

## ABSTRACT

## INDIRECTNESS in Thai Society

by

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The paper investigates how much INDIRECTNESS people use in their daily life; the correlation between topic and the use of INDIRECTNESS; the correlation between sex and the use of INDIRECTNESS; and the use of speech style in the groups of students, teachers, subordinates, and supervisors. The subjects are four groups of adult students, teachers, subordinates and supervisors, totalling 249. A questionnaire was employed in the study and the data analysed using according to percentage values. The results were then interpreted by the researcher. The findings are that respondents use the speech styles of DIRECTNESS 33.3%, INDIRECTNESS 30% and POLITENESS 24.6% respectively. Women use INDIRECTNESS more than men do. Older people use more INDIRECTNESS than younger people. It is not true that people use INDIRECTNESS for discussing negative matters rather than using DIRECTNESS. People who have to control people use INDIRECTNESS more than the people who do not have to control people .