

THESIS TITLE : THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAMILY-RELATIONSHIP, LIFE  
CHANGE EVENTS AND ELDERLY'S QUALITY OF LIFE

AUTHOR : MISS. NOPPAWAN HANPOL

THESIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE :

.....*Punnee Muanwong*.....Chairman  
(Associate Professor Punnee Muanwong)

.....*Amporn Charoenchai*.....  
(Assistant Professor Amporn Charoenchai)

.....*Piyakorn Chutangkorn*.....  
(Associate Professor Piyakorn Chutangkorn)

### ABSTRACT

The objective of this descriptive study was to investigate the relations between the elderly's family relationship, life change events with their quality of life.

The study sample included 94 males and 85 females of over 60 years of age, who resided in 4 sub-districts of Laem Ngop District in Trat Province and had no physical disabilities which limited their daily activities. These 179 individuals were chosen by a two-stage simple random sampling.

The study data were secured by interviewing the sample elderly using 4 sets of questionnaires: data concerning demography, family relationship questionnaire, life change events questionnaire, and quality of life questionnaire. While the questionnaires on family

relations and quality of life were checked for their content validity by elderly specialists comprising 2 medical doctors and 4 nurses, the testing for content validity of the questionnaire on life change events was examined by a 6-specialist team whose two additional members were pensioners and presidents of the Elderly Club of Laem Ngop District. In addition, the testing for reliabilities of the questionnaires was done by the use of various methods. The family relationship questionnaire was tested by the Kuder Richardson 21 principles (KR-21) resulting its reliability of 0.80, the questionnaire on the life change events by the test-retest method resulting its reliability of 0.90, and the one on the quality of life by the Cronbach's alpha coefficient resulting its reliability of 0.96.

The collected data were then analyzed by Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient. The findings of this research were summarized as follows:

1. The elderly's family relationship was positively correlated with their quality of life, and the correlation coefficient was as statistically significant as 0.8904 ( $p < 0.01$ )
2. The elderly's life change events were negatively correlated with their quality of life, and the correlation coefficient was as statistically significant as -0.7233 ( $p < 0.01$ )

The investigator wished to make recommendations for those who provided care for the elderly to realize the importance of good family relationship and the life change events which might have an impact on the elderly's quality of life. In addition, the family should be encouraged to take a role in caring the elderly particularly by establishing good relationship among family members which would result in the elderly's good living and quality of life.