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HIRUNYA PADUKA : FERTILITY VALUE OF CHA WLE WOMEN IN SATUL PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS: MANEE CHAITEERANUWATSIRI., Ph.D., PRAPHAPHAN UN-OB., Ed.D., VITOON YUTTANON., B.Ed., M.Ed. 117 p. ISBN 974-664-736-9

The purposes of this study were (1) to study the fertility value of Chawle women in Satul Province, and (2) to study the variables relating to the fertility value of Chawle women in Satul Province.

The population used in this study were 206 Chawle women in Satul Province who were 15-49 years of age and married. The number of the sample was 50% of the whole population, sampled by the purposive Sampling technique.

The instrument used in this study was a questionnaire. The statistical procedures used in analysing general data were percentage, mean, and standard deviation. Multiple regression analysis was used to study the relationship between independent variables and fertility value. All data were analysed by SPSS program.

The findings indicated that fertility value of Chawle women in Satul Province, considering the number of children, was of intermediate level ($X = 3.46$, $S.D. = .300$) considering the sex of children was of lower level ($X = 2.42$, $S.D. = .270$) and considering the worth of children was at higher level. ($X = 4.22$, $S.D. = .400$)

The findings also indicated that the relationships between the 4 independent variables, namely, monthly income of the households, the average age at first marriage of Chawle women's husbands, the average age at first marriage of Chawle women, and the monthly expenses paid for schooling their children were significantly related to the fertility value of Chawle women in Satul Province at the .05 level.

Moreover, most of the samples were of poor literacy, rather young at first marriage (15-19 years of age), and had no occupations. These effected not only their fertility value, considering the number of children, the sex of children, and the worth of children, but also their quality of life and their economic status. Therefore, the authorities concerned should find out what would be the facts as well as promoting them to have better chance in public education in order to enable them to give themselves a chance to make a change for the better in their quality of life, occupations, and well-beings.