

Thesis Title: The Correlation between Knowledge on Population and Intention to act on Fertility of Upper Secondary School Students in Udonnathani Province.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to investigate the correlation between the knowledge of the population and their intention to act on fertility, to compare the correlation among the students with the following variables: sex, number of siblings, parents' occupations, parents' educational levels, and the students who had taken and not taken the population education as an elective course.

Four hundred and thirty-eight upper secondary school students in Udonnathani province were selected to be the subjects of this study. These subjects were asked to complete a questionnaire during January to February 1988. Data were computed by Pearson's Correlation. The Z-test was employed to test subjects for a significant difference.

The findings were as follow:

1. The Knowledge of the Population : Most of the students had a mean of 25.97 from the total score of 40. About 89.7 percent of the students were able to get more than 50 percent. The differences between the sexes of knowledge in the population were found to be significant at a 0.05 level of significance. Males had more knowledge than females. The other variables besides the stated findings were not found to be significantly different.

2. The Intention to act on Fertility: Most of the students had a mean of 96.81 from the total score of 140. About 87.7 percent of the students intended to act on fertility in the positive direction. The differences between the sexes regarding the intention to act on fertility were found to be significant at a 0.05 level of significance. Moreover females more often intended to act on fertility than males. The other variables rather than the stated findings were not found to be significantly different.

3. The correlation between the knowledge of the population and the intention to act on fertility: Results also revealed that there was a statistically significant correlation at a 0.001 level and in a positive direction, the correlation was 0.2171. However in comparison of the correlation levels among all the stated variables were found to be significant at a 0.05 level. The correlational level of students whose parents are merchants was higher than the students whose parents are farmers. The other variables besides the

stated findings were not found to be significantly different.

From the finding of this research can be concluded the offering of population knowledge to students would have impact to those students to make appropriate decision toward their fertility.