

*Thesis Title*

*A Study on values regarding having Children  
of Hmong and Karen women in Chiangmai  
Province*

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*Degree*

*Master of Education (Population)*

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#### *ABSTRACT*

*The purpose of this research was to study on values regarding having children of Hmong and Karen women. The study considers socio-economic and social-psychological factors related to fertility decision as basis for research.*

*The sample were 210 Hmong and Karen women (106 Hmong and 104 Karen) in Chiangmai Province who were married and were between 15-49 years old. The samples were obtatined by purposeive sampling. The tool employed was a questionnaire constructed by the researcher. The data were analyzed by percentage and chi-squares were used for test of statistical significance.*

The findings were as follows

1. The majority of Hmong and Karen women (69.2% of Hmong and 69.4% of Karen) gave values regarding having children at a "Very high level"

2. The results from chi-square tests revealed no dependency of the values regarding having children on age, number of children, family structure, occupation, family's economic status, education and religion.

3. The majority of Hmong and Karen women gave values regarding having children at a "very high level" which were classified in four dimensions.

3.1 On the "Economic and Security Values" : 69.5% of hilltribe women gave "Very high" Values on economic and security (67.8% of Hmong and 70.5% of Karen).

3.2 On the "Affection values" : 67.9% of hilltribe women gave "Very high" Values on Affection (68.8% of Hmong and 67.0% of Karen.)

3.3 On the "Family cohesive and continuity values" : 62.9% of hilltribe women gave. "Very high" Values on family cohesive and continuity (67.2% of Hmong and 64.6% of Karen)

3.4 On the "Self-enrichment and development Values" : 77.4% of hilltribe women gave "Very high" values on self-enrichment and development. (75.2% of Hmong and 79.3% of Karen).

## Recommendation

The research results showed that the values regarding having children of both Hmong and Karen women were approximately equally high. Therefore fertility rate of both hilltribes should also be equally high. However, previous studies regarding fertility rate of both hilltribe revealed rather large difference, This indicates that there should be some further studies related to how values regarding having children and fertility of these hilltribes are related.