

Abstract

The thesis entitled “The use of Rubin’s Self Esteem Scale in social work practice : A Case Study of Children at Kredtrakarn Protection and Occupational Development Center” has applied mixed research method, mainly on the quantitative research and supporting by the qualitative research. This study aims to apply Rubin’s self Esteem Scale of 103 victims of human trafficking and child abuse. The study focuses on the self esteem testing of the samples. The tools used in the quantitative research comprised Rubin’s Self Esteem Scale and data was analyzed by percentage, mean, standard deviation. The hypothesis was tested by chi-square with the significant level at 0.05. The qualitative research used in-depth interview and focus group, interpreted and explained the results. The following are the study results.

All 103 samples were female; most were single, ages of 6-19 with Lao nationality. They were not educated at all or graduated an elementary education level. They had become victims of sex services of human trafficking with the protection period of 1-3 months. With regard to the questionnaire design, the researcher consulted psychoanalysts and social workers before using the tests and developed the tests for a better understanding. There were 2 limitations of self esteem testing, (1) the limitation on the Rubin’s Self Esteem Scale test and (2) the limitation from the use of the test regarding recognizing self-esteem of the samples. Most of the samples perceived themselves as bad, worthless compared with other persons. They were anxious, hurt themselves and tried to commit suicide to run away from problems. For hypothesis testing, it was found that the marriage status had a relationship with the self-esteem levels of victims of human trafficking and child abuse.

The recommendations from the study are summarized as follows. Rubin’s Self Esteem Scale test should be applied to relevant units/ authorities providing assistance to group the children for the purpose of appropriate management. The test should be studied and developed to fit with the samples. The recommendation for a next study is that the Rubin’s Self- Esteem Scale test should be improved for better understanding and that the assessment on the efficiency of the use of Rubin’s Self- Esteem Scale test in order to improve the quality of the test should be put in place.