

Jitsopin Merakate 2010: Relationship between Leisure Time Allocation under the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and Family Functions: A Case Study of Selected Adolescent Groups. Doctor of Philosophy (Tropical Agriculture), Major Field: Tropical Agriculture, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Thanwa Jitsanguan, Ph.D. 128 pages.

This research aimed generally to study the relationship between leisure time allocation under the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and family functions of the Thai adolescent group. The targeted samples were 500 secondary school students (Mathayom 3) from 7 selected schools in Bangkok. Data was then collected by means of questionnaires and analyzed by applying both quantitative and descriptive methods.

Research findings indicated that the majority of samples (84%) showed fairly high level of leisure time allocation under the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy ($\bar{X}=3.13$) while the remaining (16%) showed a fairly low level. With regard to analyses of three core aspects of the philosophy namely moderation, reasonableness, and self immunity, it was found that with reasonableness aspect, the majority of respondents (94.6%) allocated leisure time as fairly high; with self immunity aspect, more than half of the respondents (80.8%) allocated leisure time as fairly high to high; and with moderation aspect, less than half of the respondents (32%) allocated leisure time as fairly low to low. Analysis of awareness in family functions revealed the satisfactory degree of recognition with a mean of 2.69, 2.74, 2.80, 2.88, 3.08 and 3.25 from total of 4 among various family aspects including affective involvement, behavior control, communication, affective responsiveness, problem-solving and the role respectively. Implication was that adolescents understand their family functions at a good level. The correlation (r) between family functions and leisure time was between 0.135 to 0.478 showing the positive relation of all variables involved at the 0.05 significance level.

The study finally suggested that improvement of leisure time allocation as well as family functions could be both at micro and macro levels. Individual and family behaviors should be reconsidered while supporting public policies and subsidies could play significant roles in ensuring the more sustainable solution to such studied issues.

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