

Abstract

University Students' Use of Mobile Phones and Pagers in Thai Society

by

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This exploratory study was conducted to investigate the perceptions of Thai people toward the use of mobile phones and pagers among university students in the Thai society. The study focused on three research questions which explored the characteristics of the student-users and their usage purposes, possibilities of misuse, and the social perception toward the appropriate or acceptable use of mobile phones and pagers. Data were collected by employing self-administered questionnaires from 200 participants (i.e., 50 user students, 50 non user students, 50 non student users, and 50 non student, non user subjects). Results reveal that university students used mobile phone and pager to facilitate their communication interaction for social and emergency use. Subjects of the four groups refused that university students used mobile phones and pagers to enhance their social status. However, such communication technologies were reported to be possibly misused and inappropriate use. Results suggest that when using mobile phones and pagers, ones should be particularly concerned about time, place, and respect for others' privacy.