Thesis Title

Attitude of Grade 12 Students Toward Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning: A Case Study in Islamic Private Schools in Three Southern Border Provinces of Thailand

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate the knowledge and attitude of grade 12 students toward maternal and child health and family planning. Differentials by students' gender, exposure to information on maternal and child health and family planning, parents' education and occupation are examined. The relationship between knowledge and these independent variables are analyzed.

The sample consists of 740 students at the grade 12 level in the 1989 academic year. All of them are studying in Islamic Private Schools in the municipal area of three southern provinces of Thailand namely, Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat.

The instrument used in this inquiry is a questionnaire constructed by the investigator and reviewed by specialists. The questionnaire was pre-tested and item analyzed in order to test for reliability.

The statistical techniques employed here are frequencies and standard deviations for the general data, one-way analysis of variance for the attitudinal study, S-Method of scheffe for testing different means, and stepwise multiple regression analysis for the relationship between knowledge and all independent variables.

The results of the study on knowledge of maternal and child health show that female students are better informed than males. The students whose father finished higher than Pratom 4 are better informed than those whose father finished Pratom 4 and or less. The students whose mother finished higher than Pratom 4 have more knowledge about health than those whose mother finished Pratom 4. The students whose father and mother have non-agricuture occupations are better informed than those who work in agriculture. The students who are more exposed to information about health have a more positive attitude than those who have receive less information. The variables that are related to the knowledge of students are gender, father' education and the level of information received.

In attitude toward family planning, female students have a more positive score than males. The students who have received high and middle level of information have a more positives attitude than those who have received a low level of information. The variables that are related to the students attitude are gender, level of information received and religious education of father.