

## ABSTRACT

Rabilwongse, Chalerm Sak. "Thailand College Student Values: A Normative Study." Published Project in Lieu of Doctor of Arts dissertation, University of Northern Colorado, 1979.

The primary objectives of this research project were to conduct a normative study of the values held by college and university students in Thailand, to study the relationships between values and other relevant variables, such as the sex of student, type of institution attended, and the grade level of the student. The sample used consisted of 1,107 students who were officially enrolled at one of eight participating institutions in Thailand during the months of November, December, and January, 1978-1979. The institutions selected for participation in this study are considered to be the major institutions in Thailand. Five of the institutions are public, two are private, one is military and all are spread geographically throughout Thailand. The values of Thai students were determined by their responses to a translated version of Roscoe's Polyphasic Values Inventory (PVI). The PVI is an instrument used to reflect the existence of a broad range of values by allowing a respondent to choose from a continuum of five choices reflecting a Likert-type scale on 20 value-laden situations. The responses attempt to reflect positions which range between conservative and liberal alternatives. Results of the translated version of 18 out of the original 20 items of Roscoe's PVI on Thai college and university students can be summarized as follows: Thailand college

and university students' attitudes are moderate to conservative in their view of the purpose of science. Students in Thailand expressed the feeling that the right to vote should be given to all adult citizens who indicate that they know and understand the right and duties of citizenship. Thailand students felt strongly that the idea of military action can only be justified in the event of attack on the country or if it was necessary to defend Thailand from attack. In the area of foreign policy, Thailand students strongly support the idea that the national interest should be subservient to the good of mankind without regard for nationality or form of government. Thai students felt that private enterprise should be encouraged; however, the government should take the steps needed to guarantee a stable economy and to ensure the economic welfare of every citizen. Students have a moderate viewpoint toward education for citizenship. Most of the students still believe that the teacher should guide the experience of the child, stir the interest of the child in such a fashion as to encourage good citizenship. In the area of education, a majority of Thailand students believe in greater emphasis on studies organized around social problems. The school should initiate and direct social reform. Most of the students believe that professors should have freedom to express their opinions. However, they should exercise restraint in expressing their opinions if they are not supportive of the government. Thai students generally were more liberal in their belief about the equality of men. College and university students in Thailand were more conservative in their position about what actions should be taken to protect society from criminals. Thai students were generally moderately liberal in their beliefs about who should be the final authority in determining whether

a particular type of conduct is ethically right or wrong. There is a strong feeling among Thai students that each student is morally obligated to refrain from cheating. A moderately liberal position was expressed by Thai students on the issue of sexual relations. Thai students have a moderately liberal position about the use of alcohol. The majority of Thai students do not believe in a personal God but believe in a supreme being or a first cause. The Thai students tend to view the Bible as a religious book, but not the inspired word of God. Thai students expressed a moderate view about the issue of man's responsibility for his deeds. College and university Thai students were divided between moderately conservative and extremely liberal positions on the issue about who could be expected to bring about the most desirable relationship between human races.

