LIFE VALUES AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT OF THAI TEACHERS OF SELECTED CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

IN BANGKOK ARCHDIOCESE

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The main purpose of this research was to study the ranking of the Life Values and the significant difference of Moral Development in relation to 6 bio-social variables: gender, age, marital status, education, years of experience, and religion.

The sample group was Thai teachers in 8 selected Catholic schools in Bangkok Archdiocese. 320 teachers were qualified to be subjects of the study. The instruments employed were The Life Values questionnaire and The Defining Issues Test (DIT).

The data was analyzed by using Pearson r Correlation Coefficient, t-test, and One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). The Life Values were explained by using the ranking according to level of importance of 36 Values. The findings were as follow:

- 1. The majority of the respondents were female (90%), the education level was in the Bachelor's degree level (96.88%), while the years of experience was 5-10 years (41.25%), the respondents were mostly Buddhists (76.88%).
- 2. For all the selected bio-social variables, most respondents paid more attention to the values of "Honest and Responsible" and ranked "Honest and Responsible" as the most important values while "Ambitious and Imaginative values" were ranked as the least important in this category.

- 3. As age increased, the values of "Logical and Obedient" became more important to the respondents. The category of "Capable, Helpful, Polite and Selfcontrolled" became less important. The more year of experience, the higher the rank of "Loving and Forgiving".
- 4. In "Terminal Values" "Family security" ranked highest while "An exciting Life" was the last ranked by the respondents.
- 5. With regards to "age", Self-respect" was ranked by respondents as they got older while "Inner-harmony" was ranked less important in the category of "Terminal Values".
- The majority of respondents (66.3%) were in stage 3 of moral Development, 6. Level II: Conventional Level. No significant difference existed between moral Development and the 6 bio-social factions. No relationship existed between moral development and life values.

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