CREATIVE PERSONALITY AND DEPRESSION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN FUTURE ARTISTS AND FUTURE SCIENTISTS

ABSTRACT

This particular study aimed to investigate creative personality and depression levels among students of two selected faculties: The faculties were the Faculty of Music at Silpakorn University ("future artists") and the Faculty of Bio-Technology at Assumption University ("future scientists"). The relationship between creative personality and depression levels was investigated, as well as the comparison between the two subject groups on creativity and depression, and across demographic variables.

Gender, academic year (two to above year four), and selected majors were used for demographic profile analyses. The population of the study consisted of 291 students. There were three parts to the bilingual instrument used in this study: Personal information, Gough's Adjective Checklist, and the Beck Depression Inventory. Descriptive statistics, t-tests, Person's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, and ANOVA analyses were employed for statistical treatment of the data.

The research results showed that there was a significant difference in the frequency of creative personality levels between male future artists and future scientists. It was also found that future artists have statistically lower levels of creative personality when compared with future scientists in total creative personality scores. For depression, it showed that there was a significant difference in the frequency for males in depression levels while there was no significant difference in frequency for females in depression level between the two groups. The distinctive results for the depression
scores was that in future artists group, there were 5 of them who were categorized as having severe to extreme depression levels, but none in the futures scientist group. Furthermore in total depression scores, future artists showed higher depression level than future artists.

There was a significant relationship between creative personality and depression levels in the future scientists group only. And, there was an inverse interrelationship between these two dependent variables. Finally, when comparing the two groups, there were significant differences between future artists and future scientists in both aspects of creative personality and depression.