

Thesis Title The Selected Socio-Economic and Leadership
Factors Affecting Family Planning Output
in the Northeastern Region of Thailand.

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to compare selected socio-economic factors: education, occupation and residency of the target population, implementation of district hospitals and private sectors. Also under the study are the leadership factors, such as, leadership style according to the Managerial Grid: Theory of Blake and Mouton; level of education; frequency of training attended; and number of years working in the district health officer position among various districts which had high, middle and low family planning (FP) output levels. In addition, the relationship of designated factors and FP outputs was studied to predict the relationship between these districts which have high, middle and low FP output levels. The samples for this study were district health officers of northeast Thailand who had worked in their respective districts for at least 2

years. The sample size included 135 district health officers and 675 health personnel (5 health personnel per 1 district health officer.) There were four sets of instrument for collecting data which included two questionnaires for assessing the leadership style of the district health officers filled out by district health officer themselves and health personnel working under them, one set for FP output, and one for socio-economic data. The data were analyzed by using the SPSS* programme. The statistics used were frequency distribution, mean, standard deviation, Chi-square, F-test, Pearson Product Moment Correlation and Stepwise Multiple Regression.

The results of the study were as follows:

1. In the districts which had different FP output, there was significantly difference between the mean percentage of population which had education above the compulsory level while there was no significant difference between the mean percentage of the rural population and the mean percentage of the household whose occupation were non-agricultural.

2. In the different FP output districts, there was no statistically significant difference between number of years during which district hospitals implemented FP services and a number of private sectors in FP available in the districts.

3. For districts which had different FP output level, there were significant differences between the leadership style of district health officers (according to their subordinates' opinion.) However, there were no statistically significant differences between the leadership style of district health officers (according to the

district health officer's own opinion), bachelor degree earned by the district health officers, frequency of training attended and number of years working as the district health officers.

4. In analyzing the relationship of factors impacting on FP output to predict relationships between various districts with high, middle and low FP outputs, the results showed that:

4.1 The only one factor which could predict a high level FP output district was the district health officer's leadership style with high concern for staff that is joined with an equally high concern for productivity (according to their subordinates' opinion).

4.2 There were five factors which predicted middle level FP output. There were the district health officer's leadership styles such as, high concern for staff and an equally high concern for productivity (according to their subordinates' opinion); high concern for production coupled with low concern for staff (according to district health officer's own opinion); low concern for production coupled with low concern for staff (according to their subordinates' opinion); a moderate degree of concern for production combined with a moderate degree of concern for staff (according to district health officer's own opinion); and the last factors was the mean percentage of population with education above the compulsory level.

4.3 The only one factor to predicted low level FP output district was the district health officer's leadership style with low concern for production coupled with low concern for staff.