

COPING STRATEGIES OF POLICE CADETS

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AN ABSTRACT

BY

POL. CAPT. JUNYA KETSREESUNG

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The purpose of this study was to investigate coping strategies of police cadets. The study was designed to determine comparability of coping strategies held by the police cadets, and to examine if the variables of academic levels, personality, attitudes toward police occupation, family atmosphere, and academic achievement have a significant impact upon their coping strategies. In addition, the variables of the police cadets that predict their coping strategies were identified. The subjects of 316 first year to fourth year police cadets of Police Cadet Academy in the academic year 1993 were drawn by stratified random sampling from the population. The research instruments were the personal data, the personality questionnaire, the attitudes toward police occupation questionnaire, the family atmosphere questionnaire, and the coping strategies questionnaire. The data were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance, scheffe procedure, t-test, Pearson product moment correlation and multiple regression analysis.

The results of the study were as follow :

1. There were statistically significant differences in coping strategies among all four academic levels of police cadets ( $p < .05$ ).
2. Significant differences in coping strategies between type A and type B personalities of the police cadets were obtained ( $p < .05$ ).
3. No significant differences in coping strategies existed when grouped according to differences in attitudes toward police occupation.

4. Significant differences in coping strategies were found when grouped according to differences in family atmosphere ( $p < .05$ ).

5. Significant differences in personal-life coping strategies were found when grouped according to differences ( $p < .05$ ). Non-significant differences were found in the oretical studies, practical studies, and social life coping strategies.

6. The police cadets' family atmosphere, academic levels, and personalities significantly predicted their theoretical studies and social life coping strategies. It also revealed that the police cadets' academic levels and personalities significantly predicted their practical studies coping strategies. In addition, the results of this study suggested that the police cadets' family atmosphere and academic levels significantly predicted their personal-life coping strategies.