

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This concluding chapter deals with the summary of major findings, suggestions and implication of the study for future research.

The study had been conducted with the purpose of gaining insight into the empowerment of women through a sociological study of Lan Na women in Thailand. In order to make it more clear and specific, the researcher formulated six objectives.

The study was conducted to Lan Na women in Thailand which is specific only Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces. Three hundred respondents who were living in Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces were considered for the study.

5.1 Major Findings

The first part of this chapter attempts to present a brief resume of research findings related to the impact of Lan Na women in Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces.

1. Basic Socio-Economic Information

This part of the study is about the basic socio-economic information of respondents, those who have attended the questionnaires.

1.1 Education

With respect to education it was found that among the respondents, the majority of respondents (23%) were those who completed their secondary level and this was followed by 20 per cent of respondents who could only read and write and 13 per cent of the respondents who both had graduate level education and was illiterate. 17 per cent of respondents who had primary level education and the lowest level of education (7%) acquired by the respondents is postgraduate level and technical level.

1.2 Age

Among the 300 respondents, the majority of respondents (57%) are in the age group between 36-45 years while 20 percent are in the age between 26-35 years and 13.3 percent in age group of 16-25 year. The age group of 46 above has the least number of participants who represent only 10% of the total respondents.

1.3 Religion

Regarding religion it was found that 4% are Christians and 93.3% are Buddhist; whereas the percentage of Islam is only 2% and 2% of the respondents are Hindus.

1.4 Marital Status

Among the 300 respondents, it is seen that 95.4% are married and 1% unmarried and 2% are widowed and 2% are divorced.

1.5 Total Annual Income in the Family

The income distribution of the study sample indicated that questionnaires the highest percentage (44.3%) is in the income range of 3,601-6,000 Baht per month; this is followed by 28.7 per cent of

respondents who have a family income of 3601-6,000 Baht per month and 11.7 per cent of respondents who have a family income of 2,401-3,600 Baht per month. Only 9.3 percent of respondents earn 1,201-2,400 Baht per month. There are 6.0 per cent of respondents who have family income duration up to 1,200 Baht per month.

1.6 Type of Family

The study indicated that 194 respondents hail from nuclear families and 106 respondents live in joint families.

1.7 Total Value of the Property Own by the Household

The study shows that 44.3% the value of the property owned by the household of the respondents have twelve hundred thousand baht and above followed by 28.7% the value of the property owned by the household of the respondents holding nine hundred thousand baht to twelve hundred thousand baht and 11.7% the value of the property owned by the household of the respondents holding six hundred thousand to nine hundred thousand baht and 9.3% the value of the property owned by the household of the respondents holding three hundred thousand baht to six hundred thousand baht. The least number the value of the property owned by the household 6.0% of respondents is in the category of up to three hundred thousand baht.

2. Details of Employment of Respondents

The second part of this chapter was to find out the employment and monthly income of the respondents.

2.1 Employment

Majority women 284 are employed and 16 women are not employed. It says that participation of women in economic activities is high.

2.2 Nature of Employment

It is revealed that majority women 194 (64.7%) are self-employed and 106 (35.3%) of women are working in service government/Private. It can be noticed that majority of Lan Na women has self-employed nature of working.

2.3 Nature of Engagement

The natural engagement of the respondents shows that majority women 248 (82.7%) are full time of engagement and 52 (17.3%) of women are part time of engagement. It can be noticed that majority of Lan Na women work in a full time.

2.4 Nature of Skill

The study shows that majority of respondents 137 (45.7%) are skilled of working and 124 (41.3%) of respondents are semi-skilled of working. There are 39 (13%) of respondents being unskilled. It is clear that Lan Na women are semi-skilled of working.

2.5 Monthly Income

The monthly income distribution of the study sample indicated that majority of respondents 98 (32.7%) has income up to 5,000 baht month and 60 (20%) of respondents has income 5,001 – 8,000 baht per month and 39 (13%) of respondents has income 8,001- 11,000 baht per month and 15 (5%) of respondents has income 11,001 -14,000 baht per month

and 42 (14%) of respondents has income 14,001 – 17,000 baht per month and 25 (8.33%) of respondents has income 17,001 -20,000 baht per month and 20 (6.67%) of respondents has income 20,001 - 23,000 baht per month.

2.6 Monthly Income of Husband

The study of monthly income of husband reveals that highest per cent (37.3%) of respondents who have husbands earning income 6,001- 9,000 baht per month and 25.3% of respondents who have husbands earning income 9,001 -12,000 baht per month and 15% of respondents who have husbands earning income 12,001 baht and above per month and 13% of respondents who have husbands earning income 3,001 – 6,000 baht per month and 9.33% of respondents who have husbands earning income up to 3,000 baht per month.

3. Knowledge about the Program

This part was to find out the knowledge about the program of Lan Na women which is specific of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces.

3.1 Knowing the Number of Organizations in the Community

The study about knowing the number of organizations in the community shows that majority respondents 105 (35%) know that there are 4-5 organizations in the community and 92 (30.7%) of respondents know that there are 1-2 organizations in the community and 61 (20.3%) of respondents know that there are 3-4 organizations in the community and 42 (14%) of the respondents know that there are 5-6 organizations in the community.

3.2 Knowing who is/are the Main Functionaries of the Organization

With regard to knowing who is/are the main functionaries of the organization, it is found that highest per cent (87%) of the respondents do not know who is/are the main functionaries of the organization and 13% of the respondents know who is/are the main functionaries of the organization.

3.3 Educational Aid

The study educational aid was found that the highest per cent (82%) of the respondents do not know services of educational aid provided by the organization and 18% of the respondents know the services of educational aid provided by the organization.

3.4 Nutrition, Health and Hygiene

Regarding Nutrition, Health and Hygiene, it was found that the highest per cent (89.3%) of the respondents do not know services of nutrition, health and hygiene provided by the organization and 18% of the respondents know services of nutrition, health and hygiene provided by the organization.

3.5 Family Planning

Among the 300 respondents, it is seem that that the highest per cent (91.7%) of the respondents do not know services of family planning provided by the organization and 8.33% of the respondents know the services of family planning provided by the organization.

3.6 Adult Literacy

The knowing of adult literacy of the respondents shows that the highest per cent (88.7%) of the respondents do not know services of adult literacy provided by the organization and 11.3% of the respondents know the services of adult literacy provided by the organization.

3.7 Income Generation and Vocational Training

The highest per cent (76.7%) of the respondents do not know services of income generation and vocational training provided by the organization and 23.3% of the respondents know the services of income generation and vocational training provided by the organization.

3.8 Services for Handicapped

The study indicated that the highest per cent (93.3%) of the respondents do not know services for handicapped provided by the organization and 6.67% of the respondents know the services for handicapped provided by the organization.

3.9 Legal Awareness

Regarding legal awareness, it was found that the highest per cent (91.7%) of the respondents do not know services legal awareness provided by the organization and 8.33% of the respondents know the services of legal awareness provided by the organization.

3.10 Rehabilitation and Welfare

Among the 300 respondents, the highest per cent (86.7%) of the respondents do not know services of rehabilitation and welfare provided by the organization and 13.3% of the respondents know the services of rehabilitation and welfare provided by the organization.

4. Participation

This part was to find out the participation of the respondents about forum, council, and committee.

4.1 The organization has any forum/council/committee providing representation to the beneficiaries

The study of organization having any forum, council, and committee providing representation to the beneficiaries was found that that 90% of the respondents do not participate of the organization having any forum/council/committee providing representation to the beneficiaries and 10% of the respondents participate of the organization having any forum/council/committee providing representation to the beneficiaries.

4.2 Being the Member of any such Beneficiaries Forum/Council/Committee in the Organization

It was found that 94.7% of the respondents do not participate of being the member of any such beneficiaries forum/council/committee in the organization and 5.33% of the respondents participate of being the member of any such beneficiaries forum/council/committee in the organization.

4.3 Holding any Position/Office in this Forum/Council/Committee of the Organization

It is revealed that 94.7% of the respondents do not participate of holding any position/office in this forum/council/committee of the organization and 5.33% of the respondents participate of holding any position/office in this forum/council/committee of the organization.

4.4 Having any Village Level Beneficiaries Committees

This study was found that 85% of the respondents do not participate of having any village level beneficiaries committees and 15% of the respondents participate of having any village level beneficiaries committees.

4.5 Being the Member of these Committees

The study of being the member of these committees was found that 91.7% of the respondents do not participate of being the member of these committees and 8.3% of the respondents participate of being the member of these committees.

4.6 Nature of Participation

The natural participation of the respondents shows that 58.7% of the respondents are just attendance of participation; 18.3% of the respondents are public propaganda of participation; 6.3% of the respondents are fund collection of participation and 16.7% of the respondents are organizing women of participation.

5. Perceptions of Women Problems/Issues/Role/Right

This part is to study Lana Na women's perceptions of women problems/issues/role/right.

5.1 Perceptions of Education

Regarding perception of education, it was found that 95.7% of respondents think that the girls or women would be involved in education and 4.3% of respondents do not think that the girls or women would be involved in education.

5.2 Income Generation

Here it is found that 82.7% of respondents think that the girls or women would be involved in income generation and 17.3% of respondents do not think that the girls or women would be involved in income generation.

5.3 Adult Literacy

The study of adult literacy was found that that 98.7% of respondents think that the girls or women would be involved in adult literacy and 1.3% of respondents do not think that the girls or women would be involved in adult literacy.

5.4 Legal Awareness

It is found that 94% of respondents think that the girls or women would be involved in legal awareness and 6% of respondents do not think that the girls or women would be involved in legal awareness.

5.5 Physical Abuse

Here it is found that 45% of respondents think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are in physical abuse and 55% of respondents do not think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are in physical abuse.

5.6 Moral Abuse

It is found that 92.7% of respondents think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are in moral abuse and 7.3% of respondents do not think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are in moral abuse.

5.7 Teasing

This study was found that 18% of respondents think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are teasing and 82% of respondents do not think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are teasing.

5.8 Health

It is shown that 99% of respondents think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are health and 1% of respondents do not think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are health.

5.9 Domination by Men

It is found that 57.7% of respondents think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are dominations by men and 42.3% of respondents do not think that the most serious problems faced by women in the locality/community are dominations by men.

5.10 Economic Factor

It is clear that 71.3% of respondents think that the cause of the problem faced by women is economic factor and 28.7% of respondents do not think that the cause of the problem faced by women is economic factor.

5.11 Illiteracy

This study is shown that 63% of respondents think that the cause of the problem faced by women is illiteracy and 37% of respondents do not think that the cause of the problem faced by women is illiteracy.

5.12 Class/Ethic

It is found that 52.3% of respondents think that the cause of the problem faced by women is class/ethnic and 47.7% of respondents do not think that the cause of the problem faced by women is class/ethnic.

5.13 Cultural Factor

It is found that 41.3% of respondents think that the cause of the problem faced by women is cultural factor and 58.7% of respondents do not think that the cause of the problem faced by women is cultural factor.

6. Decision Making in the Family/Community

This part of the study is about the respondents' decision making in the family or community.

6.1 Education of the Children

Among the 300 respondents, 81.7% of the respondents have only capacity to suggest of education of the children and 18.3% of the respondents have capacity to change the decisions of education of the children and there are no respondents who are without participation of decision of education of the children.

6.2 Health Needs of the Family

It is found that 52.7% of the respondents have only capacity to suggest of health needs of the family and 47.3% of the respondents have capacity to change the decisions of health needs of the family and there are no respondents who are without participation of decision of health needs of the family.

6.3 Decision of Upbringing of Children

It is found that 15% of the respondents have only capacity to suggest of upbringing of children and 85% of the respondents have capacity to change the decisions of upbringing of children and there are no respondents who are without participation of decision of upbringing of children.

6.4 Transaction of Movable Assets

It is found that 81.7% of the respondents have only capacity to suggest of transaction of movable asset and 18.3% of the respondents have capacity to change the decisions of transaction of movable asset and there are no respondents who are without participation of decision of transaction of movable asset.

6.5 Marriages

It is found that 83.3% of the respondents have only capacity to suggest of marriages and 6.67% of the respondents have capacity to change the decisions of marriages and there are (10%) of respondents who are without participation of decision of marriages.

6.6 Respondents' Earnings

It is found that 8.33% of the respondents have no freedom of their own earnings and 25% of the respondents have spending with permission to exercise control over their own earnings and 66.7% of respondents who use permission to exercise control over their own earnings freely.

6.7 Family Earnings

It is found that 15% of the respondents have no freedom of family earnings and 9% of the respondents have spending with permission to exercise control over family earnings and 76% of respondents who use permission to exercise control over family earnings freely.

6.8 Choice of Employment/Workplace

It is found that 14% of the respondents have no permission to choose of employment/workplace and 1% of the respondents have husband's/elders choice of employment/workplace and 85% of respondents have their own choice of employment/workplace.

6.9 Freedom of Mobility in their Village/Slum

It is found that there are no the respondents highly restricted of mobility in their village/slum and 5% of the respondents are allowed with escort of mobility in their village/slum and 95% of respondents freely move from their village/slum.

6.10 Using of Family Planning Method of Their Own Choice

It is found that 16% of respondents don't know of using of family planning method of their own choice and 4% of the respondents use of family planning method of husband's/in-law' choice and 80% of respondents use of family planning method of their own choice.

7. Participation in Community/Society

This part is the study of participation in community and society of the respondents. The study was to find out the participation about voting, knowing the political parties etc.

7.1 Name Figuring in the Voting List of the Area

It is found that 100% of respondents' name figure in the voting list of their area. 0% of respondents' names no figure in the voting list of their area.

7.2 Casting their Vote in Elections

It is found that 100% of respondents cast their vote in elections. There are not respondents casting their vote in elections.

7.3 Knowing Political Parties of their Country

It is found that 80% of respondents knowing 1-2 political parties of their country and 14% of respondents know 3-4 political parties of their country and 6% of respondents know 5-6 political parties of their country. There are not respondents knowing political parties more than 5-6 political parties.

7.4 Local Committee is Successful in Solving the Problems of the Members without Going to Police or Court

It shows that (8.33%) local committee is never tried of being successful in solving the problems of the members without going to police or court (37.3%) local committee has a few times successfully in solving the problems of the members without going to police or court and (54.3%) local committee has many times successfully in solving the problems of the members without going to police or court.

7.5 Local Unit being Capable of Putting Pressure on the Panchayat/Local Committee to Take Decision on Common Problems.

It is revealed that (7.33%) the local unit never tries to be capable of putting pressure on the panchayat/local committee to take decision on common problems and (54.7%) the local unit some extents to be capable

of putting pressure on the panchayat/local committee to take decision on common problems and (38%) the local unit great extents to be capable of putting pressure on the panchayat/local committee to take decision on common problems.

8. Awareness

The study was to find out the level of awareness created among Lan Na women about the reaction when the girl child is given birth.

8.1 Reaction When the Girl Child is Born

Among the 300 respondents, it is shown that (0%) of respondents fell dejected when the girl child is born and (94.7%) respondents fell happy when the girl child is born and (5.33%) respondents fell neutral when the girl child is born and nobody fell unhappy when the girl child is born.

8.2 Reaction in Their Family When the Girl Child is Born

The study indicated that (97.3%) respondents' family fell happy when the girl child is born and (2.67%) respondents' family fell neutral when the girl child is born and no respondents' family fell dejected and unhappy when the girl child is born.

8.3 Resisting any Forms of Domestic Violence in Their Family

The study shows that (81%) respondents are able to resist any forms of domestic violence in their family and (19%) respondents are unable to resist any forms of domestic violence in their family.

8.4 Participating as an Individual/in Group in any such Attempt to Resist Domestic Violence in the Community

The study shows that (95%) respondents like to participate as an individual/in group in any such attempt to resist domestic violence in the community. (5%) respondents do not like to participate as an individual/in group in any such attempt to resist domestic violence in the community.

8.5 Any Form of Sexual Harassment on Women Occurring in Their Family

It is found that (100%) there are not any forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' family.

8.6 Any Form of Sexual Harassment on Women Occurring in Their Community.

The study is found that (56%) there are not any forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' community and (44%) there areany forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' community.

8.7 Any Form of Sexual Harassment on Women Occurring in Their Work Place.

It is found that (85.7%) there are not any forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' work place and (14.3%) there areany forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' work place.

8.8 Any Form of Sexual Harassment on Women Occurring in Their Market.

This study is found that (91.7%) there are not any forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' market and (8.33%)

there areany forms of sexual harassment on women occurring in the respondents' market.

8.9 Men Folk Should Share Household Chores

It is found that (8.33%) respondents think that there is not desirable for men folk sharing household chores; (88%) respondents think that men folk should share household chores and (3.67%) respondents no comment.

8.10 Men Folk Sharing Household Chores.

It is shown that (85.7%) men folk share household chores like handling children in their family and (14.3) men folk do not share household chores like handling children in their family; (77.3%) men folk share household chores like cooking in their family and (22.7) men folk do not share household chores like cooking in their family; (48.3) men folk share household chores like cleansing in their family and (51.7) men folk do not share household chores like cleansing in their family; (92.7%) men folk share household chores like porting water in their family and (7.33) men folk do not share household chores like porting in their family.

8.11 Preferring the Girls Education Compared to that of Boys

The study is revealed that (1.67%) there is low preference of respondents of comparing between the girl education and boy education; (94.7%) there is equal preference of respondents of comparing between the girl education and boy education and (3.67%) there is high preference of respondents of comparing between the girl education and boy education.

8.12 The Early Marriage for girls in Their Family.

It is found that (6.67%) respondents agree about the early marriage for girls in their family; (93.3%) respondents think that the early marriage for girls in the family is not before the age of eighteen.

8.13 Thinking of the family of the Early Marriage for girls in Their Family.

It is found that (5%) respondents agree that family think the early marriage for girls in their family; (95%) respondents agree that the family think that the early marriage for girls in the family is not before the age of eighteen.

8.14 Speaking in the Public Gathering Program.

The study is found that (12.7%) respondents have been spoken in the public gathering program; (87.3%) respondents have not spoken in the public gathering program.

8.15 Age of Marriage of Respondent.

It has been found that (6.67%) respondents have age 15-18 years of marriage; (5%) respondents have age 19-22 years of marriage; (60%) respondents have age 23-26 years of marriage; (15%) respondents have age 27-29 years of marriage and (13.3%) respondents have age 30 and above of marriage.

8.16 Education of Respondent's Husband.

The study is found that (7.33%) the respondents have husband who are illiterate; (10.3%) the respondents have husband who can only read and write; (41.3%) the respondents have husband who have education at primary level; (25%) the respondents have husband who have education at secondary level; (13.3%) the respondents have husband who have

education at graduate level and (2.67%) the respondents have husband who have education at post graduate level.

8.17 Occupation of Respondent's Husband

The study is found that (28%) the respondents have husband who have salaried job in theirs; (39.7%) the respondents have husband who have salaried job in private sector; (17.3%) the respondents have husband who have unsalaried job; (15%) the respondents have husband who have a business.

5.2 The Following Suggestions derived on the basic of the findings can be summed up

The researcher would like to put forward the following suggestions based on the study:

1. The findings of the study show that there were remarkable changes in women in the areas of awareness, participation and perceptions of women problems/issues/role/right, decision making in the family/community and socio-economic information in family and society as a result of a sociological study of Lan Na Women in Thailand. It is suggested that the Community Development Department and the Office of Women Affairs and Family Institute should join together in making rural development plan and strategy that focuses on women empowerment, family development, and community development. At any improvement and development program should recognize the kin group as '*a local social group*' that women are embedded as an organization member. The women development scheme should allow both women and kin group to share and participate in various aspects of decision-making and project implementation. Support from '*kin group leader*' and '*the*

strong social network of kinship group' can be obtained to take advantage of the prevailing strong social discipline needed for developing, implementing, and maintaining effectively women and rural development system.

2. The study shows that the educated and employed women have more acceptance and recognition in the family and society. So more encouragement and motivation should be given for women studies.

3. Provide an education to Sub-district Administration Organization in making their plan for local development for women, household, and community. The program of building up knowledge and understanding the root cause of the local problems in particular areas should be strongly support and promoted.

4. Women in Lan Na have high decision-making power in the family. Women have ability to control their own life and family life. Thus, the strong decision-making power of women should be extensively expanded for the broader empowerment of women. The roles and responsibility of women should be included in all the processes of community and national development. Increasing women's ability to influence the direction of social and economic development is an approach to improve women status and women equity in the society.

Furthermore, a joint undertaking of 4 development agencies in the expansion of women empowerment should have the same goal. They should also integrate their policy, human resource, budget, and strategy to improve not only women and household but social and economic development.

5.3 Implication of the Study for Further Research

The present study was mainly focused on women from Lan Na in Thailand. Similar studies could be encouraged for women in Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces. The Social Development and Women Empowerment is needed to be carried out in development intervention of women empowerment. This action research approach would allow the women, kin group (local social group), community members, and development agencies to participate in the development process, project planning, implementation, and evaluation. Involving the women and local community would also ensue the development intervention are appropriately designed to suit the local needs and the socioeconomic and cultural context.

In addition to adopting the Social Development and Women Empowerment, the research may be applied to the scope and framework for measuring the women empowerment that was developed by Mathotra, Schuler, and Boender (2002) to describe the change of women role and women status in the society.