

Thesis A Study of Garbage and Nightsoil Disposal
Behavior of Raft Proprietors and tourists in
Amphur Muang Kanchanaburi Province.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to study behavior and factors influencing actual garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior of raft proprietors and tourists staying on the raft moored on the Mae Khlong River in Amphur Muang Kanchanaburi province and suggest solutions encouraging them to have correct garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior. The data was collected by questionnaires and behavioral observation. The sample groups consist of 45 raft proprietors and 210 tourists staying on the raft.

The results of the research are as follows : generally, the two sample groups exhibit poor garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior. The variable which most influences the disposal behavior of the raft proprietors is knowledge about garbage and nightsoil disposal. This factor is significant at the 0.05 level. The groups who had knowledge high level were groups that exhibited the most garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior. Factors such as sex, age, monthly income, length ownership of raft, membership in raft association and environmental experience do not have any impact on

the garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior of raft proprietors. The variables which most influence the disposal behavior of tourists are age, monthly income and information received. These are significant at the 0.01 and 0.001 level respectively. The groups of tourists aged 31 and up, the groups whose monthly income 6,001 baht and up and the groups which had received moderate amount of information exhibited the most garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior. Factors such as sex, educational level, occupation and environmental experience do not have any impact on the garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior of tourists on the rafts. Moreover, it is found, from behavioral observation, that most raft proprietors do not provide garbage bins for tourists. A few rafts have garbage bins, but they are unsanitary. Also, toilets in all rafts are unsanitary. Tourists are generally found to exhibit appropriate garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior at a low level because no sanitary garbage bins and toilets are provided by raft proprietors.

The findings point out the necessity of establishing consciousness and awareness among raft proprietors to take part in maintaining and improving the environment of the Mae Khlong River. Correct garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior should be promoted immediately and continuously by concerned organizations. Moreover, officials and equipment should be provided and punitive measures for wrong garbage and nightsoil disposal behavior on the river should be instituted according to the present situation. Moreover, NGOs and mass media should co-operate to develop the quality and lift up the standard of the rafts. These may be done, for example, by having differentiated garbage bins, sanitary toilets, control over sound pollution from discotheque rafts, and increase of tourist safety by providing life jackets, etc. The measures mentioned above will effectively change raft proprietors and tourists to exhibit better behavior.