

Thesis Title The Application of Life skills Program on AIDS
Prevention Among Mathayomsuksa 3 Male Students
in Prachinburi Province.

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ABSTRACT

At present, AIDS is a major health, social and economic problem of Thailand. Unprotected sexual intercourse is a major mode of HIV/AIDS transmission. The highest number of cases and deaths relating to AIDS are found among male youth, many of whom were probably infected at adolescence. Adolescents is one of the high risk groups. HIV/AIDS preventive behavior should be taught to adolescents. Thus it is important to teach life skills to adolescents in order to encourage a new tradition in the classroom that will support responsible behavior.

The main purpose of this quasi-experimental research was to assess the effectiveness of a life skills program for the prevention of AIDS among mathayomsuksa 3 male students in Prachinburi province. Life skills concepts proposed by the World Health Organization and modified Kolb's Experiential Learning

Theory were applied to develop the program. The life skills curriculum was comprising eight teaching lesson plans. The acquisition of life skills is based on learning through active participation. The methods used to facilitate this active involvement included group work, brainstorming, group discussion, role playing, skill building, games and demonstration. The study sample was comprising 86 mathayomsuksa 3 male students. Forty-four were assigned to the experimental group and 42 were assigned to the comparison group. The experimental group was required to enroll in the eight life skills lessons. Data were collected three times. The first was before the lessons. The second was one week after the lessons. The last data collection for the follow-up was eight weeks after the lessons. Data were collected through self-administered questionnaires and interviews.

The results of this study showed that students who went through the life skills curriculum gained a statistically significantly higher level of self-awareness, responsibility, decision-making and refusal skills relating HIV/AIDS. It was also found that students' HIV/AIDS preventive behavior was correlated to self-awareness, responsibility, decision-making and refusal skills relating HIV/AIDS and the correlation was statistically significant.

The results of this study indicated that this life skills program can help students to develop basic life skills for HIV/AIDS prevention. Thus, the program should be adapted to mathayomsuksa 3 male students and other similar groups in order to encourage responsible HIV/AIDS protective behavior.