

Abstract

The objective of this thesis, "Old Age Life Satisfaction : A Case of Retired Government Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives" were .

1. to study the degree life satisfaction among the sample of retired government officials.
2. to study the relationship between social background variables and life satisfaction.
3. to study the factors effecting life satisfaction.

A sample of 319 was randomly drawn from retired government officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

The results of this study are as follows :

1. Most of the sample had relatively high degree of life satisfaction.
2. Most social background variables were not significantly related to life satisfaction, except marital status and last position held before retirement.
3. Social participation revealed the highest relationship to life satisfaction, followed by familial relationship, health, economic status, relationship with cousins, relative deprivation, relationship with friends and neighbours, number of disease, hobbies and income respectively. In addition, no significant relationships between staying with spouse, staying with children and grandchildren and voluntary association membership were found.

The research findings also revealed that there were significant relationships between social participation and relative deprivation, health, income, familial relationship, relationship with friends and neighbours and relationship with cousins. It was also found that relative deprivation was related to health, income and economic status and relationship between income and health.

It was concluded that activity theory had more applicability to life satisfaction among the sample of Thai elderly than disengagement theory as all hypotheses derived from activity theory were confirmed statistically.