

Abstract

The objectives of the study entitled “gender and career selection of Matayomsuksa 3 students: a case study at Wat dontoom school, Baanpong district, Ratchaburi province” were 1) to study female and male roles and the decision in career selection of Mattayomsuksa 3 students and 2) to determine factors of families and school which influenced the decision.

Students who are 15-17 years of age are teenage and in the period of choosing their study field for their career in the future. Making decision in selecting career to further their study is, therefore, important. The study finding revealed that all students wanted to further their study in higher degree and it was found that neither male nor female role influenced their decision on career selection of both male and female students. However, when a selected career of each student was considered, it was found that most of the careers, which were unwittingly inconsistent with their thought, were selected following their gender. This reflected the teaching outcome of parents and teachers who wanted the students to realize their gender roles and duties which were from the past until present in all communities and classes. Such showed the transfer of duties upon gender roles, especially femininity which was transferred through school. Educating such thought influenced both male and female students to absorb unwittingly the thought on gender separation and career, making the decision to select the career follow the society determination for their gender instead of selecting the career of another gender.

In terms of family and school factors, particularly parents and teachers, they all thought that the selection of career needed to be based on gender appropriateness and personality in order to increase potency and success in their job in the future. This directly influenced the students' decision. It was seen that such thought was the thought which both parents and teachers were also educated from the past until the present. It was repeated through generations and it seemed that everyone willingly accepted this rule, no matter they were witting or unwitting.

Nevertheless, parents and teachers still wanted the students to choose the career and study field which were suitable to their gender and personality as each student had different gender role or different characteristics. Everyone would have specific identity i.e. appearance, body shape, face, skin, habit, capacity etc. If the students were able to see their true identity, it helped them to make a decision for choosing the career which was the most consistent with them and of which they could succeed in the future.

Making decision in selecting career is one of the complicated procedures. A person who makes the decision needed to know every aspect of him/her very well; it is quite difficult for people in general. Apart from knowing himself, those who select the job need to know the career world, for instance, know various careers thoroughly. Hence, making decision which is the best for the selector is the most appropriate career to them as it will bring about joy and happiness in working and gives a chance to succeed in career as well.