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LIEUTENANT COMMANDER SIRIWAN NINPATRA : COPING BEHAVIORS
OF THE UNEMPLOYEED DURING THAI ECONOMIC CRISIS. RESERCH REPORT
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The economic crisis in Thailand is a major cause of unemployment. The objectives of this research was to study coping behaviors of the unempolyed in Bangkok and to suggest forms of assistance which the government could provide to the unemployed. The sample was 20 unemployed (16 femals, 4 males) aged 19 - 57,who had only 2 - 6 years in school. Data were collected by using semi - structured interview and analyzed by descriptive analysis. Findings were that most of the subjects were unemployed for between 1 day to 1 year. Only 3 subjects were breadwinners of their families. None of the subjects considered attempting suicide. All of the unemployed used two types of coping behaviors 1) problem focused coping behaviors such as trying to find job, and 2) emotional focused coping such as smoking, drinking alcohol, watching television, listening to the radio and talking to significant persons. One subject used heroine intravenous injection. Most of the unemployed lacked information about resources.

The results from this research suggested that government organizations related to social issues should consider how to provide effective resources for the unemployed. Effective social welfare and job finding or placement services should be provided, and the unemployed should be informed about these services through public relations campaigns. Nurses should be involved in co-operation with the team to promote health of the unemployed in and out of the hospital.