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| Thesis Title                 | A Study of Working Conditions and Aspirations of the<br>Child Labourers in Gasoline Stations: A Case Study of<br>Samutprakan Province |
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## ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to investigate the working conditions and aspirations of child labourers in gasoline stations in Samutprakan province. Data were collected by interviewing 100 sample child labourers aged under 18 years old in 22 gasoline stations. The data were analyzed and presented in terms of frequency distribution, percentage and mode.

Summary of findings on working conditions and aspirations of child labourers were as follows :

The majority of child labourers were boys (84.0 percent) who have domiciles in the Northeast (71.0 percent). 70.0 percent finished primary school of grade 6 and 80.0 percent never attended any vocational training. The main reasons for not continuing their education were: the family can not afford the expenses (20.0 percent), don't want to learn (14.0 percent) and want to be self earning (13.0 percent).

Concerning their family issues, most of their parents (73.0 percent) stay along together and 43.0 percent are farmers with the average income per month of 3,455 baht for father and 2,048 baht for mother. Father (48.0 percent) and mother (55.0 percent) finished primary school of grade 4.

On social life, 57.0 percent stay in the stations' dormitory and 85.0 percent always contact their parents. 74.0 percent have close friends and like to go to shopping centres on the holiday. Anyway, 50.8 percent do exercise for 1 hour everyday.

Regarding working conditions, the study showed that the majority of child labourers (60.0 percent) work at these gasoline stations for 1-3 months and with their own decision (98.0 percent). Child relatives were the persons who introduced them to work. 61.5 percent received wage of 145 baht per day. However, there were 69.0 percent working longer than 8 hours a day, and there were 7.0 percent of child labourers aged 13 - 15 years old that work during 22:00 - 6:00 and 12.0 percent working overtime. Most of the children (92.0 percent) had never had accident during work. Employers (90.9 percent) provided dormitories for child labourers, anyway, 73.0 percent had never got any vocational training.

For the aspirations of child labourers, it was found that 75.0 percent of child labourers want to further their education and 12.0 percent want to do car repair work. 56.0 percent are ready for vocational training and the majority prefer to get training after their working time. Anyway, some of them (58.0 percent) want to return to work in their hometown. Concerning family issues, the majority of them have not decided yet when they will get married, 39.0 percent want to have 2 children and 38.0 percent want their children to have the highest education that they can afford.