Thesis Title Determining Factors of Divorce in Thai Urban

Families

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed to investigate the behavior and interaction of the couple, who expressed intention to divorce and to analyse the relationship between the married couple cohabitating behavior and their desire for divorce.

The data was obtained from the study on "The Effect of Houshold Crowding on the Relationship in Family and Health" conducted by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahdiol University from 1987-1989. The project interviewed 2,017 married persons who had at least 1 child from 20 districts at Bangkok. The interviewers were 619 men and 1,398 women; hower, the sample analysed for the present study consisted of 576 cases of which 288 of no-divorce intention. Percentage and Multiple Regression Analysis were used.

The results showed that the demographic, economic and social characteristics of divorce group and no-divorce group were not different. Respondents in these two groups were about 32 years old. Their average number of children was 2.

Most of them finished 6 years of education and worked in the categories of service and labour.

Sexual relationship, the divorce group and no-divorce group was studied with no-divorce intention. Frequency of intercourse was found higher among those.

Concerning the marriage satisfaction, disagreements between the husband and wife, satisfaction toward children undesirable habits and arguments between pouse and other family members and violence, the divorce group reported more frequency of action compared to no-divorce group. Moreover, in the detail of undesirable habits, women found them to be most important reason for their divorce intention.

Other habits stated by wives included frequent meeting with person of opposite sex, extravagance and alcohol drinking or gambling. Men who stated divorced intention were less clear-about their reasons for such intention. After bad habits of wives were raised by husbands as gambling, excessive complaining.

On the other hand, the no-divorce group reported having more frequency of love and attachment behavior toward each other more than the divorce group.

Finally, variables found to be related divorce request were the couple's undesirable behavior, disagreement between husband and wife, child discipline, sexual intercourse, love and attachment action with statistical significance at .05.