

Summary of Research
Relationships Between Important Psychological Traits of Student
and Water Conservation Behaviors

by

Mr. Surapong Chudech

Miss. Anisara Jarassri

The four main objectives of this research were : firstly to investigate if the students who possessed different psychological characteristics were different in water conservation behaviors; secondly to investigate if the students who were different in their bio-social backgrounds were different in psychological characteristics and water conservation behaviors; thirdly to investigate if the students who possessed different psychological characteristics showed differences in environment information taking behaviors and water conservation behaviors; and fourthly to determine the major variables in predicting water conservation behaviors.

The sample in this research consisted of 364 students. The proportional stratified sampling technique was applied in the sample selection. The variables are divided into 4 groups : (1) bio-social factors: sex ,age ,academic ,achievement ,class ,income ,expenses, activities ,father's education, and mother's education ; (2) psychological factors: moral reasoning, future orientation, and internal locus of control ; (3) environment information taking behaviors ; and (4) water conservation behaviors. In the data analysis, three-way anova, t-test, and multiple regression were utilized to test the 4 hypotheses. The findings were as follows:

1. The students from low income family with low degree of moral reasoning, and high degree of future orientation and internal locus of control displayed higher water conservation behaviors than those with low degree of future orientation and internal locus of control , and among the students whose mothers had low education, who had high degree of moral reasoning and future orientation ,those with high internal locus of control showed higher water conservation behaviors than those with low degree of internal locus of control .

2. The students who had different bio-social backgrounds were not different in their water conservation behaviors. Students whose age were lower than 19 and students who were in their first and second years in the institute had higher moral reasoning than those over 20 years of age or were in the third and fourth years. Students with high income, no activity and whose mother had high education had higher future orientation than the opposite group. Students who had low expense had higher internal locus of control than the ones who had high expense.

3. The students who possessed different psychological characteristics were different in their water conservation behaviors. Students with low degree of moral reasoning had higher water conservation behaviors than the opposite group. Students who had high degree of future orientation showed higher water conservation behaviors than the low group. Those with high degree of internal locus of control had higher water conservation behaviors than the opposite group. Students who had high degree of future orientation showed higher environment information taking behaviors than the opposite ones.

4. As for the predictive variables, it was found that internal locus of control, environment information taking behaviors, moral reasoning and future orientation altogether could predict 31.99% of water conservation behaviors.