083	Agree
Total							3.43	1.06	Agree

Table 27 suggests that the participants do not think children are the result of a contraception failure (1.92) and do not accept the attitude of children make parents insane (2.14). Moreover, the participants do not have aspects which relates to children in term of losing the parents' freedom (2.58).

Table 27. Negative Attitudes toward having a child

Attitudes toward having a child	Strongly agree	Agree	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total	\bar{X}	SD	Degree of Agreement
12. Children are the result of your contraception failure.	6 2.4%	25 10.0%	29 11.6%	73 29.2%	117 46.8%	250 100%	1.92	1.095	Disagree
13. Children are a burden which make you lose a lot of money & time.	13 5.2%	54 21.6%	41 16.4%	73 29.2%	69 27.6%	250 100%	2.48	1.246	Disagree
14. Children make you lose freedom.	13 5.2%	57 22.8%	48 19.2%	75 30.0%	57 22.8%	250 100%	2.58	1.214	Disagree
15. Children make you lose career opportunity.	7 2.8%	27 10.8%	56 22.4%	93 37.2%	67 26.8%	250 100%	2.26	1.056	Disagree
16. Children make you become insane.	5 2.0%	30 12.0%	44 17.6%	87 34.8%	84 33.6%	250 100%	2.14	1.076	Disagree
17. Children are hard work.	16 6.4%	64 25.6%	44 17.6%	68 27.2%	58 23.2%	250 100%	2.65	1.263	Neutral
18. Children are tools that hold two people together.	20 8.0%	50 20.0%	62 24.8%	64 25.6%	54 21.6%	250 100%	2.67	1.240	Neutral
19. Childbirth risks blood infection / blowing out of amniotic	4 1.6%	30 12.0%	74 29.6%	75 30.0%	67 26.8%	250 100%	2.32	1.045	Disagree
Total							2.38	1.16	Neutral

The findings of the study will be summarized and discussed in the next chapter.