

Abstract

The study on "The Youth's Opinions toward Buddhist Monks' Roles in Moral development of the youths: The Case Study on Schools under Department of General Education in Bangplad District, Bangkok" aims to study the youth's Opinions toward ethic principles and roles of Buddhist monks in developing their ethic. The samples used for study are 248 high school students from schools, under control of the Department of General Education, in Bangplad district, Bangkok. The used tools are questionnaires. The obtained data are processed and analyzed with descriptive statistic measurements such as frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, t-test, and F-test, difference mean calculated with LSD, and Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient at the statistical significance of 0.05.

The results indicate that there are more female samples than the male; most samples are studying in mattayom 4 (about grade 10); most samples' parents are businesses owners or hired work force; most samples perform religious activities with their families, especially to offer alms to Buddhist monks, to pray, to meditate, and to worship Buddha images at temples; the religious activities that most samples always do at schools are to pray and to meditate; and they always join religious activities held by their communities on important religious days. In the overview, we can see that students do religious activities with their communities more often than with their families or schools. Concerning their opinions toward ethic principles, it is precise that most samples are aware of honesty more than any other ethic principle such as gratitude, discipline, careful money spending, and responsibility. Concerning their points of views toward Buddhist monks' roles in developing the youth's ethic, most samples believe that the most important feature of monks is the monks' proficiency in teaching ethics. The results from the correlation test on the samples' opinions toward ethic principles show that to do religious activities correlates, in all respects, to the samples' opinions. In the overall picture, the samples are different from each other in terms of genders, school years, and opinions towards Buddhist monks' roles in developing the youth's ethic.

Researcher, would like to suggest that monks should play important roles in developing the youth's ethic by applying all principles taught by Lord Buddha to the current society in an appropriate manner; being role models by strictly following the path of Lord Buddha; taking leading roles in preserving nature and environment; persuading and supporting the youth's families to join ethics activities; and hindering the youth from doing things that lead to carelessness in their lives.