

Thesis Title	A Study on the Reasons for having Children of Chawle Married Women in Phuket
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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to find out the chawle married women's fundamental reasons for having children at the amount they actually had. The reasons for having children were categorized into six areas: economic dependency; cultural belief; warmth and dependability at their old age; lack of family planning; and the population factors. 168 chawle married women at Siray irland of Phuket province were interviewed by the researcher using the forced choice questionnaire. The results of study were as follows:

1. Most of the chawle married women were at the age of 15-29 years, at the period of 1-5 years and 6-10 years of marriage, having more than three children, selling shells, crabs, and shrimp as living career, having 61-80 Baht of income per day, and having education that was lower than primary education.

2. Chawle married women orderly ranked the importance of reasons for having children according to areas as follows: warmth and dependability at their old age, economic dependency, cultural beliefs, population factors, and lack of family planning.

3. The Chawle married women at the age of 15-17 years put the importance on economic dependency, and warmth and dependability at their old age. Those who had more than three children put the most importance on cultural beliefs. Those who had married for more than 13 years and who had no career put the most importance on the lack of family planning. Those who had married for less than 13 years considered population factors the most important reason.

The study showed that the chawle married women never reject the family planning but there are other reasons that are considered more important. In this case the responsible organization has to educate them to realize the importance of family planning.