



#### Level of class

The research results revealed that level of class had strongly significant relationship ( $P < 0.001$ ) as the literature reviews, increased grade, increased more smokers (Osaki and Minowa, 1990), (Marshall et al, 2002) and (Singh et al., 2007)

#### Type of education

The research results revealed that type of education had statistical significant relationship ( $P < 0.05$ ) as the literature reviews that vocational school students had higher habit of smoking than secondary school students (Vichit-vatlakan et al, 2003) and (Al-Damegh et al., 2004)

### **Part 2**

All of variables in socio – economic characteristics of this research were not statistical significant relationship or difference

### **Part 3**

#### Closed person smoking

The research results revealed that closed person smoking had strongly statistical significant relationship ( $P < 0.001$ ) as the literature reviews, closed person, such as parents, peer, teacher or sibling associated with student tobacco use or smoker (Morello et al., 2001; Poulsen et al., 2002; Zhang et al., 2005; Rndatsikira et al., 2008).

#### Amount of cigarette shops

The research results revealed that amount of cigarette shops which were near school had statistical significant relationship ( $P < 0.05$ ) as likely literature reviews that vending machines were the main source among students smokers (Osaki et al., 2006).

#### **Part 4**

##### Attitude

The research results revealed that attitude had strongly statistical significant difference ( $P < 0.001$ ) as literature reviews, well attitude to be non-smoker or be smoker less than low attitude (Sroythong, 1999; Vichit-vadakan et al., 2003; Erguder et al., 2006; Dollman & Lewis, 2007)

#### **Part 5**

##### Self-esteem

The research results revealed that self-esteem had statistical significant difference ( $P < 0.05$ ) as the literature reviews that self-esteem was statistical significant difference toward smoking behavior (Kumvachirapituk & Yemseng, 1996, Yooprasert, 1997) and (Vichit-vadakan. et al., 2003)

### **5.1 Research Limitations**

There were some limitations in this research. Firstly, the cross sectional descriptive study in the point of time nearly vacation that had limited time to try out instrument as the same sample in other the Andaman province area. Secondly, for the question about smoking behavior, the students who were smokers might not answer the truth, although it was self administered anonymous.

### **5.2 Conclusion**

The objectives of this research were to find the prevalence of smoking and factors influenced to smoking behavior among secondary school and vocational school students in Phuket province. The samples were seven hundreds and sixteen

students, studied in mathayomsuka 2, 5 and vocational 2 of academic year, 2007. Random sampling technique was utilized. The instrument used to collect data, were self administered anonymous questionnaires constructed by the researcher and three experts commented on content validity and clarity of language. The questionnaires were tried out with 30 students who had the same characteristics as the sample. The Cronbach's Alpha coefficient was used to calculate the reliability of attitude and self esteem, which equals 0.92 and 0.80, respectively. The data were analyzed by SPSS, the frequencies and the percentages were described. The relationship and comparison between the independent variables and smoking behavior were analyzed by chi-square and t- test And the research results summarized as following.

The demographic characteristics of the students revealed that the main percentage of the students age were aged 16-17 years old (41.3%), 14-15 years old (35.3%), the education level were 37.6% of mathayomsuka 2, 19.6% of vocational 2, and 12.95 of mathayomsuka 5. For the type of education institute, studied in 57.5% of government school, and 42.55 Of private school, the type of education were 80.4% of secondary school and 19.6% of vocational school. And the main GPA was medium (2-3) grade (81.6%).

The socioeconomic characteristics of the students revealed that they got the income per month (62.5%) in the amount of 1001-2000 Baht, 33.0% in 1000 Baht, and 93% of them ,got income from their parents, and 95% Of them did not earn any extra income. For accommodation, 82.3% of students stayed with parents whom were 73% couple status and 17.5%, was separate, respectively.

The environment characteristics of the students revealed that they did not have closed person smoking (74%), 10.7% was father and 5.8% was peer, respectively.

They had ever seen 94.6% of smoking advertising media, the main of media were foreign movies (22.1%), the second were Thai movies (19.6%). For the accessibility of cigarettes buying, 78.2% was easy to buy, 69.1% of students who gave the reasons that there were a lot of shops selling cigarettes, the second, 20.0% was violations against regulations and laws committed by the sellers. The place where the cigarettes were easily accessed was the groceries (72.4%), and mini marts (26.8%), respectively. The reasons that made the smokers could buy cigarettes easily, was the sellers willed to sell (80.0%), the second, was no restrict law (14.2%). In term of 100% of the students gave the reasons that the cigarettes were difficult to buy, was the sellers did not sell any cigarettes to person aged less than 18 years old. For the shops located near school that there were more than 1 shop as 71.1%. For the price of cigarettes, the students thought that the cigarettes were expensive (58.0%), suitable (28.2%) and cheap (13.8%). For the knowledge about the smoking act the main students had not known the act as 76.7%, only 23.3% of them had known. The most smoking act that the students had known, was the section which was no person is allowed to sell the tobacco products to person aged below 18 years old (64.9%), the second, was no person is allowed to smoke in the public places (28.9%), respectively.

The prevalence of smoking for this research results revealed that the overall smoking prevalence was 6.8% and 4.1% of ex- smokers, the current smokers still found that 73.5% of them, smoked every day that were 12.9% male current smokers and 2.2% female current smokers. The current smoking started their smoking at the age of 12-13 years old (57.1%), as the same as the ex-smokers (62.1%), the second, 14-15 years old (22.5%), respectively. The current smokers continuously smoked for 2 years (36.6%), 5 years or more (20.4%), and then 1 year (22.5%), respectively. For

smoked 4 or more cigarettes (36.2%), the second, 3 cigarettes (30.6%), respectively. For the time that the current smokers preferred smoking, was the after meal (34.7%), stress or nervous (24.5%) and when they stayed with peers (18.4%), respectively. For the most important causes that that made them can not quit smoking, were habitual smoking (67.3%), the second, addictive feeling (16.3%), respectively. And finally, the causes made them smoke at the first time, was trying on (46.2%), the second, persuasion or attempted of friends (21.8%) and the third, imitation to friends (16.7%), respectively.

The main group of smoking attitude scores, were well attitude (77.5%), the second, medium attitude (20.0%) and low attitude (2.5%). For the self esteem, the main group of smoking self esteem scores, were well self esteem (56.4%), the second, medium self esteem (42.9%) and low self esteem (0.7%), respectively.

The factors influenced to smoking behavior (current smokers), had strongly significant difference such as G.P.A ( $p < 0.001$ ) and attitude ( $p < 0.001$ ) for significantly different was self-esteem ( $p < 0.05$ ) another for strongly significant relationship such as gender ( $p < 0.001$ ), education level ( $p < 0.001$ ) and closed person whom smoking ( $p < 0.001$ ), for significantly relationship were type of learning ( $p < 0.05$ ), amount of cigarette shops where located near school.

### **5.3 Recommendations for Schools**

1. The non-smoking project should be established in all schools where there are smoking students.
2. The activities and learning skills should be provided for the students to prevent the students studying in Grade 5, 6 or 7 from smoking.

3. The curriculum related to the danger of smoking and drugs should be provided for students in all schools therefore the students can gain the knowledge, recognition and attitude toward the danger of smoking and drugs. When they have the good knowledge about the danger of smoking, they will thus not get involved to smoking and drugs. The non-smoking activities should be continuously promoted in government and private schools. The non-smoking activities should be continuously promoted in government and private schools.
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#### **5.4 For Policy and Government Laws**

1. The responsible officers should pay more attention to the laws implementation and regularly check about the shops distributing cigarettes to the students aged below 18 years old.
2. The laws and regulations should be enforced therefore the shops near schools cannot sell cigarettes to students.
3. The number of shops distributing cigarettes should be controlled. Namely, not all the shops are allowed to sell cigarettes.
4. More public relations related to Tobacco Control Laws should be provided for people.

### **5.5 For Community or Local Administrative Organizations**

1. Many channels should be established to help people quit smoking therefore the adults can be the good example of non-smoker to the students and family members.
2. The non-smoking family contest should be organized in each community.
3. The information derived from this research should be reported to the local government organizations therefore they can find the ways to prevent students from smoking.
4. More non-smoking areas should be increased in each community.
5. The knowledge derived from this research should be acknowledged to communities through community radio.

### **5.6 Suggestions / Recommendations for Further Research**

1. The research methodology should be designed with multiple logistic regression statistics to study the related factors and research instrument should be tried out as the same sample in other the Andamam province area before using.
2. The comparison research should be conducted to compare the effectiveness of the non-smoking programs.
3. The qualitative research or in-depth interview related to the accessibility of cigarettes of the students aged below 18 years should be conducted more.
4. The research related to the readiness and potential of the public health officers working for the local administrative organizations in terms of the tobacco control laws should be conducted.