

**WORKING SITUATION AND SOCIAL STATUS AFFECTING  
THE AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE IN URBAN AREAS**

**Phanarat Phanuschutabool**

**A Dissertation Submitted in Partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy (Population and Development)  
School of Applied Statistics  
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## ABSTRACT

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Title of Dissertation</b> | Working Situation and Social Status<br>Affecting the Age at First Marriage in Urban Areas |
| <b>Author</b>                | Miss Phanarat Phanuschutabool   |
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This research, indicating the working situations and social factors that affect the age at first marriage of urban people, aims to: 1) study the social factors associated with marriage, working situations and the age at first marriage in urban areas, and 2) study the influence of the working situations and social factors that affect the age at first marriage in urban areas. Survey and questionnaire were used in this study. The data were analyzed by using cross-tabulation, hierarchical regression and regression analysis. The samples are 400 Thai males and females between the ages of 15-59 who are married and working in Bangkok.

The analysis of the marital working situations (in this research was measured by work satisfaction) and social factors that affect the age at first marriage included education, migration, occupation and family background. The work satisfaction, which is the important factor of this research, relates with statistical implication to the age at first marriage with positive relation tendency ( $\beta = .175$ ), and the independent variables can explain the variation of the dependent variable - the age at first marriage of 41.1 percent. The personal factors can best clarify the variation of the age at first marriage. When using the regression Analysis, compared with male and female, it found that the dependent variable of male effecting on the age at first marriage comprised of the highest education before the first marriage, maternal age at first marriage, premarital government employee/ state enterprise employee before the first marriage and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, which can explain the variation of the age at first marriage of 42.4 percent. The result in female, showed that premarital responsibility for family, the premarital knowing period

before the first marriage, unemployment before the first marriage, highest education before the first marriage, the number of the migrations before the first marriage, premarital government employee / state enterprise employee before the first marriage has the relation with the age at first marriage, which can explain the variation of the age at first marriage of 48.3 percent. Furthermore, the variables effecting on the age at first marriage both in male and female are highest education before the first marriage, premarital government employee / state enterprise employee before the first marriage and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage. Therefore, it can be concluded that the work satisfaction is not fully the factor that influences the age at first marriage; on the other hand, social factors do more influence.

The suggestions from this research are that: 1) the compulsory education period should be prolonged, and married persons should be more educated, 2) the education-related departments can adopt the study results to create the curriculums in sex education and marriage life, by instructing adolescents to extend the premarital knowing period to the marriage, and 3) due to the fact that the populations with higher migration numbers are late marriage, there should thus be a way to instruct marriage knowledge or education to those with less migrations.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The Importance of the Study

Marriage is the starting point of the making of the family, which is the important institution in society. There are many factors that affect the success of married life, starting from the choosing of a partner, the decision to marry, the maintaining of family life, to having children and taking care of them till they are grown up. All these factors affect the stability and the long-lasting of married life, which in turn becomes a good foundation for society. To enter these processes one should be of a suitable age ranging from 15 to 49 years for women and 15 years and above for men, which, according to population science, is the period of fertility with the greatest effect on changes in marital status (National Statistical Office, 1990: 8). Although this is the most suitable time for marriage, in reality marriage can take place at a younger age. The survey of the marital status of Thai people by the National Statistical Office specified a marriage age from 13 upwards. Moreover, it was found that more than half of those aged 13 years of age up were married. (National Statistical Office, 2000: 11).

The review of the pattern of the first marriage age in different countries showed that the said pattern is liable to change in all the regions of the world. In about the 15<sup>th</sup> century the average age of the first marriage in Europe was between 18 and 22, and began to enter the circle of later marriage from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when it was found that a man's average first marriage age was between 28 and 30 and a woman's was between 24 and 26. The delay in the age of first marriage not only led to the change in the pattern of first marriage age but also affected the structure of the family and kin (Devolder, 1998). As for change in the first marriage age of the people in the Asia-Pacific region, it was found that in Japan in 1990, for example, a man's

average first marriage age was 28.4 and a woman's was 25.9; however, the latest survey, by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in 2006, showed that a man's average first marriage age was 30.0 and a woman's was 28.2. Similarly, in Singapore it was found that in 1980 a man's average first marriage age was 28 and a woman's was 26, whereas in 1995 a man's average first marriage age was 30 and a woman's was 27. Even in Islamic countries the tendency shows the increase in first marriage age. In Indonesia, for example, a man's average first marriage age in 1971 was 23.8 and a woman's was 19.3 whereas in 1985 it increased to 24.8 and 21.1, respectively. In India a woman's average first marriage age also showed an increase of 2.4 years from 1961 to 1971. In 1981 the said first marriage age was 17 and in 1991 it was 21 (Goyal, 1989: 177-182). The factor of education had a great influence over the delay of the first marriage age; that is to say the higher the education, the higher the first marriage age became. This change can also be found in Malaysia and Pakistan (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), 1983: 8-11). From the review it can be seen that the tendency of the increase in first marriage age is likely to result from changes in economic, social and demographic conditions.

As for Thailand during the past 30 years, the average of first marriage age has increased both in men and women since 1970. In 1970 the first marriage age of the male population was 24.4 and that of the female population was 22.0. Later in 1990 the average of first marriage age of males was 25.9 and that of females was 23.5, and, according to the latest census in the year 2000, the average of first marriage age in men increased to 27.2 and that in women to 24.1. In Bangkok, in particular, the increase in the first marriage age is higher than the other regions. The first marriage age in men in 1980 was 27.8 and in women 26.1. But in the year 2000 the average first marriage age in men increased to 29.2 and in women to 27.0, respectively. This tendency of change was influenced by changes in economic, social and demographic factors. Among these were opportunities for education, earning for livelihood and, particularly, working on an economic base, had a significant effect on the delay of marriage, which in turn will then affect the fertility of the country in the long run (National Statistical Office, 2000).

Studies show that economic and social factors, demographic marriage norm factor, personal psychological factor, marriage market factor, etc. have their effect on marriage (United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), 1988: 17-46). Many other studied variables including education, migration, sex, income, occupation, background of the family, attitude towards marriage, etc. were found to have both positive and negative relationship to marriage. The research by McDonald (1985: 87-114) found that a person's attitude towards marriage can be both positive and negative. A person born in a good family will have a good attitude towards marriage. On the other hand, a person born in a broken family where parents keep on quarrelling will have a negative attitude towards marriage.

Studies of the relationship between the first marriage age and related factors showed the relation between the change in first marriage age and other factors were tested by many researchers, such as Maneerat Phaktoop (1999), who studied the effect of migration on first marriage age of the Thai population and found that those who migrate will marry later than those who do not, no matter they be men or women. This is a positive factor, but a negative factor was also found. When the first marriage age increases, it affects the social and kinship structure. The number of descendants will thus decrease (Devolder, 1998). The research on first marriage age and education and work shows that when education and work status of a woman increases it will cause her first marriage age to increase (Ni-raula, 1994: 91-109).

The review of literature shows that when a person gets higher education along with his increased age, they will, in the main, get a higher chance of work also. The study of the relationship between the working factor and the chance of marriage shows that the working factor has importance in the decision to get married, according to Waite and Spitze (1981: 683) who found that working concerned the worker in many ways. A person who is working will often have the feeling of competition and a choice between work and marriage. Limanonda (1983: 36-37) studied the relationship between labour participation and marriage age of Thai women and found that those urban women who entered the work force before marriage, would have a higher average first marriage age than those who did not work by 2.5 years. Meanwhile,

working status of men had its relation to readiness for marriage while unemployed men would marry late, (UNDESA, 1988: 24).

While it was found that the work factor had its relation to one's first marriage age, it is important that job satisfaction be also taken into consideration because it is the main factor affecting one's commitment to one's job or one's wish to work to meet one's own specific needs to the extent that might discourage other interests, especially marriage. According to Rice, Near and Hunt (1980: 37-64), who studied the relationship between job satisfaction and life and marriage satisfaction, men aged over 30 and women aged over 20 who still enjoyed their life and job did not like to get married; they preferred to go on freely with their life and job. So it can be seen that job satisfaction is a very important factor affecting marriage and the age of marriage.

## **1.2 The Objectives**

The objectives of this study are as follows

1.2.1 To study social factors related to marriage, work and the age at first marriage in urban areas.

1.2.2 To study the influence of the working situation and other social factors on the age at first marriage in urban areas.

## **1.3 The Scope of the Study**

This is to study both male and female married Thai people aged between 15-59 working in Bangkok.

## **1.4 Expected Benefits**

Findings of the research can be used by institutions to watch for problems arising out of delayed marriage and for work on the policy on economic, social, demographic and fertility aspects of the country. In addition, they can also be applied to making a social policy on caring for elderly people who are left alone without any descendants.

## 1.5 Operational Definitions

**1.5.1 Age at First Marriage** means the number of full years at the time of a person's first marriage (This marriage means the decision made by a man and a woman to live or stay together like husband and wife, regardless of whether it is a legal one by having the marriage certificate or having a wedding ceremony or not).

**1.5.2 Working Situation Factor** means each individual's work satisfaction during the first marriage that builds up the income judged from five aspects, namely the work itself, wages/salary, like superior/head, colleagues and progress in career based on the following :

1.5.2.1 The Work means an individual's job which must be interesting and challenges creativity, and which can be finished.

1.5.2.2 Wages/Salary means what an individual gets in compensation for work in the form of salary or wages not based on a monthly basis.

1.5.2.3 Superior/Head means a person in charge of an individual who coordinates, assigns work, gives advices and can solve problems at work.

1.5.2.4 Colleague means a person that an individual works with.

1.5.2.5 Progress in Career means gaining support, promotion and/or getting an opportunity for furthering one's study.

**1.5.3 Social Factor** means the personal background of each individual which includes education, migration, occupation, income and family background.

**1.5.4 Education** means the highest level of education of each individual at first marriage age.

**1.5.5 Migration** means migration of an individual before first marriage which consists of 1) experience in migration before the first marriage and 2) frequency of migration based on the condition that each migration needs at least a cross-district distance and a stay for at least 6 months at the destination.

**1.5.6 Occupation** means the type or kind of job that brings the main income for the individual. In this study, occupation was defined according to the work status of the National Statistical Office in its national census in the year 2000 consisting of 1) the employer or business owner without employees, 2) personal of government employees and state enterprise employees and 3) private companies' employees.

**1.5.7 Income** means the amount of money, or the value of something in the form of money received, as compensation/reward that was obtained from one month's work of an individual without deducting expenses before the first marriage.

**1.5.8 Family Background** means the background of a person's family life before his/her first marriage which consists of 1) the marital status of the person's father and mother, which is divided into two types, i.e. normal family (parents living together) and broken family (parents living separately, being divorced or living in an orphan age), and 2) childhood cultivation which means the level of nurturing and caring for the person in childhood stage.

**1.5.9 Marriage Factor** means the factor that is related to the decision made before marriage whether to marry or not, which consists of readiness before marriage, the period of time spent with each other before marrying the first spouse, the health before marriage, parents' expectations of their child's marriage according to the person's point of view and their point of view on marriage.

**1.5.10 Readiness before Marriage** means the individual's responsibility for the expenses for his/her father and mother or cousins, together with taking care and the expenses given before the first marriage of the individual.

**1.5.11 The Premarital Knowing Period before Marriage with the First Spouse** means the period of time (year/month) that the person spent together as a lover with the first spouse before marriage.

**1.5.12 The Health before Marriage** means the person's physical fitness before the first marriage.

**1.5.13 The Parents' Expectations of their Child's Marriage According to the Person's Point of View** means the anticipation or expectation of the person towards his/her parents' expectations of their child's marriage during the first marriage, consisting of 6 group, i.e. 1) expecting them to get married later, 2) expecting them to get married soon, 3) depending on the decision of the child, 4) not wanting them to get married, 5) not expecting, and 6) not knowing.

**1.5.14 The Attitudes towards Marriage** mean the feeling or opinion that consists of the mood/temper towards the first marriage of the person. The opinion level was divided into 10-point scale (0-10 points) from 'disagree' to fully agree.

**1.5.15 Life Satisfaction** means the satisfaction of living the person's life in all aspects before the first marriage. It was divided into 3 aspects, i.e. 1) physical health like having good health, no congenital disease, etc., 2) mental health like tension, the relation with other people, etc., and 3) the security in life and assets which was divided into the level of contentment of life on different aspects with a 10-point (0-10 points) from 'dissatisfied' to 'fully satisfied'.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

In this research, the researcher collected different related concepts, theories and research results so as to define the research framework that will be presented in the following order:

2.1 Marriage with marriage pattern and age at first marriage,

2.2 Marriage and working, and

2.3 Other factors affecting age at first marriage,

with the following details.

#### **2.1 Marriage with Marriage Pattern and Age at First Marriage**

##### **2.1.1 Marriage**

Marriage is defined in many ways. For example, according to the dictionary Webster's New International, marriage means the agreement of people to spend lifetime together, or living together as husband and wife, or spending a coupled life by two people, or the willingness of a man and a woman to live with each other as husband and wife and so on. In brief, marriage means two people spending their lives together, to live with each other as husband and wife. Marriage is considered the starting point of building a family by male and female people; it is an important fundamental of social structure. Not only is marriage the starting point of the expression of sexual relations, but it has also enormous importance in legal terms. In terms of law, marriage will be complete only with a marriage ceremony and a marriage registration in front of an authorized officer (UNDESA, 1988).

In marriage, there are many related factors that influence or define marriage as follows:

UNDESA (1988) mentions that the factors influencing marriage consist of:

1. Economic and social factors, such as the economic condition, living place (city-country) and educational level and duty;
2. Population factor, such as fertility, death and relocation, married population and population fundamentals;
3. Marriage norm factor, such as concept, time period, legal marriage age determination, ideal marriage age, passed-on norms and matching;
4. Personal psychological factor, meaning the psychological factor that people have toward marriage, such as attitude toward marriage; and
5. Marriage marketing factor, meaning the opportunity of people to be matched with mediums such as matcher, matching company, Internet, or with no mediums such as the chance to perform activities or works with a variety of people, leading to more matching chances, and others.

Lewis and Spanier (1979: 87-114) found that the factors related to marriage comprise premarital factors, which are personal, social factors of the couple, which are composed of: 1) couple similarities such as race, economic status, religion, wisdom age and so on, 2) couple attributes such as educational level, age at first marriage, social class, intimacy between male and female, physical and mental health, 3) parental sample; it has been found that if parental relationship or family life is happy, the spouse selection attitude is positive, and 4) other supportive factors such as parental agreement to their children's spouses. The couple similarities and the couple attributes put emphasis on considering the appropriateness of different couple components. This is relevant to the Burgess' and Locke's homogeneity theory (Burgess and Locke, 1953), which is a psychological theory explaining that people always choose the spouses or will marry someone with like similarities to theirs. Those personal attributes are similar wisdom, physical attributes e.g. tall people marry tall people and ideal spouse attributes e.g. the imagination of ideal spouses resulting from their life experience since birth, much influenced by their parents, e.g. sons wish to be married to a person similar to their mothers.

In addition, there is Coombs and Kenkel's spouse selection worthiness (Coombs and Kenkel, 1966: 62-66) which is a psychological theory supporting the selection of the spouses who share similarities or are in the same societies.

This theory is that people try to choose their spouses with ideals and values closest to theirs in order to avoid conflict problems resulting from differences, which will bring about an unhappy married life. Anyhow, there are probably people who wish the opposite; they choose to be married to a person who possesses attributes that are opposed to theirs so as to fulfill what they lack. For example, the people who never lose anyone always want to be married to others spoiling them with patience, or the people who like admiration wish to be married to others who like to admire others, which is according to Winch's Complimentary Needs Theory (Winch, 1953). The parental sample and others partly lead to marriage. However, there are other factors that bar marriage. Lewis and Spanier's Theory of Marital Quality and Marital Stability (Lewis and Spanier, 1979: 268-289) alludes to the three groups of factors that are important for marital quality which directly affect marital stability. These are the premarital factor, marital factor and the factor of outside force and an attractive force from the alternative.

As mentioned above, it can be summarized that the factors influencing or defining marriage are, apart from spouse factor and social factor, are factors supporting and barring marriage as well.

### **2.1.2 Marriage Pattern and Age at First Marriage**

The marriage pattern of the world population is probably divided into two rough types (Shao, 1983: 5): the traditional marriage pattern and the European marriage pattern. The apparent manner of the traditional marriage pattern is hastened marriage with high marriage and low singleness rate, which is mostly found in Asia, Africa and some countries in Latin America. Mostly, the average age of male is under 27 and female under 22. According to the population census in 1931, it was found that the populations in India and Pakistan have average age at first marriage of under 20, and that the average age at first marriage of the populations in Asia, except China and Myanmar, tends to be higher (UNDESA, 1990). The apparent manner of the European marriage pattern is delayed marriage with a high rate of single females. This is mostly found in different countries in Europe, North America and Oceania; it is found that the male average age at first marriage is higher than 25 and that of female higher than 22. In Australia and New Zealand, it is found that the male average age at

first marriage is between 27-30 and that of female between 23-26. According to the data collected from the survey of the average age at first marriage trend of the populations in developed countries during 1930-1940, it was found that the female average age at first marriage tends to decrease in nearly every country in this country group except Canada, Italy, Luxemburg and Spain. In northern Europe, there are more decreasing trends of age at first marriage. Later, in the early 1990s, it was found that the above-mentioned two marriage patterns were obviously different, especially in Africa, Asia and European countries. Nonetheless, many developed countries tend to have hastened marriages (with lower age at first marriage) (UNDESA, 1990).

Concerning the comparison of marital condition, the age at marriage or the age of first marriage is the preferable variable used in the study. To predict the trend of change on marriage pattern, the average age at first marriage and single population proportion are usually applied as the variable to explain such change. According to the literature review, the age at marriage is different in each region especially among the developed countries and developing/underdeveloped countries. The Population Report (1995) indicated that during 1995, the youth were married when they were older than their parents were when married and the number of people being married before they were 20 years old was decreasing. This was consistent with the study of Schlegel which found that the young-generation people married when they were older than were their ancestors at marriage (Schelegel, 1998: 323-325). In addition, it was found that the average age at first marriage was higher in almost all regions of the world especially in the developed countries in Near East and East Asia. In some Latin-American countries, women tended to be married at the age of 20; two thirds of women would not be married until they were 20 years old up. On the other hand, two thirds of women in some countries in the Sub-Saharan district of Africa were married before they were 20 years old. In addition, women in African countries preferred being married when they were very young. In developing countries, it seemed that women living in rural areas tended to be married before the age of 20. During the last decade, the age at marriage has dramatically changed in Near East and North Africa but not in Sub-Saharan district of Africa where the age at marriage is still low. In Latin America, the age at marriage was higher. The survey

data indicated that in Sub-Saharan district of Africa, 10% of women married at the age of 20 had decreased in 9 out of 21 countries.

According to the information related to Asia Pacific region collected by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the delayed marriage is obviously noticed in many countries in this region. The age at marriage of men and women living in China, Korea and Thailand was higher, namely, being married at the age of 25 for men and at the age of 23 for women. In Thailand, during the last decade, the marital condition of Thai people obviously changed. For example, Thai people married when they were older with less marriage registration and a higher rate of divorce. Due to these changes, Thai people preferred smaller families because their age at marriage was higher. The survey data of the National Statistical Office indicated that the average age at marriage changed from 24 in 1970 to 27 year in 2003 for Thai men and from 22 in 1970 to 24 year in 2000 for Thai women.

From the review of the change of marriage pattern, a relationship between educational opportunity and working was found. According to a census survey conducted in the United States, the population with higher average age at first marriage tended to live in city, obtained higher education and had received family planning guidance before marriage. The study of "Trends in the Timing of First Marriage Among Men and Women in the Developing World" indicated that the youth marriage proportion was decreasing. Such decrease was related to education and city development. Education and city development influenced the marriage pattern of men and women (Mensch, Singh and Casterline, 2005: 28-29). The delayed marriage was caused as women were allowed to complete their education and earn preferable working skills before marriage. Constance L. Shehan, the social scientist, stated that the delayed marriage was possible in many cases; for instance, when men obtained higher education and women had a job to do (Soll, 2003). This information was consistent with the data of UNESCAP which found that the age at marriage increased during and after the 20<sup>th</sup> century in all regions of the world and was related to higher education and female employment opportunity. In addition, according to the World Fertility Survey (WFS) (McDonald, 1985: 87-114), the population in rural areas tended to marry when they were young because of lower education and a low female

employment rate. Moreover, according to the report on marriage analysis of Thai population in 1990 (National Statistical Office, 1990), the factors of population, society and economy were related to the difference of marital condition in terms of religion, economy, occupation, working status and migration.

Therefore, it can be obviously seen that the increasing change of age at marriage is caused by two main reasons, namely, higher education and participation in labour.

## **2.2 Marriage and Working**

### **2.2.1 Working**

The population economists believe that the developing economy affects the increase of employment and working availability including the living pattern of population and change on population situation. Between 1990-2000, the size of population in rural areas was reduced due to economic factors; people migrated to settle and work in the city because of job availability. In 1990, the national economy was highly developed and people worked for living to gain protection and life security (Phuangphet Watcharayoo, 1994: 19-20). In addition, working indicated the personal ability not only in terms of economy but also the overall production activity acquiring ability and creativity of the workers. All people had to work both for themselves and for others. Thus, working indicated the personal characteristics and characteristics of other people as well (Ritzer, 1992). Moreover, working also provided the social effects to people such as learning of new people and things, association with people in the same working field etc. Sometimes, people however tended to spend time for working rather than for their family members.

Working, in psychology, is very important because it leads to self-esteem and self-learning. People usually evaluate themselves from the achieved works. Thus, working characteristics and meaning of working affect the attitudes and working of people (Phuangphet Watcharayoo, 1994: 27). This finding is consistent with the working concept of Freud (Nuallaor Suphaphol, 1984) stating that all human beings had to work and work, in return, forced people to get involved with

each another. Working is a complicated feeling, attitude and thought. Working can improve life and society. The four essential elements consist of working, money, public benefits and private happiness. To achieve the job and happiness, these four elements must be well merged and work together (Phra Dhammapitaka, 1998).

The achievement of working was usually related to work satisfaction because when people are satisfied with their work, they will be motivated to achieve the goal or success (Soittrakul Attamana, 2002: 136). In general, the work satisfaction of human beings will occur when human beings are satisfied in terms of physical aspects, safety, security, self-expression and social needs (Smith, 1964: 6). However, the work satisfaction of human beings is still dependent on the attitudes derived from working and other factors such as wage, administration, working condition, career path opportunity, respect of ability, appropriate work quantity, friendship and cooperation among co-workers and fairness of superiors (Blum and Naylor, 1968: 364). This finding is consistent with the survey data conducted by the National Research and Survey Center of the United States. By this survey, the work satisfaction of employees was studied and it was found that work satisfaction was dependent on working condition, remuneration, promotion and support, supervision or management, co-workers and current working status (Phuangphet Watcharayoo, 1994: 70). According to Thephanom Muangman and Sawing Suwan (1986: 103-104), work satisfaction was related to the job characteristics, wage, promotion, respect, benefits, working condition, job orientation, co-workers and policy of organization. This finding was consistent with the theory of work satisfaction of Maslow stating that human beings would be satisfied with their work when such working could satisfy their needs.

Since working is necessary and essential, all human beings must work both for themselves and for others. Working, on the other hand, forced human beings to be closely related to works. People are motivated to achieve the goal of working to satisfy the possible requirements derived from working. As a result, they may pay less attention to some activities or people such as relaxation, association between men and women or confidence in marriage or may even postpone some goals until the current work is achieved. As a result, working can be recognized as the main variable affecting the marriage of population. Considering the factors of working affecting the

age at marriage, work satisfaction, as a result of work achievement of people, becomes the interesting variable used in the study. Therefore, in this research, work satisfaction was studied in terms of 1) Job characteristics 2) Wage 3) Superiors 4) Colleague and 5) Career path opportunity.

### **2.2.2 Relation of Working and Marriage and Age at Marriage**

Due to the changing economy and society including the shift of economy-structural policy, both men and women are forced to work. In general, men are responsible for earning income for household expenses. However, women have become more involved in labour due to economic force. The global statistics indicated that the participation of women in labor increased from 39.1% in 1980 to 42.1% in 1998 with the expectation of 44.3% increase in 2010. In Thailand, the female participation in labour increased from 49.5% in 1980 to 55.7% in 1998 with the expectation of 56.1% increase in 2010. In developing countries, it was found that education played a great role in motivating women to participate in labour (Psacharopoulos and Tzannatos, 2008: 187-201). The increase of female labour participation was related to the increase of investment, education and age at marriage. Working women preferred having occupational stability before marriage leading to the increase of age at marriage. According to the World Fertility Survey (WFS) (McDonald, 1985: 87-114), women preferred being married after they were 20 years old due to the increase of female employment opportunity. The study on female employment and marriage decision-making revealed that the increase of female employment enhanced the economic dependence of women, which inevitably led to the decrease of marriage. However, the rate of working of men and women in the rural areas was not significantly different. Namely, the working male rate was 75.4% while the female working rate was 71.8%; in the city, the male working rate was 63.9% while it was 49.8% for female (Sudsawat Ditsaroj and Malinee Wongsith, 1988: 34).

Most people had the opinion that working depended on many factors like gender, education, information, characteristics of city and rural areas. Since the economy of city zone was more developed with the growth of industry, commerce and management, including the modern transportation and communication system,

more jobs and information were available. Phassorn Limanonda (Limanonda, B. 1983: 36) found that working was related to the age at marriage, while working, in return, led to economic participation and increase of age at marriage. In addition, working was also related to the power; for instance, people having work to do usually felt competitive against other people and had more choices between working and marriage (Waite and Spitze, 1981: 683).

However, working may directly affect the age at marriage or may be the intermediate variable influencing the age at marriage. According to Mason (1989:100-127), the factor of need and female working ability is recognized as one of the four intermediate variables of female status affecting the age at marriage. The four intermediate variables consist of: 1) Value of marriage property including marriage expenditures, 2) Marriage of convenience (arranged marriage) or willing marriage, 3) Need and female working ability and 4) Delayed marriage desired by women's parents wishing that their daughters should earn more income for their family longer. Working may be the factor affecting directly the age at marriage or acts as the intermediate variable. However, the intermediate variables specified by Mason, at present, may be changed or affected by the social and cultural changes. Thus, the marriage of women is decreased. For instance, the arranged marriage or delayed marriage caused by parents tends to be decreasing due to many factors such as the increase of decision-making and women rights etc. In conclusion, the factor of working is assumed to directly affect the age at marriage.

### **2.3 Other Factors Affecting Age at Marriage**

The change of age at marriage is caused and related to many factors. According to the relevant literature reviews, the factors influencing age at marriage can be concluded as follows:

2.3.1 Personal Factors: Gender, education, migration, occupation, family background such as marital status of parents and child rearing practices

2.3.2 Social Factors related to Marriage: Expectation of parents on their children's marriage in the opinion of children and attitudes towards marriage

2.3.3 Psychological Factors: Life satisfaction, namely, the overall evaluation of life in terms of physical and mental health and safety.

These factors can be detailed as follows:

### **2.3.1 Personal Factors**

#### **2.3.1.1 Gender**

Talking about marriage, the age of men is less considered when compared with the age of women. Thus, there are only a little data for the comparison between male and female marriage. Moreover, it is normal that the amount of single women and men has been constantly increased in all regions of the world. In general, men are usually married when they are older than women, while over 80% of men are married even when they reach middle age. (Lichter and Graefe, 2007: 397-421) Men tend to be married with women, who are much younger than them. Thus, the average age at first marriage of men is between the first and the last 20 years of age. The readiness of marriage for men includes economic or financial stability and ability to take care of family. So, men will not marry until they are ready in terms of age, education or working success (Population Reports, 1995). This finding is consistent with the study on the “Revolution of Family Size in Thailand: Dramatic Decrease of Fertility in the Third World” of Knodel, Apichat Chamratrithirong and Nibhon Debavalya (1987). The study found that the factors affecting the delayed marriage of Thai men consisted of military service pass, ordainment, responsibility and maturity. For both men and women, marriage is the great responsibility in terms of economic readiness, emotion and maturity.

Since the current role of men and women has changed, the choosing of life partner and marriage decision-making are inevitably affected. Moreover, the rights and equality of men and women have become more distinctive. Generally, the age at marriage of men is higher than that of women because men prefer achieving stability prior to marriage (UNDESA, 1988). Despite of economic and social change, men are less affected when compared with women. The literature review indicates that there is the difference of delayed marriage between men and women shown in many researches. For example, the study of Maneerat Phaktoop (1999) finding that men were married later than women was consistent with the study conducted in Nang

Rong District. (Pramote Prasatkul and Pimonpan Isarabhakdi, 1999). During 1984-1994, the delayed marriage of men was higher than the one of women as men obtained higher education, had good job and opportunity to be married with women having similar status. According to the population fertility survey of Indonesia conducted during 1998-1999, most men preferred being married on their need. Men expected to be married at the average age of 25.1 while women at 21.9, respectively. Most people did not expect to the marriage. However, women usually expected to be married and tended to be married earlier than men. The relation between gender and attitude toward marriage is found in many researches as well. For example, Harms (1999) found that American women, entering in the labor market with the increase of gender role, preferred modern marriage style with less consideration on tradition. So, the age at marriage was higher. On the other hand, men paid less attention to marriage or family leading role. Women, in contrary, usually paid more importance to marriage. In addition, the research of O'Leary (1999) and Koball (1998) indicated that both men and women similarly paid importance to the gender role on marriage.

#### 2.3.1.2 Education

The relationship between education and age at marriage indicates that formal education provided in the developing countries became the factor affecting the delayed marriage. Women who obtained at least primary education tended to be married late. For example, in all countries of Sub-Saharan district, Africa, among women aged 20-24 years old, women who obtained primary education preferred being married after the age of 20. In Latin America, women living in Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Paraguay, postponing their marriage to over the age 20 might obtained the education of Grade 7 a few times when compared with women married earlier. Such circumstances could be found in Asian and Near Eastern countries. However, education was still not provided for young women in many rural areas due to the lack of sufficient schools especially in developing countries. Women obtaining education might postpone their marriage longer when compared with the uneducated or the ones having lower education. (Population Reports, 1995) The research conducted by Aryal (2006) studied about the age at marriage in Nepal indicates that

the uneducated women were married approximately at the age of 16 while those with education at the age of over 19.

In addition, according to the research of Wong (2005: 529-550), women with higher education and occupational stability were usually married late. In other words, the longer these women got involved in education and had stability of working, the more the age at marriage was delayed. (Hullen, 2000: 29-31) Moreover, education also decreased the marriage arranged by parents. Because of the improved economic and social status, increasing self-esteem, good opportunity of working, economic independence and more alternatives of working or marriage, women usually delayed their marriage and pregnancy until they were really ready for family life (McLaughlin, Lichter and Johnston, 1993: 828). Education forced women to spend time in the educational institute longer before entering into the marriage market (UNDESA, 1988: 19). According to the study about life and social indicators, the age at marriage of Taiwanese people in 1970 was higher due to the increase of education as well. (Ko, Heer and Wu, 1985: 115-128)

Although the psychological scientists found that rapid marriage and fertility obstructed the opportunity of education and career path, in some societies, education was closely related to the delayed marriage. The research conducted to study the age at marriage in India found that the change of time did not affect the delayed marriage (Hatti and Ohlsson, 1985: 159-173) but the delayed marriage could be caused by other factors like a long period of education. However, in some communities like the Mhong tribe living in the United States, education did not affect the delayed marriage. Mhong people were still married at a young age and they did not expect higher education. Even Mhong women who were married in accordance with their tradition, could be further educated (Hutchison and McNall, 1994: 579-590). Theeraporn Uwanoo (1986: 5/1-5/4) stated that the sources of attitude included schools, teachers, educational institutes etc. The survey on fertility of teenagers in Indonesia, conducted during 1998-1999, indicated that the uneducated women were forced by their parents to be married at a young age, while the educated ones were not forced as much by their parents, due to their independent attitude toward marriage and higher education.

### 2.3.1.3 Migration

Migration directly affects the marriage market since migration causes the selection and living difference between the migrants and non-migrants. This leads to the decrease of control power over family members and marriage including the attitude toward marriage. Men and women have more chance to meet each other whereas the marriage market is expanded. It was found that Thai men migrating from rural area to Bangkok Metropolis, after six months of migration, could adjust themselves better than female migrants. Therefore, male migrants were more familiar to the marriage market. This finding was consistent with the study of Goldstein (1973: 225-241) stating that migration affected the marriage. Since the migrants had to adjust themselves and migration was recognized as the selection process of migrants, the attitude of migrants might be changed, which led to the delayed marriage, finally. In 1971, the study on the impact of international migration during the marriage and children rearing period in Melbourne, Australia (Carlson, 1985: 61-72) indicated that the migration caused the delayed marriage; namely, the average age at first marriage was 26 for male migrants and over 22 for female migrants. According to the study of impact of social status and migration on the age at marriage of women living in Northwestern Germany, by the comparison of the age at marriage between the migrants and non-migrants, there was no difference for male migrants but the difference for female migrants was statistically significant (Volland and Dunbar, 1997: 355-360). Therefore, it could be noted that the migration could cause delayed marriage to the migrants.

When compared with other developing countries, the migration in Thailand was more independent. According to the study, migration usually belonged to the early teenagers. (Jampaklay, 2003) Migration could lead to marriage and vice versa. (Guest and Tan, 1994) The migration survey of 1997 indicated that most of the migrants aged over 15 years old were married. The report of migration in surrounding provinces, eastern coasts and main cities revealed that most migrants were married. On the other hand, people migrating to Bangkok were still single. According to the research of Maneerat Phaktoop (1999), the migrants were married late when compared with the male and female non-migrants. However, the research of Easterlin (1976 quoted in UNDESA, 1988: 17) indicated that women having lower income

might be dependent on men in terms of economy. Thus, the female migrants preferred being married at the young age. This finding was consistent to the research of Suwallee Piempiti (1984: 227-246) revealing that the single women migrating to Bangkok in 1960 were married earlier than the ones living in Bangkok, but later than the ones living in their hometown. The census survey data of 1990 indicated that the age at marriage of the migrants migrating to Bangkok five years before the survey was lower than the non-migrants. (National Statistical Office, 1990: 4) In addition, the marriage or age at marriage was limited or controlled by seasons and migration distance; namely, the age at marriage of frequent migrants tended to be decreased. (Broderick, 1994)

#### 2.3.1.4 Occupation

The study on the difference of occupation or working affecting the delayed marriage indicated that the age at marriage was related to the occupational difference with the statistical significance. (Anderson, Hill and Butler, 2002: 223-234) Moreover, according to the study on the relationship between the age at marriage of non-working women and women working as the executive officer in Trivandrum District (Devi, 1984: 5-14), the responsibility of working was closely related to the age at marriage and other fundamental factors prior to marriage. The research also found that women working in the non-agricultural sector tended to be married late when compared with those staying at home or working in the agricultural sector. The successful women were usually married late (Ni-raula, 1994: 91-109). This finding was consistent with the research of Broderick (1994) indicating that the age at marriage of women participating in the fishery industry tended to decrease. This result was contrary to the study conducted in Nang Rong District (Jampaklay, 2003) because men having a high level of working were married late. Maneerat Phaktoop (1999) found that people having a higher level of employment and good occupation were married late when compared with those that were inferior. The attitude toward marriage of men was positive when they were married with life partners having equivalent working. (Koball, 1998) In addition, people not having working stability tended to be married late. For people not working for a living before marriage, their relationship with life partner was instable and discontinuous and the marriage might be even impossible. (Joshi, 2000) The research of Wong (2005: 529-550) found that well-

educated women with working stability tended to be married late while the delayed marriage was possibly incurred (Hullen, 2000: 29-31).

#### 2.3.1.5 Family Background

The family is the origin of life quality, education, culture and relationship. It is also the source of learning and transferring of attitude, values and norms related to gender role. Thomson (Pajongchit Pitakpakorn, 2000) stated in a book of child psychology that the family extremely influenced the environments essential to the fundamental attitude and social skills of people. The imbalance of love or bias would affect the self-adjustment during adulthood. So, it could be mentioned that the adult behaviors expressed were influenced by the family. In addition, family relationships were also related to human behaviors while the child rearing practices affected the pattern of future family building of children. Namely, when children lived in a warm family, their future family would be built with warmth and quality. (Pajongchit Pitakpakorn, 2000: 9) Therefore, family background was related to the marriage of family members. According to the research of Pajongchit Pitakpakorn (2000), for example, family problems were caused by the fundamental married life of their parents and child rearing practices. Parents could be recognized as a model influencing the behavior of children and family condition. Family was the fundamental environment influencing over the family members. With the support and supervision of family, people could grown up and build their own quality family. Thus, the marital background of parents and child rearing practices were directly related to the building of new family. Moreover, these factors also influenced the decisions about choosing a life partner. This finding was consistent with the research of McLaughlin (1993: 828) indicating that the first marriage was influenced by the overall rearing practices. If any person lived in the broken family or brought up by a single mother or single father, such a person might delay their marriage. According to the research of Long (1987: 573-582), people living in broken family might be reluctant to marry because they did not want to encounter the family mistakes. This led to the negative attitude toward marriage. For people brought up with single mother or single father, their marriage could be decided in two ways. In addition, the family economy and education of parents also affected the children's marriage. For example, well-educated parents usually provided education for their children; this accordingly led to the delayed marriage. On the other hand, the marriage of daughters might be delayed when parents had a stable economy or financial stability. However,

in case of sons, they could ask for marriage expenditures from their family to support the marriage arrangement. (Waite, 1986: 104)

Family with traditional style or agricultural background had stronger bond. Thus, the marriage of any family member would affect other family members in some aspects. In general, the marriage had to be approved by the senior family member or parents. (UNDESA, 1988: 8-10) The finding was consistent with the research of Wong (2005: 529–550) stating that family background and social status were related to the marriage decision especially in the families strictly holding on to the traditional values. The research of Aryal (2006) indicted the obvious relation between the family background and the age at marriage in Nepal. By such research, families with higher social status usually urged the family members to be married earlier. Additionally, it was found, in the research on the period of marriage and age of population in the Netherlands, that the period of marriage was related to the internal environment of family; namely, the age at marriage of the ancestors (grandparents, parents) was related to the age at marriage of the younger generation. (Poppel, Monden, Mandemakers, 2008 : 7-22)

By this research, the family background was studied from the marital status of parents and child rearing practices.

1) Marital Status of Parents means the fundamental or life quality background of parents. Two kinds of families can be categorized: Normal family means family consisting of father and mother while the separated/broken family means the family consisting of single father or single mother due to the separation or divorce of parents.

2) Childhood Cultivation means the attention that parents or guardians paid to the child rearing. The research of Hepburn (1980) indicated the positive relationship between the attention of parents and the children's marriage; namely, parents paying much attention to children usually expected more from their children's future. As a result, the delayed marriage tended to be caused. According to the research of Vogt (1999), the adopted children, step-sons or step-daughters or orphans usually hated the marriage and family building. This led to the delayed marriage because such people felt instable or unhappy unlike the ones being reared by their true family.

### **2.3.2 Social Factors Related to Marriage**

#### **2.3.2.1 Parental Expectation of Marriage**

Expectation drives the individuals to express their behaviors with the intention to achieve the desired goal or target. Our life is always dependent on expectation; the behaviors expressed at present indicate the future expectation. In other words, it can be mentioned that expectation is as a result of previous experience of human beings to predict a possible event in the future. In addition, social perception, previous experience, belief and motivation will force human beings to express the behaviors. When the personal expectation is worthwhile satisfied, what comes next is satisfaction. (Surang Chan-em, 1981: 128)

The expectation level of individuals usually changes based on situations. For example, the more the expectation of people is achieved, so the expectation becomes higher and higher. On contrary, the expectation will be decreased when human beings encounter disappointment. Whether personal expectation is satisfied depends on two desire levels as follows: 1) How much do the people lack of the desired thing?; and 2) What about the value of the desired thing? In general, the desire and expectation of human beings are mutually related. If the expectation or wish of human beings is fulfilled, their desire will be constantly increased with higher further expectation. This finding is consistent with the expectancy theory of Maslow stating that the personal expectation satisfies the desire. When human beings have desire, expectation will result. According to the expectancy theory or VIE theory of Vroom, human beings have expectation of many things. Therefore, human beings will try every way to satisfy their desire or expectation. After the need or expectation is satisfied, satisfaction results and human beings will expect more and more.

According to the survey of attitude of women toward desire of children, reasons why they desired to have more children, children rearing practices and expectation on children, most women answered that they desired to have more children because they wanted their children to do household jobs, earn money, succeed the family and provide care for them when they were old. In general, women expected their children to take over the family business. In addition, the education of married women was related to the expectation on the children's education; namely, the higher education the married women obtained, the expectation on children's

education was higher. From the survey, only a few of married women did not want or expect anything from their children. (National Statistical Office, 1990: 16-22)

The parental expectation on children's marriage was usually referred to the family background. Most parents generally participated in the marriage planning and decision-making of their children (Scanlon, 1994). This finding was consistent with the study conducted in India and other countries in the same region because marriage of children was prepared and planned by parents. However, in Australia and countries in Europe and North America, marriage was decided by children. (Corwin, 1981) Parents usually expected the marriage of their daughters. However, the more they expected, the more the delayed marriage occurred (Hepburn, 1980) partially because children would try to avoid the marriage due to the disappointment and lack of freedom to choose the life partner by themselves. (Abraham, 2002) Comparing the relationships in the family, married people had a better relationship to their parents in a warmer family. (Cargan and Matthew, 1982) On contrary, the research of Mason (1989: 100-127) indicated that in some families, parents expected the delayed marriage of their daughters; therefore, their daughters could earn income for the family longer. According to the study of desired Thai families in urban society of Thailand, most parents had the opinions that their children, after the marriage, should independently build their own family. Children should live independently with their family; however, parents still gave assistance to them occasionally. Due to the change of women's role in Thai society, it was questioned whether the delayed marriage was caused since women had to financially support their family. The answer was "No," but the family was inevitably affected due to the lack of financial support provided by their daughters in particular in rural or agricultural areas where parents were financially supported by their daughters. In these families, the oldest daughters of the family usually thought that they should work to earn money so that their younger siblings could be educated. After that, they would think of marriage. (National Statistical Office, 1990)

#### 2.3.2.2 Attitude toward Marriage

Attitude is a human feeling toward surrounding things expressed in terms of like or dislike, agreement or disagreement etc. (Good, 1973: 49) The definition mentioned is consistent with the one defined by Duangdean

Bhanthumwain (1980: 4) that attitude is the readiness of human beings to do something to someone. Such readiness can be noticed from the behavior expressed against such things or people in terms of like or dislike, agreement or disagreement. Prapapen Suwan (1977: 3), in addition, defined that attitude is the emotional opinion, which reacts to the external circumstances.

In the past, the marriage of convenience or arranged marriage, in Thailand, was preferred. Women were married when they were very young due to the arrangement of parents. Single persons were quite rare and usually insulted for being not married. Currently, men and women prefer choosing their life partner; so, the arranged marriage is quite rare or even extinct (Richter and Podhista, 1992: 1-19). The difference of tradition, culture, religion, belief and value leads to different attitude toward marriage. Factors affecting the marriage are usually the intermediate variables; for instance, the gender difference leads to the different attitude toward marriage. According to the research of Bothos (2001) and Mensch (2003: 8-18), women had less attitude toward traditional marriage than men. The research of O'Leary (1999) indicated that women and men had equal expectation of marriage while men had the positive attitude toward marriage when they had the job equivalent with the one of their life partner.

Apart from the social factors related to marriage mentioned earlier, other significant factors related to marriage existed such as economic factor affecting the acceptance of life partner and competition between economic growth and marriage. (Lichter, LeClere and McLaughlin, 1991: 845-847) For example, in Sri Lanka, the economic crisis of 1970 led to the decrease of marriage. Sri Lankan men would be married only when the economic stability was achieved so that they could support their family. Even in the rural areas, marriage was inevitably related to economy in terms of land, labor, marriage expenditures and dowry. (Ember and Ember, 1988: 170-172) By this research, the factors of income, occupation and marriage expenditures and the relation between these factors and attitude toward marriage were studied. It was found that economic factor reflected the status of human beings. People motivated by economy preferred being married with someone having higher or at least equivalent education. (Kalmijn, 1993: 53-54) The research of Sessler and Schoen (1999: 147-159) studying the influence of attitude and economy toward marriage indicated that single men and women had a positive attitude toward marriage

with the expectation of marriage. However, women negatively thought that the current economy might affect their occupation and income. So, after marriage, they should work outside to earn money. This kind of attitude was quite similar to the one of traditional men. By this research, the economic factor was not used as the main variable due to the significant difference of age and age at marriage of the samples including the variation and difference of economy. However, such attitude was used as the data supporting and explaining the relationship between variables in descriptive way derived from the relevant literature reviews and researches.

#### 2.3.2.3 Income

Income, or the remuneration from working, is the economic factor influencing over the married couples. At present, in modern society, income affects the marriage directly. According to the research of Bergstrom and Schoeni (1994: 115-130), the income of men varied accordingly with the age at marriage; namely, when the income was high, the age at marriage was high as well. However, this relation was contrary when men were over 30 years old. By such research, income of women was trivially related to the age at marriage. Moreover, women were more independent in terms of economy; they could earn money for living. Thus, the desire of marriage decreased. The marriage opportunity of men and women was imbalanced because men, economically ready for marriage, preferred being married at the age of mid-20 while women at the age of 20-30. (Sassler and Schoen, 1999: 147-159). According to Easterlin (1976 quoted in UNDESA, 1988: 17), income affected the age at marriage in the United States. Men having higher income had more opportunity of marriage; on the other hand, women having higher income had less opportunity on marriage. The marriage market of women having lower income was wider due to their low standards of life partner choosing. Murstein (1989: 44-46) mentioned that economic and social status influenced over the choosing of life partner. People preferred being married with someone having similar or better economic/social status. However, it could not be concluded whether higher or lower income affected the age at marriage because people were usually married with someone having higher economy or income to upgrade their own economic status. (The Thai Home Economics Association Under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, 1981: 17)

#### 2.3.2.4 Marriage Expenditures

Marriage expenditures have influence over the marriage. For example, in China, marriage expenditures consist of ceremony cost, wedding dress cost, car rental cost, photography cost and other costs excluding honeymoon expenses. The extravagant marriage ceremony of Chinese people was initially performed prior to the World War (1949 – 1980). Marriage ceremony was developed with modern style. In 1990, the average marriage expenditures of Chinese people were approximately RMB 25 – 30,000. As a result, some Chinese men and women delayed their marriage because they had to earn sufficient money for their wedding ceremony. (Market Report, 2002) In addition, parents in Bangladesh even sent their daughters to study in school in order to delay the marriage due to the unavailability of dowry, which should be traditionally provided to the male partner. However, they allowed their daughters to study only for Grade 4-7 because for such period only the small sum of dowry was paid to the male. However, if the male had higher education than their daughter, higher value of dowry had to be prepared. In general, men having lower education were ashamed to be married with women with higher education. As a result, the age at marriage in Bangladesh became higher. (Population Briefs, 2000) This research was consistent with the study conducted in Egypt where women had to work hard to provide the dowry for the male partner. Thus, the marriage was usually delayed until the economic readiness was achieved. (Population Briefs, 2003)

Marriage expenditures affected not only the age at marriage but also the attitude toward marriage. According to the research on Thai families (Bhassorn Limanonda, Suvathana Vibulsrest, Kua Wongboonsin and Vipap Prachubmoh, 1995), men and women living in urban zone paid less importance to marriage ceremony and dowry due to the city living pattern while the marriage tradition in rural was still preserved.

### 2.3.3 Psychological Factors

Life satisfaction is the process of positive thinking, feeling and sensing of human beings toward anything under the condition or life situation of such people. (Sumner, 1996) Life satisfaction might be caused by the overall life evaluation of

oneself or other people. Generally, human beings usually built or established their appropriate standards in compliance with their sensing. Then, they would compare their established standards with the things occurred in real life. It could be stated that such evaluation was conducted with internal aspects rather than the external ones. (Pavot, Diener, Colvin and Sandivle, 1991: 149-161) Then, life satisfaction could not be judged by other people but had to be personally judged and evaluated. (Palmore, 1972: 68-80)

Life satisfaction, based on the concept of Neukaten was the congruence between desired and achieved goal; that is, human beings would feel successful when any of the goals was achieved. This included the feeling that their body, mind and society were good; they were meaningful to themselves and other people; they could do the best and handle with the possible changes etc. Thus, life satisfaction could imply good attitude and emotion, satisfaction with current situation, expression of happiness such as smiling, laughing etc., gladness to contact with other people and the feeling of not being alone.

According to Flanagan, life satisfaction could be evaluated from the physical satisfaction and living necessities, that is, happiness caused by the availability of materials and safety such as good foods, residence, possession of objects, convenience and expectation of the things mentioned earlier. The other significant components of life satisfaction might include the possession of assets and safety; health and personal safety in terms of happiness, physical and mental health; prevention from possible accident and danger; avoidance of alcoholism, drugs or death and aged patients; efficient treatment and health protection.

The study of the relationship between life satisfaction and marriage, like the researches of Herman (1994: 69-78) and Huyck (1995) indicated that the life and marriage satisfaction could be predicted from self-confidence and personal characteristics of people. For instance, the life satisfaction of single people usually included good health, good job, career growth and advancement, financial stability, love, social life and family. In addition, role and support from society and friends also affected positive satisfaction. By this research, the gender difference on life satisfaction was found. Namely, men were usually satisfied when they had network or interaction with someone, who realized their value. On the other hand, women's

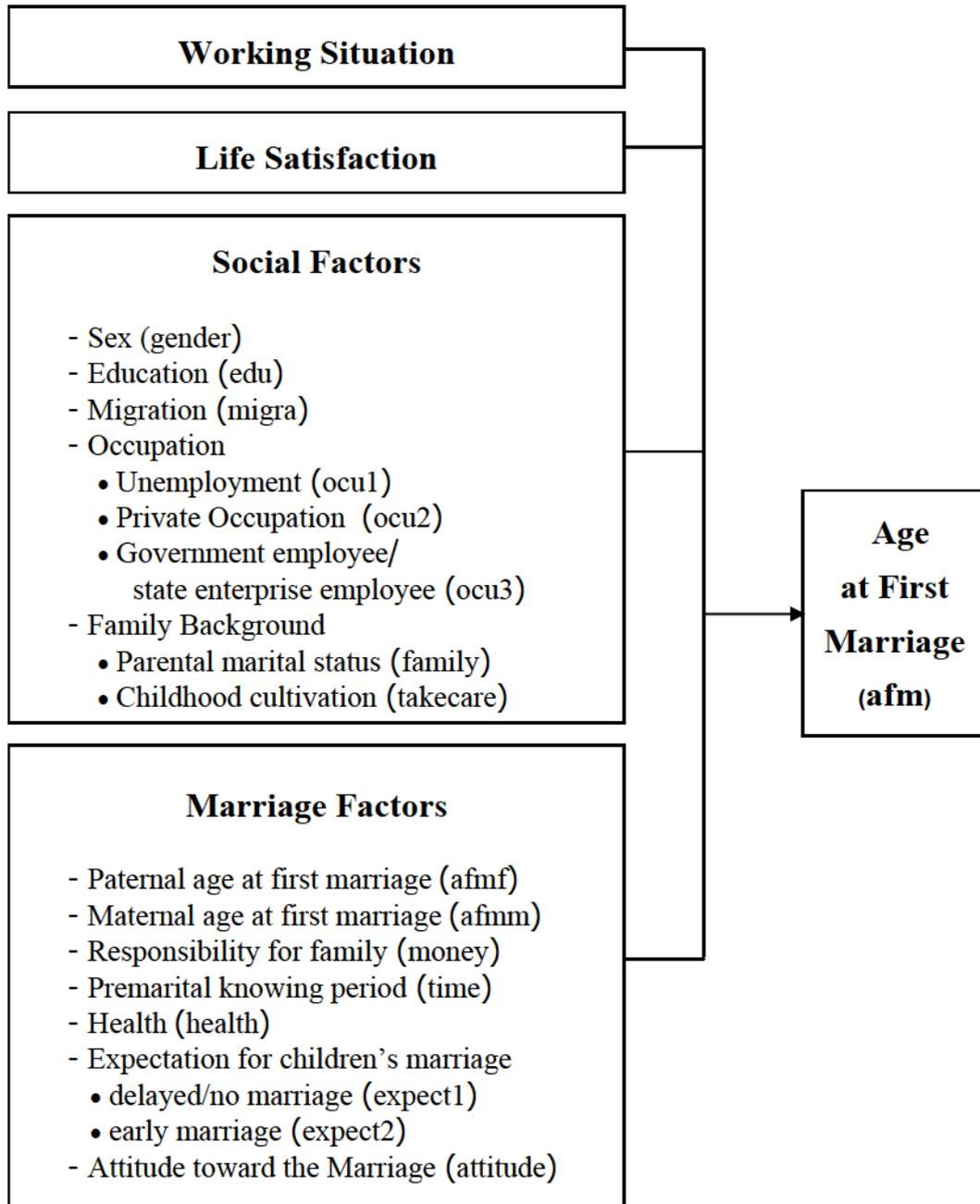
satisfaction would be occurred when they had close friends and freedom of living with less care from men. Such female satisfaction led to the increase of delayed marriage. Lifestyle of single people was diverse. Some of them still lived with their parents, rented an apartment room or even stayed alone. Since the single person had less family bonding, they were usually faced with mental problems like loneliness when compared with a married person. The life satisfaction and work satisfaction of the single were quite similar because life satisfaction led to work satisfaction; when the life satisfaction decreased, work satisfaction was affected as well. The study in 2002 indicated that the life satisfaction of Chinese people living in the city zone was quite low due to the unemployment, low income and health. However, the employment available for Chinese people did not increase the life satisfaction. (Appleton and Song, 2008) With the effort to merge the role of working and family life, most women were self-confident with the support from their family. Having the attitude toward the equality between men and women, the marriage of women constantly decreased while their confidence increased in return. (Arai, 2002)

Life satisfaction affects the marriage in two ways. When people are satisfied with their life, they may not need marriage anymore. On the other hand, when people are ready, in terms of working and finance, with the life satisfaction, they may need marriage to fulfill their family life. Therefore, the researcher is interested in studying the life satisfaction of single people in three aspects as follows: (1) Health such as good health, no congenital disease (2) Mental health in terms of stress, relationship with other people etc. and (3) Safety of life and property.

According to the literature review, the factors affecting the age at marriage consist of personal factors, social factors related to marriage, psychological factors and working factor, that is, work satisfaction. By this research, although some economic factors like income before marriage and marriage expenditures, according to the literature review, are related to the age at marriage, they are not considered in the analysis due to the dramatic difference of age interval of samples (15-59 years old), age at marriage, income and expenditures of marriage. The value of money differentiates the value of dowry and marriage expenditures. In the past, the marriage expenditures in terms of the ceremony arrangement were not high. However, the current marriage expenditures are increased due to the wedding service business. As a

result, the data on marriage expenditures cannot be compared due to the reasons mentioned earlier. Therefore, the factors related to the age at marriage can be divided into two groups. **The first group** or social factors consists of gender, education, migration, occupation and family background. Concerning the family background, two variables are included: Marital status of parents and child rearing practices. **The second group** or marriage factors include the parental expectation on children's marriage in the opinion of children and attitude toward marriage. Apart from these two groups, the variables such as the age at marriage of parents, personal responsibility before marriage, associating/courting period before marriage, physical condition before marriage can be considered as the significant factors having the relation to the age at marriage, which should be studied in this research.

## 2.4 Conceptual Framework



## CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study, entitled marital working situation and social status affecting the age at first marriage in urban areas, is a cross-sectional survey research. With regard to the research methodology, the researcher of this study presents the following operational steps: population and samples, research instrumentation, data collection, data analysis and general characteristics of the samples.

#### 3.1 Population and Sample

##### 3.1.1 Population

The population of this study totaled 1,519,001 males and females between the ages of 15-59 who were married and worked in Bangkok, the occupations of those were employee or business owner without employees, employees of government or state enterprise departments or private company. They were classified as 289,360 owners of private business without employees, and 1,229,641 as employees, with 297,895 being in government or state enterprise sectors and 931,746 being in the private sector (National Statistical Office, 2000). Therefore, in this study, the researcher divided the mentioned population into three groups as follows:

**Group 1** The owners of a firm or a private business without employees;

**Group 2** The employees of government and state enterprise departments; and

**Group 3** Private company employees

The mentioned population was classified according to their sex as in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1** The Population Size in Each Group, Classified According to their Sex.

| <b>Work Status</b> | <b>Male</b>    | <b>Female</b>  | <b>Total</b>     |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Group 1</b>     | 142,402        | 146,958        | 289,360          |
| <b>Group 2</b>     | 150,506        | 147,389        | 297,895          |
| <b>Group 3</b>     | 406,387        | 525,359        | 931,746          |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>699,295</b> | <b>819,706</b> | <b>1,519,001</b> |

In order to clearly comprehend the definition and the scope of the selected population, the researcher presents the following details.

1. The Bangkok population and household census of the year 2000, defined the definition of the workers of **private business without employees** as the doers of their own business, by themselves without employing any employees, but may have household members or trainees to assist with work without getting wages or other pay. The word **employee** means a worker who gets paid monthly, daily, per piece of work, as a service charge or as pay for work; the wage may be money or some other thing. The employee is classified into three types: government employee, state enterprise employee and private sector employee, which were selected for this study. The worker of the private business without employees is called the owner of the firm or the private business without any employees. The employees of government and state enterprise departments and the officers of private companies are called employees.

2. As to the scope of the population, the researcher chose to study an urban population, since the statistics of the National Statistical Office obviously point to the tendency of change of their ages at first marriage (National Statistical Office, 2000). The reason why Bangkok was selected as the study area was that Bangkok is an area comprised of diverse attributes of people, occupations and livings, due to the fact that people from every region of Thailand relocate into and work in Bangkok. As a result, it can be the representative area for urban study.

### 3.1.2 Sample

**Determining the sample size**, the sample size is calculated with the formula of Yamane (1973: 1088-1089) as follows:

$$n = \frac{Z^2 \times p (1 - p) N}{Z^2 \times p (1 - p) + Ne^2}$$

Where  $n$  = sample size  
 $Z$  = 2, confidence interval about 95.5%  
 $p$  = 0.5  
 $e$  = 0.05, probability of the mistake allowed to occur,  
determined at the level 5%

So, in this study 
$$n = \frac{2^2 \times 0.5 (1 - 0.5) 1,519,001}{2^2 \times 0.5 (1 - 0.5) + 1,519,001 (0.05)^2}$$

$$n = 399.89$$

$$\cong 400 \text{ samples}$$

Calculating the sample size of 400 people according to the proportion of a total 1,519,001 target population with 699,295 males and 819,706 females, calculated as the proportion of male: female of 1: 1.17, leads to the sample size of 184 males and 216 females, as showed in detail in Table 3.2.

**Table 3.2** The Sample Size, Classified according to their Sex and Work Status.

| Work Status    | Sample Size (approximately) |            | Total Sample Size |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
|                | Male                        | Female     |                   |
| <b>Group 1</b> | 37                          | 39         | 76                |
| <b>Group 2</b> | 40                          | 39         | 79                |
| <b>Group 3</b> | 107                         | 138        | 245               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>184</b>                  | <b>216</b> | <b>400</b>        |

### 3.1.3 Sampling Method

This research was done with Multistage Random Sampling that can be explained as follows.

**Step1** As Bangkok is divided into 50 districts are simply randomly sampled with 10 % as five districts: two inner districts, two middle ones and an outer one, as follows:

Two inner districts being Bang Rak and Klong Tei;  
Two middle districts being Bang Khen and Bang Kapi;  
And an outer district being Lat Krabang.

**Step 2** Classification of the sub-district names under those districts to simply random sample a sub-district with totally five sub-districts as follows:

Bang Rak District was randomly sampled as Bang Rak Sub-district;  
Klong Tei District was randomly sampled as Klong Ton Sub-district;  
Bang Khen District was randomly sampled as Anusawari Sub-district;  
Bang Kapi District was randomly sampled as Khlong Chan Sub-district;  
Lat Krabang District was randomly sampled as Lat Krabang Sub d strict.

According to the calculated sample size of 400 people and the data collections in five districts, the quota of the data collections in each of the districts was defined as 80 people per district, which were classified in accordance with their work status and sex and calculated from the proportion of the populations in each group, as in Table 3.3.

**Table 3.3** The Sample Size Collected in Each District, Classification According to Sex

| <b>Work Status</b>  | <b>Male (one)</b> | <b>Female (one)</b> |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Group 1</b> The owners of the firm or the private business without employees | 8                 | 8                   |
| <b>Group 2</b> The employees of government and state enterprise departments     | 8                 | 8                   |
| <b>Group 3</b> The employees or the officers of private companies               | 21                | 27                  |
| Total   | 37                | 43                  |

## 3.2 Research Instrumentation

### 3.2.1 Research Instrumentation Creation

The instrumentation used for this research was a questionnaire, divided into two parts and created from the reviews of the literatures in related topics. The contents of the created questions cover the following issues as defined in the definitions of operational technical terms.

**Part 1** Marriage-related data, consisting of the questions and details as follows:

1) Premarital Fundamental Data with five items, comprising the questions as to the age at first marriage, the highest education when first married, the occupation before the first marriage (both main and side occupation), total income when first married and total expenses when first married, consisting of ceremony expenses and bride-price.

2) Premarital Migration with three items, comprising of questions as to domicile, premarital living place, migration and the number of premarital migrations.

3) Family Background with seven items, consisting of questions about parental highest education when married, parental age at first marriage, the number of parents' children, parental couple life and a question set to measure the opinions toward parental raising when the participants are in early ages (before the age of 15).

This set was composed of 13 questions, each of which offered 11-level alternative answers ranging from 0 point, which means the least agreement or treatment, to 10 points, which means the most agreement or treatment.

4) Premarital Preparation Factor with four items, with questions on three issues - premarital responsibilities for family/relatives in various things, including money, the premarital knowing period specified as the number of years and months and health, including the number of annual ailments and premarital health assessment.

5) Attitude toward Marriage with a set of 20 questions, each of which offered 11-level alternative answers ranging from 0 point, which means the least agreement, to 10 points, which means the most agreement; in case of negative questions, scored reversely.

6) Parental Expectations for their Children's Marriage according to the person's point of view with one set, consisting of questions associated with five types of the parental expectations for their children's marriages: expectation of delayed marriage, expectation of early marriage, expectation of no marriage so as to care for them forever, no expectation/depending on their children and no awareness.

7) Life Satisfaction before the First Marriage, measuring the satisfaction in three aspects - physical health, mental health and property security, each of which consisted of a question set of seven items for each aspect, each of which offered 11-level alternative answers ranging from 0 point, which means the least satisfaction, to 10 points, which means the most satisfaction.

8) Premarital Work Satisfaction In this study, the researcher determined that working can be measured by the level of the work satisfaction, which comprised one question to measure the satisfaction in five aspects: work characteristics with eight questions, wages with five questions, superiors/heads (if any) with five questions, work advancements with five questions and colleagues with five questions. Each of the questions offered 11-level alternative answers ranging from 0 point, which means the least satisfaction, to 10 points, which means the most satisfaction.

**Part 2** Personal general data with eight questions, which was the data of the participants at the participation time, consisting of questions and details as follows: sex, current highest education, both main and side current occupation, current age (in

full year) and current income (baht/month), all of which were alternative; the questions as to the opinion toward current life quality, current life satisfaction and current couple life satisfaction offered 10-level alternative answers ranging from the worst to the best.

### **3.2.2 Instrumentation Verification**

All the questionnaires used in this research were verified for pre-test face validity, so as to ensure questionnaires with high reliability. The researcher tried using the questionnaires in three pre-tests to see the content congruence and to test the understanding as to the questions and meaning conveyance; also, the researcher checked questionnaire reliability again to ensure questionnaires with acceptable reliability. The researcher distributed the questionnaires to test the population with eligible qualifications in the districts that were not a random sample of Bangkok; they were:

Two inner districts are Sathorn and Dusit with 12 people;

Two middle districts are Lat Phrao and Sai Mai with 12 people; and

An outer district is Minburi with 6 people.

The first test was done on May 15, 2007; with the questionnaires of the first test, the results as each item of the questionnaires were analyzed, finding that some questions achieved reliability less than 0.5. Thus, the questions were adjusted more clearly for a second test on June 15, 2007. Afterwards, when the results of each item of the questionnaires were analyzed, it was found that some of adjusted questions still achieved reliability less than 0.5; therefore, the questions were again adjusted more clearly, and some of them were excluded. After that, the questionnaires were distributed for a third test on September 1, 2007; with the questionnaire results being verified. The results of each item of the questionnaires as the measurement criteria were analyzed, in terms of item analysis with the correlation coefficient between the score per item and that total one, selecting only the items with high correlation coefficient with statistical implication. In addition, the questionnaires were verified as to the reliability with calculating the Cronbach's alpha coefficient, see Table 3.4.

**Table 3.4** The Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient of Each of the Question Sets

| <b>Questions</b>                                | <b>Number of Questions</b> | <b>Alpha Coefficient</b> |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Childhood Cultivation                           | 13 items                   | 0.8251                   |
| Attitude toward Marriage                        | 20 items                   | 0.6883                   |
| Life Satisfaction in Physical Health            | 7 items                    | 0.9226                   |
| Life Satisfaction in Mental Health              | 7 items                    | 0.9256                   |
| Life Satisfaction in Life and Property Security | 7 items                    | 0.6038                   |
| Work Satisfaction in Work Characteristics       | 8 items                    | 0.7388                   |
| Work Satisfaction in Wages/Salary               | 7 items                    | 0.9246                   |
| Work Satisfaction in Superiors/Heads            | 5 items                    | 0.6449                   |
| Work Satisfaction in Colleagues                 | 5 items                    | 0.7969                   |
| Work Satisfaction in Work Advancements          | 5 items                    | 0.8809                   |

### **3.3 Data Collection**

Data collection was done by face-to-face interview; the researcher explained the questionnaire details to interview officers before actual data collection. The data collection period was during November 2006-January 2007; the data from all the questionnaires were verified before encoding for further data analysis.

### **3.4 Data Analysis**

Data analysis with SPSS program was done by the following statistical techniques:

1. Descriptive Statistics were used for describing the characteristics of the samples according to the characteristics of the dependent and independent variables and to present in terms of frequency, percentage, average, standard deviation (S.D), maximum and minimum. The cross-tabulation was used to present the relationship

between the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - and independent variables, with work satisfaction as the control variable.

2. Statistical Inference was used to analyze the factors that affect the age at first marriage in urban areas, which was a dependent variable, with four sets of independent variables as follows:

The first set was work satisfaction;

The second set was social factors;

The third set was life satisfaction; and

The fourth set was marriage factors.

In the data analysis, the set of these independent variables was added to hierarchical regression analysis respectively; this was to study how much each of the variable sets influences the dependent variable - the age at first marriage.

As to the study comparing the factors influencing the age at first marriage of male populations with that of female ones, the researcher divided the analysis pattern using multiple regression with the former independent variables; all the independent variables were analyzed simultaneously, excluding the sex factor.

### **3.5 General Characteristics of the Sample**

Tables 3.5 and 3.6 show personal characteristics of the sample, finding that most are women with 55 percent, during the age of 25-34 with 47.5 percent, the average age of 33.89, the minimum age of 17 and the maximum age of 58. Most of them hold bachelor's degrees or higher with 49.8 percent; only 4.5 percent of them finished primary schools or lower. Most of them are private company officers with 61.3 percent, and without any side occupations at 82.5 percent. All the monthly current incomes excluding expenses are mainly between 10,000-19,999 baht with 40.3 percent; the lowest monthly income is 1,000 baht; the highest monthly income is 100,000 baht; the average monthly income is 20,231.63 baht. The overall life quality is in medium level with 70.0 percent; the overall living and couple life satisfaction are also in medium level with 69.3 and 52.3 percent respectively.

**Table 3.5** The Percentage of Personal Characteristics of the Sample

| <b>Personal Characteristics</b>  | <b>Percentage (100.0)</b> |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Sex</b>   |                           |
| Male   | 45.0                      |
| Female   | 55.0                      |
| <b>Current Age</b>   |                           |
| 17 – 24 years old  | 11.5                      |
| 25 – 34 years old  | 47.5                      |
| 35 – 44 years old  | 27.5                      |
| 45 – 58 years old  | 13.5                      |
| <b>Education</b>   |                           |
| Primary school or lower  | 4.5                       |
| Junior high school or vocational certificate or technical vocational certificate | 20.8                      |
| Senior high school or advanced vocational certificate or equivalent              | 25.0                      |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | 49.8                      |
| <b>Main Occupation</b>   |                           |
| Private business   | 19.0                      |
| Government official  | 15.8                      |
| State enterprise   | 4.0                       |
| Private sector   | 61.3                      |
| <b>Side Occupation/Supplementary Occupation</b>                                  |                           |
| No supplementary occupation  | 82.5                      |
| Private business   | 10.0                      |
| Employer   | 4.0                       |
| Freelance  | 3.0                       |
| Private sector   | 0.5                       |
| <b>All the Monthly Current Incomes Excluding Expenses</b>                        |                           |
| Lower than 10,000 baht   | 23.6                      |
| 10,000-19,999 baht   | 40.3                      |
| 20,000-29,999 baht   | 14.3                      |
| 30,000 baht or more  | 21.8                      |
| <b>Overall Living Satisfaction</b>   |                           |
| Low level (0-4) the worst  | 4.7                       |
| Medium level (5-7) medium  | 69.3                      |
| High level (8-10) the best   | 26.0                      |
| <b>Overall Couple Life Satisfaction</b>  |                           |
| Low level (0-4) the worst  | 5.5                       |
| Medium level (5-7) medium  | 52.3                      |
| High level (8-10) the best   | 42.2                      |

**Table 3.6** The Descriptive Statistics of the Personal Characteristics  
of Personal Characteristics of the Sample

| <b>Personal Characteristics</b>                       | $\bar{X}$ | <b>S.D.</b> | <b>Min</b> | <b>Max</b> |
|---|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Current Age   | 33.89     | 8.577       | 17         | 58         |
| All the Monthly Current Incomes<br>Excluding Expenses | 20,231.63 | 15695.781   | 1,000      | 100,000    |
| Overall Life Quality                                  | 6.35      | 1.658       | 1          | 10         |
| Overall Life Satisfaction                             | 6.44      | 1.746       | 0          | 10         |
| Overall Couple Life Satisfaction                      | 6.90      | 2.145       | 0          | 10         |

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **THE FACTORS IN RELATION TO THE AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE IN URBAN AREAS**

For the study in the factors in relation to the age at first marriage of people in urban areas in this chapter, the researcher divided the presentation of the study results as three parts: premarital fundamental characteristic information of the samples, marital social factors and premarital psychological factors.

#### **4.1 Premarital Fundamental Characteristic Information of the Sample**

The researcher presents the premarital fundamental characteristic information of the sample in order to picture the population to be studied more explicitly. The fundamental characteristics to be presented consist of the personal fundamental information -personal and economical factors and the family background, general family background factors and childhood cultivation - as in the following detail.

##### **4.1.1 Premarital Personal Fundamental Information**

In the presentation of the personal fundamental information, the personal and economical factors are presented as follows.

According to Table 4.1, showing the personal characteristics of the sample, it was found that most of the sample with 39.0 percent were first married during the age of 25-29 and only 4.7 percent at the age of 35 or higher; the average age at first marriage is 25.6; and the lowest age at first marriage was 13 and the highest was 42 (Table 4.6). Most of the sample with the percentage of 40.5 held bachelor's degrees or higher; their main occupation was as private company officers with the percentage of 45.0; they did not have any side occupations before the first marriage with the percentage of 82.8; their monthly incomes excluding expenses were mostly less than 10,000 baht with up to 63.5 percent; the average income was 10,117.6 baht; and the lowest monthly income was 300 baht and the highest one was 100,000 baht (Table 4.6).

The domiciles of most of the sample with up to 42.5 percent were in countryside or regional provinces. At the first marriage, most of them lived in Bangkok and domains with up to 77.8 percent; also, 74 percent of them had never relocated before the first marriage; in case of the relocation, most of them with the percentage of 57.7 had relocated once.

**Table 4.1** Premarital Personal Fundamental Information

| <b>Characteristics</b>   | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Age at First Marriage (year)</b>  |                          |
| 13-19  | 11.8                     |
| 20-24  | 29.0                     |
| 25-29  | 39.0                     |
| 30-34  | 15.5                     |
| 35 or more   | 4.7                      |
| <b>Highest Education at First Marriage</b>                                       |                          |
| Primary school or lower  | 9.3                      |
| Junior high school or vocational certificate or technical vocational certificate | 19.0                     |
| Senior high school or advanced vocational certificate or equivalent              | 31.2                     |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | 40.5                     |
| <b>Main Occupation Before the First Marriage</b>                                 |                          |
| No occupation  | 8.3                      |
| Private business/employee/freelance  | 30.3                     |
| Government official/state enterprise officer                                     | 16.5                     |
| Private sector   | 45.0                     |
| <b>Side Occupation Before the First Marriage</b>                                 |                          |
| No side occupation   | 82.8                     |
| Private business/employee/freelance  | 15.5                     |
| Others   | 1.8                      |
| <b>All the Incomes Before the First Marriage, Excluding Expenses</b>             |                          |
| Less than 10,000 baht  | 63.5                     |
| 10,000-19,999 baht   | 25.4                     |
| 20,000 baht or more  | 11.1                     |
| <b>Living Areas or Places When Newly Born</b>                                    |                          |
| Bangkok or domains   | 31.5                     |
| Urban areas in regional provinces  | 25.0                     |
| Rural areas in regional provinces  | 42.5                     |
| Foreign countries  | 0.5                      |
| Others   | 0.5                      |

**Table 4.1** (Continued)

| <b>Characteristics</b>   | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>The Last Living Areas or Places Before the First Marriage</b> |                          |
| Bangkok or domains   | 77.8                     |
| Urban areas in regional provinces                                | 6.0                      |
| Rural areas in regional provinces                                | 15.2                     |
| Foreign countries  | 0.5                      |
| Others   | 0.5                      |
| <b>Migration Before the First Marriage</b>                       |                          |
| Never  | 74.0                     |
| Ever   | 26.0                     |
| <b>The Number of the Migration Before the First Marriage</b>     |                          |
| One time   | 57.7                     |
| 2-3 times  | 30.8                     |
| Over 3 times   | 11.5                     |

#### **4.1.2 Family Background**

The family background to be presented is the information in relation with the general family background factors and the childhood cultivation, as in the following details.

##### **4.1.2.1 The General Family Background Factors**

Table 4.2, presenting the premarital family background factor information, suggests that the sample' parents' highest education at first marriage was mostly of primary school or lower with 64.8 and 73.3 percent respectively. Most of the fathers firstly got married during the age of 20-24; paternal average age at first marriage was 23.6 with the lowest age of 14 and the highest of 39 (Table 4.6). For mothers, it was found out that they were firstly married between the ages of 20-24 with 41.5 percent like fathers; their average age at first marriage was 21.08 with the lowest age of 13 and the highest of 35 (Table 4.6). Mostly, fathers with 39.8 percent had 3-4 children like mothers with 42.0 percent do. Before marriage, most of the sample with the percentage of 77.8 had the family status of coupling parents.

**Table 4.2** Family Background

| <b>Family Background</b>   | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Paternal Highest Education at First Marriage (n = 395)</b>                    |                          |
| Primary school or lower  | 64.8                     |
| Junior high school or vocational certificate or technical vocational certificate | 13.8                     |
| Senior high school or advanced vocational certificate or equivalent              | 14.0                     |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | 6.3                      |
| <b>Maternal Highest Education at First Marriage (n = 393)</b>                    |                          |
| Primary school or lower  | 73.3                     |
| Junior high school or vocational certificate or technical vocational certificate | 11.3                     |
| Senior high school or advanced vocational certificate or equivalent              | 9.0                      |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | 4.8                      |
| <b>Paternal Age at First Marriage</b>  |                          |
| 14 – 19 years old  | 14.5                     |
| 20 – 24 years old  | 42.6                     |
| 25 – 29 years old  | 35.0                     |
| 30 years old or more   | 7.9                      |
| <b>Maternal Age at First Marriage</b>  |                          |
| 14 – 19 years old  | 39.2                     |
| 20 – 24 years old  | 41.5                     |
| 25 – 29 years old  | 15.8                     |
| 30 years old or more   | 3.5                      |
| <b>The Number of Paternal Children (ones)</b>                                    |                          |
| 1 – 2  | 28.5                     |
| 3 – 4  | 39.8                     |
| Over 4   | 31.7                     |
| <b>The Number of Maternal Children (ones)</b>                                    |                          |
| 1 – 2  | 28.8                     |
| 3 – 4  | 42.0                     |
| Over 4   | 29.2                     |
| <b>Family Status/Parental Couple Live While Living Together</b>                  |                          |
| living together  | 77.8                     |
| Separating but not getting divorced  | 4.5                      |
| Getting divorced   | 9.5                      |
| Separating with getting divorced/living with one of them                         | 3.0                      |
| Being orphaned/living in orphanages  | 5.3                      |

#### 4.1.2.2 Childhood Cultivation

The childhood cultivation is the personal fundamental family background information, which is the feeling/the warmth resulting from caring that ones obtain from their families in their childhood; if ones are well cultivated and cared, they tend to be married early; on the other hand, the ones who are not cared for by their families or come from separate families tend to be married late. In this respect, according to the data of the score of the childhood cultivation that was defined by 0-10 scores, the lowest score, i.e. 0 point, means not to be cared for in those respects, and the highest score of 10 means to be best cared for in those respects. In accordance with Table 4.3, most of the sample was cared for quite well in their childhood, because the average of each of the items was higher than 5. This indicates that as a whole, the sample was somewhat well cared for in their childhood, except being controlled and admonished by their parents or guardians, which was the negative opinion. Nonetheless, the average opinions of the sample were of 5.19 and 5.47, considered at the moderate level.

**Table 4.3** Childhood Cultivation

| Question   | $\bar{X}$ | S.D. | Min | Max |
|--|-----------|------|-----|-----|
| You were close to and well brought up by your parents/warm family.                                 | 8.12      | 2.20 | 0   | 10  |
| When you had some problems, you were always well suggested and assisted by your parents/guardians. | 7.69      | 2.42 | 0   | 10  |
| Your parents/guardians always supervised you so that you felt uncomfortable and dependent.*        | 5.19      | 3.21 | 0   | 10  |
| Your parents/guardians always admonished and punished you.*  | 5.47      | 3.06 | 0   | 10  |
| Your parents/guardians always complimented and encouraged you.                                     | 6.67      | 2.50 | 0   | 10  |
| When you had arguments with your siblings, your parents/guardians always judged with justice.      | 7.34      | 2.56 | 0   | 10  |
| Your parents/guardians accepted and trusted in your abilities.                                     | 7.45      | 2.46 | 0   | 10  |

**Table 4.3** (Continued)

| <b>Question</b>   | $\bar{X}$ | <b>S.D.</b> | <b>Min</b> | <b>Max</b> |
|---|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Your family always did activities together (dining, traveling, playing sports, etc.).       | 6.73      | 2.82        | 0          | 10         |
| Your family or parents were involved in determining your future.                            | 5.94      | 2.98        | 0          | 10         |
| You were paid or supported adequately for your expenses at that time.                       | 6.80      | 2.79        | 0          | 10         |
| Your parents or your family members always had arguments.*                                  | 4.46      | 3.27        | 0          | 10         |
| You were always involved in the decisions or comments on different issues of your families. | 6.06      | 2.78        | 0          | 10         |
| At that time, your family economical stable (no money shortage).                            | 6.43      | 2.55        | 0          | 10         |

Note: \* Negative statement with reverse scores

## 4.2 Marital Social Factors

Table 4.4 shows the information of the marital social factors that are composed of expenses at first marriage, personal responsibilities for families or relatives, premarital knowing period and premarital health, as in the following details.

**4.2.1 The Expenses at First Marriage:** This was classified as ceremony and bride-price expenses. Mostly, the ceremony expenses were under 50,000 baht with 51.5 percent; the average ceremony expense was 67,432.9 baht with the lowest expense of 1,000 baht and the highest 500,000 baht. In relation to the bride-price expenses, most were 100,000 baht or more with up to 47.8 percent; the average bride-price expense was 146,093.3 baht with the lowest expense of 1,000 baht and the highest of 3,000,000 baht.

**4.2.2 The Personal Responsibilities for Families or Relatives:** Most of the sample with the percentage of 55.8 were personally responsible for their families or relatives in respect of general care, alimony expenses, nursing expenses, tuition fees and other responsibilities, supporting with less than and over 3,000 baht in the close percentage of 50.9 and 49.1 respectively.

**4.2.3 The Premarital Knowing Period:** Most of the samples with the percentage of 39.7 got to know each other for over three years.

**4.2.4 The Premarital Check-up:** The sample with 52.8 percent had had the premarital check-up. Up to 38 percent of them had annual check-ups. Most of the health assessment results before the first marriage were in the strong level with 85.5 percent.

**4.2.5 The Attitude toward Marriage:** Most of the sample with the percentage of 63.0 had attitudes toward the marriage at the moderate level.

**4.2.6 The Parental Expectation for Children's Marriage in Children's Points of View:** Most of the sample's parents with up to 59.8 percent did not expect their children's marriage at all; it depended upon their children's decisions.

**Table 4.4** The Marital Social Factors

| <b>The Marital Social Factors</b>   | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Expenses of the First Marriage (baht)   |                          |
| Ceremony Expenses (baht)  |                          |
| Less than 50,000 baht   | 51.5                     |
| 50,000-99,999 baht  | 21.1                     |
| 100,000 baht or more  | 27.4                     |
| Bride-price Expenses (baht)   |                          |
| Less than 50,000 baht   | 24.5                     |
| 50,000-99,999 baht  | 27.7                     |
| 100,000 baht or more  | 47.8                     |
| Personal Responsibilities for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage                             | 55.8                     |
| A Personal Responsibility for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage in Respect of General Care. | 17.5                     |
| A Personal Responsibility for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage of the Alimony Expenses     | 39.8                     |
| A Personal Responsibility for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage of the Tuition Fees         | 13.0                     |
| Other Responsibilities for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage                                | 1.8                      |
| A Personal Responsibility for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage of the Nursing Expenses     | 16.8                     |

**Table 4.4** (Continued)

| <b>The Marital Social Factors</b>   | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Personal Responsibilities for Families or Relatives before the First Marriage as Monthly Expenses (approximately) |                          |
| Less than 3,000 baht  | 50.9                     |
| 3,000 baht or more  | 49.1                     |
| Premarital Knowing Period before the First Marriage (year)  |                          |
| One year  | 26.3                     |
| 2-3 years   | 34.0                     |
| Over 3 years  | 39.7                     |
| Check-up before the First Marriage  |                          |
| Never Checked   | 47.3                     |
| Checked   | 52.8                     |
| Check-up per a Time before the First Marriage   |                          |
| Every 6 months  | 3.3                      |
| Every year  | 38.8                     |
| 2-3 years   | 8.3                      |
| Over 3 years  | 2.5                      |
| Health Assessment before the First Marriage   |                          |
| Strong  | 85.5                     |
| Moderate/clemently sick   | 10.5                     |
| Quite sick /personal diseases needing regular treatments  | 4.0                      |
| Attitude toward Marriage before the First Marriage  |                          |
| Low (0-90 scores)   | 18.8                     |
| Moderate (91-144 scores)  | 63.0                     |
| High (145 scores or more)   | 18.2                     |
| Parental Expectation for Children's Marriage  |                          |
| Expectation for delayed marriage  | 9.3                      |
| Expectation for early marriage  | 28.0                     |
| No wish for marriage  | 4.0                      |
| No expectation  | 59.8                     |
| No awareness  | 20.0                     |

### **4.3 Premarital Psychological Factors**

Table 4.5 shows the study results of the premarital psychological factors that consist of the life and work satisfaction, as in the following details.

In relation to the life satisfaction before the first marriage, the samples were content with their physical and mental health in moderate level with 62.7 and 59.3 percent respectively, but their life satisfaction in the life and property security was at a low level with the percentage of 49.3. In respect of the work satisfaction in such different aspects as the work characteristics, the wages, the superior/heads, the work advancements and the colleagues, the sample had work satisfaction at a moderate level with the percentage of 69.7, 65.0, 73.6, 42.0 and 73.7 respectively.

**Table 4.5** The Sample' Premarital Psychological Factors

| <b>Characteristics</b>                           | <b>Percentage(100.0)</b> |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Life Satisfaction</b>                         |                          |
| Life Satisfaction in <u>Physical Health</u>      |                          |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                | 17.8                     |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                          | 62.7                     |
| High (60 scores or more)                         | 19.5                     |
| Life Satisfaction in <u>Mental Health</u>        |                          |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                | 25.5                     |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                          | 59.3                     |
| High (60 scores or more)                         | 15.7                     |
| Life Satisfaction in <u>Security</u>             |                          |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                | 49.3                     |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                          | 44.7                     |
| High (60 scores or more)                         | 6.0                      |
| <b>Work Satisfaction</b>                         |                          |
| Work Satisfaction in <u>Work Characteristics</u> |                          |
| Low (0-35 scores)                                | 16.0                     |
| Moderate (35-65 scores)                          | 69.7                     |
| High (65 scores or more)                         | 14.3                     |
| Work Satisfaction in <u>Wages/Salary</u>         |                          |
| Low (0-20 scores)                                | 19.8                     |
| Moderate (21-40 scores)                          | 65.0                     |
| High (41 scores or more)                         | 15.2                     |
| Work Satisfaction in <u>Superiors/Heads</u>      |                          |
| Low (0-20 scores)                                | 12.8                     |
| Moderate (21-40 scores)                          | 73.6                     |
| High (41 scores or more)                         | 13.6                     |

**Table 4.5** (Continued)

| <b>Characteristics</b>                               | <b>Percentage (100.0)</b> |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Work Satisfaction in <u>Colleagues</u></b>        |                           |
| Low (0-20 scores)                                    | 9.8                       |
| Moderate (21-40 scores)                              | 73.7                      |
| High (41 scores or more)                             | 16.5                      |
| <b>Work Satisfaction in <u>Work Advancements</u></b> |                           |
| Low (0-20 scores)                                    | 24.0                      |
| Moderate (21-40 scores)                              | 42.0                      |
| High (41 scores or more)                             | 34.0                      |

Table 4.6 shows the mean, the standard deviation (SD), the minimum and the maximum of the different characteristics of the premarital sample.

**Table 4.6** The Descriptive Statistics of the Different Characteristics of the Premarital Sample

| <b>Characteristics</b>  | <b><math>\bar{X}</math></b> | <b>S.D.</b> | <b>Min</b> | <b>Max</b> |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Age at First Marriage (years old)   | 25.6                        | 4.9         | 13         | 42         |
| All the Incomes before the First Marriage Excluding Expenses (baht)                                 | 10,117.6                    | 8326.2      | 300.0      | 100,000.0  |
| The Number of the Relocations before the First Marriage   | 1.9                         | 1.6         | 1          | 10         |
| Paternal Age at First Marriage (years old)  | 23.6                        | 4.1         | 14         | 39         |
| Maternal Age at First Marriage (years old)  | 21.1                        | 3.8         | 13         | 35         |
| Expenses for the First Marriage Ceremony Expenses(baht)   | 67,432.9                    | 76703.9     | 1,000.0    | 500,000    |
| Bride-price Expenses(baht)  | 146,093.3                   | 287906.3    | 1,000.0    | 3,000,000  |
| The Amount of Money as the Responsibility for Family Members before the First Marriage (baht/month) | 3,468.6                     | 4292.6      | 200.00     | 50,000     |

**Table 4.6** (Continued)

| <b>Characteristics</b>                                 | $\bar{X}$ | <b>S.D.</b> | <b>Min</b> | <b>Max</b> |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|
| The Knowing Period before the First Marriage           | 3.2 years | 30.8        | 1 months   | 13.2 years |
| The Attitude toward Marriage before the First Marriage | 117.3     | 29.5        | 0          | 193        |
| <b>Life Satisfaction</b>                               |           |             |            |            |
| In Physical Health                                     | 50.9      | 10.7        | 10         | 70         |
| In Mental Health                                       | 48.3      | 12.2        | 5          | 141        |
| In Security  | 40.5      | 11.8        | 8          | 70         |
| <b>Work Satisfaction</b>                               |           |             |            |            |
| In Work Characteristics                                | 49.6      | 15.4        | 0          | 80         |
| In Wages/Salary  | 29.4      | 10.5        | 0          | 50         |
| In Superiors/Heads                                     | 30.7      | 9.2         | 0          | 50         |
| In Colleagues  | 32.3      | 8.9         | 0          | 50         |
| In Work Advancements                                   | 28.1      | 11.6        | 0          | 50         |

#### **4.4 Conclusions**

Most of the sample were firstly married at the age of 25.6 with the lowest age at first marriage of 13 and the highest one of 42. Most of them held bachelor's degrees or higher. Their main occupation was private company officers without any side occupations. Before the first marriage, they earned an average monthly income of 10,117.6 baht with the lowest monthly income of 300 baht and the highest one of 100,000 baht. Most of them were from the domiciles of the countryside or regional provinces. Also, at the first marriage, most of them lived in Bangkok and its domains, and they had never relocated before the first marriage; in case of the relocation, they relocated only once.

With regard to the premarital family background of the sample, parental highest education at parental first marriage was primary school or lower. Paternal first marriage was at the average age of 23.6, and the maternal one at the average age of 21.08. Most parents had 3-4 children. The family status of the sample was of

coupling parents, and they were quite well cultivated in their childhood (the average score of more than a half), except being controlled and admonished by their parents or guardians, which was the negative opinion and considered the moderate level.

In terms of the marital factors, the sample had the expenses for the first marriage as the ceremony expenses with the average amount of money of 67,432.9 baht and the bride-price expenses with that of 146,093.3 baht. As to the sample' readiness before the first marriage, most of the sample were personally responsible for their families and relatives for general care, alimony expenses, nursing expenses, tuition fees and other responsibilities at approximately 3,000 baht a month. Associated with the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, most of them had periods of over three years. Also, they had had premarital check-ups annually; the health assessment before the first marriage was at the strong level. Most of the sample had the attitude toward the marriage at the moderate level. For the parental expectation for children's marriage, most of the sample' parents did not expect their children's marriage at all; it is dependent upon their children's decisions. The sample had the life satisfaction with their physical and mental health at the moderate level; on the other hand, they had that with the life and property security at the low level.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **THE ANALYSIS OF THE INFLUENCES OF THE WORKING AND THE MARITAL SOCIAL FACTORS ON THE AGE AT FIRST MARRIAGE IN URBAN AREAS**

This study chapter in the working situation and the marital social factors that affect the age at first marriage of the people in urban areas is to respond to a part of the first objective - to study the marital social factors, the working and the age at first marriage in urban areas, and the second objective - to study the influence of the working situation and other social factors on the age at first marriage in urban areas. In this chapter, the researcher divides the presentation of the study results into two parts as follows:

5.1 The relationship of the working factor which means the work satisfaction to different factors that affect the age at first marriage of the people in urban areas; and

5.2 The analysis of the relationship of the working factor which means the work satisfaction to the marital social factors that affect the age at first marriage of the people in urban areas.

The details are presented as follows:

#### **5.1 The Relationship of the Working Factor and Different Factors to the Age at First Marriage in Urban Areas.**

In analyzing the relationship between the working factor and different factors to the age at first marriage in urban areas for this study, the working factor is analyzed with the work satisfaction as the measurement; also, in order to picture the relationship of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, to other factors with more explicitness and comprehension, the researcher used bivariate analysis with

cross-tabulation in order to present the fundamental relationship between the dependent variable and the independent variable; the dependent variable is the age at first marriage, which the researcher divided into two groups - the group with the age at first marriage of below 25 and the group with the age at first marriage of 25 or higher, using the average age at first marriage of the samples, 25 years old, as the divider. As to the independent variable, since this is to study the influence of the working factor, which, in this respect, is work satisfaction, the researcher thus determines the work satisfaction as the controlled variable; the work satisfaction is divided into two levels - the low-level contentment with the scores of 0-50 and the high-level contentment with the scores of 50 or higher; the scores of the work satisfaction are between 0-100. Other independent variables comprise the factor of the life satisfaction; the social factors, consisting of gender, education, number of the premarital migrations and family background; and the marriage factors, comprising of paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage, premarital expense responsibility for the family or relative, premarital knowing period before the first marriage, health, parental expectation for children's marriage in children's points of view and attitude toward the marriage. The results of the relationship are presented in Table 5.1.

The percentage in the Table 5.1 indicates that those who are married before the age of 25 with work satisfaction at a high level are mostly males (51.6 percent), finished junior high school (51.3 percent), were government officials/state enterprise officers (50.0 percent), had the domiciles in urban areas in regional provinces (56.7 percent) mostly with the living places in rural areas in regional provinces before marriage (54.3 percent), had positive attitudes toward the marriage (62.9 percent) and had life satisfactions in physical health that were not so different, whereas the groups with life satisfactions in mental health at a low level had work satisfaction at a high level (75.0 percent), and those with the life satisfaction in security at a high level had work satisfaction at a high level (59.3 percent).

**Table 5.1** The Relationship of Work Satisfaction and Different Factors to the Age at First Marriage in Urban Areas (Percentage)

| Factors  | Age at First Marriage |      |                       |       |
|--|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|-------|
|  | Under 25 Years Old    |      | 25 Years Old or Older |       |
|  | Work Satisfaction     |      | Work Satisfaction     |       |
|  | Low                   | High | Low                   | High  |
| Gender   |                       |      |                       |       |
| Male   | 48.4                  | 51.6 | 41.8                  | 58.2  |
| Female   | 59.5                  | 40.5 | 41.5                  | 58.5  |
| Highest Education  |                       |      |                       |       |
| Primary school or lower  | 65.2                  | 34.8 | 18.2                  | 81.8  |
| Junior high school or vocational certificate or technical vocational certificate | 48.7                  | 51.3 | 45.2                  | 54.8  |
| Senior high school or advanced vocational certificate                            | 53.8                  | 46.2 | 55.8                  | 44.2  |
| Bachelor's degree or higher  | 57.1                  | 42.9 | 37.4                  | 62.6  |
| Main Occupation Before First Marriage  |                       |      |                       |       |
| Unemployment   | 52.2                  | 47.8 | 50.0                  | 50.0  |
| Private business/employee/freelance  | 57.8                  | 42.2 | 42.4                  | 57.6  |
| Government official/state enterprise officer                                     | 50.0                  | 50.0 | 39.3                  | 60.7  |
| Private officer  | 54.2                  | 45.8 | 42.1                  | 57.9  |
| Living Areas or Places When Newly Born   |                       |      |                       |       |
| Bangkok or domains   | 61.2                  | 38.8 | 34.8                  | 65.2  |
| Urban areas in regional provinces  | 43.3                  | 56.7 | 43.9                  | 56.1  |
| Rural areas in regional provinces  | 55.2                  | 44.8 | 45.8                  | 54.2  |
| Foreign countries  | 100.0                 | 0.0  | 0.0                   | 100.0 |
| The Last Living Areas or Places Before the First Marriage                        |                       |      |                       |       |
| Bangkok or domains   | 56.2                  | 43.8 | 41.3                  | 58.7  |
| Urban areas in regional provinces  | 75.0                  | 25.0 | 46.7                  | 53.3  |
| Rural areas in regional provinces  | 45.7                  | 54.3 | 44.0                  | 56.0  |
| Foreign countries  | 54.7                  | 45.3 | 50.0                  | 50.0  |

**Table 5.1** (Continued)

| Factors  | Age at First Marriage |      |                       |      |
|--|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
|  | Under 25 Years Old    |      | 25 Years Old or Older |      |
|  | Work Satisfaction     |      | Work Satisfaction     |      |
|  | Low                   | High | Low                   | High |
| Migration before the First Marriage                    |                       |      |                       |      |
| Never  | 53.2                  | 46.8 | 46.8                  | 53.2 |
| Ever   | 62.5                  | 37.5 | 30.7                  | 69.3 |
| Attitude toward the Marriage before the First Marriage |                       |      |                       |      |
| Low (0-90 scores)                                      | 62.5                  | 37.5 | 59.2                  | 40.8 |
| Moderate (91-144 scores)                               | 59.6                  | 40.0 | 42.5                  | 57.5 |
| High (145 scores or more)                              | 37.1                  | 62.9 | 15.8                  | 84.2 |
| Life Satisfaction before the First Marriage            |                       |      |                       |      |
| <u>In Physical Health</u>                              |                       |      |                       |      |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                      | 50.0                  | 50.0 | 80.0                  | 20.0 |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                                | 55.0                  | 45.0 | 46.0                  | 54.0 |
| High (61 scores or more)                               | 54.3                  | 45.7 | 28.4                  | 71.6 |
| <u>In Mental Health</u>                                |                       |      |                       |      |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                      | 25.0                  | 75.0 | 66.7                  | 33.3 |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                                | 59.5                  | 40.5 | 44.2                  | 55.8 |
| High (61 scores or more)                               | 44.8                  | 55.2 | 32.9                  | 67.1 |
| <u>In security</u>                                     |                       |      |                       |      |
| Low (0-40 scores)                                      | 55.6                  | 44.4 | 55.6                  | 44.4 |
| Moderate (41-60 scores)                                | 63.5                  | 36.5 | 53.4                  | 46.6 |
| High (61 scores or more)                               | 40.7                  | 59.3 | 27.8                  | 72.2 |

Those with work satisfactions at the low level were females (59.5 percent), finished primary school (65.2 percent), had main occupation before the first marriage of the private business/employee/freelance (57.8 percent), had domiciles in Bangkok or domains (61.2 percent), mostly lived in the urban areas in regional provinces before marriage (75.0 percent), had quite negative attitudes toward marriage (62.5 percent) and had life satisfactions in physical health that were not so different, while the groups with life satisfactions in mental health at a medium level had work satisfaction

at a low level (59.5 percent), and those with the life satisfaction in security at a medium level had work satisfactions at a low level (63.5 percent).

For those who were married at the age of 25 or higher, both males and females mostly had work satisfaction at a high level; mainly, those who finished primary school, junior high school or bachelor's degree with any occupations depending on their education had work satisfactions in high level. Moreover, no matter which domicile or living place they lived before the first marriage and whether or not they had migrated before marriage, they had work satisfaction at a high level; also, those with attitudes towards the marriage at a medium or high level had work satisfaction at a high level. Furthermore, in the event of life satisfaction in physical or mental health at a medium or high level and life satisfaction in security at a high level, they had work satisfaction at a high level, while those with work satisfaction at a low level finished senior high school (55.8 percent), had quite negative attitudes towards marriage and had life satisfaction in physical health, mental health and security at a low level.

## **5.2 The Analysis of the Relationship of the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage**

### **5.2.1 The Analysis of the Relationship of the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage by Finding the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient**

The analysis of the relationship of the age at first marriage to the different factors comprising of work satisfaction, life satisfaction, social factors and the marriage factors as the independent variables, and the age at first marriage as the dependent variable. According to the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the independent variables that related to the age at first marriage as the dependent variable with the statistical significance were work satisfaction ( $r = .149^{**}$ ), life satisfaction ( $r = .118^*$ ), highest education at first marriage ( $r = .446^{***}$ ), number of the migration before the first marriage ( $r = .165^{***}$ ), premarital unemployment ( $r = -.302^{***}$ ), premarital private occupation ( $r = -.125^*$ ), premarital government official/state enterprise officer ( $r = .335^{***}$ ), childhood

cultivation ( $r = .115^*$ ), paternal age at first marriage ( $r = .235^{***}$ ), maternal age at first marriage ( $r = .237^{***}$ ), premarital responsibility for family/relative ( $r = .129^{***}$ ), premarital knowing period before the first marriage ( $r = .313^{***}$ ), health at first marriage ( $r = -.122^*$ ) and attitude toward the marriage at first marriage ( $r = -.116^*$ ); the independent variables that did not relate to the dependent variable were the gender, the parental marital status and the parental expectation for children's marriage, showing the relationship values in Table 5.2.

According to the relationship values among the independent variables themselves, most of them related to one another at quite low levels, but only one pair of the independent variables related to one another at quite high levels, i.e. the paternal age at first marriage and the maternal age at first marriage, with the Correlation Coefficient of .624. The analysis results of the relationship among the independent variables themselves are as follows.

**Work satisfaction** relates positively to life satisfaction, education, premarital migration, childhood cultivation, paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage and the attitude toward the marriage, but negatively to premarital unemployment. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.114 to .546; other variables do not lead to many relationships to the independent variables, except life satisfaction with the Correlation Coefficient of .546.

**Life satisfaction** relates positively to work satisfaction, education, childhood cultivation, paternal age at first marriage and the attitude toward the marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between .101 to .496, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Gender** relates negatively to childhood cultivation. Its Correlation Coefficient is -.135, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Education** relates positively to work satisfaction, life satisfaction, premarital government official/state enterprise officer, childhood cultivation, paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage, premarital knowing period, parental expectation for children's delayed marriage, but negatively to premarital unemployment, premarital private occupation and the attitude toward the marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.173 to .278, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Table 5.2** Relationship of the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage by Finding out the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient

| Variables | afm      | satiwork | satilife | gender  | edu      | migra  | ocu1     | ocu2     | ocu3     | family  | takecare | afmf    | afmm  | money    | time     | health | expect1 | expect2 | attitude |  |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|--------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|-------|----------|----------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| afm       | 1.000    |          |          |         |          |        |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| satiwork  | .149**   | 1.000    |          |         |          |        |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| satilife  | .118*    | .546***  | 1.000    |         |          |        |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| gender    | .069     | .051     | -.066    | 1.000   |          |        |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| edu       | .446***  | .143**   | .101*    | .030    | 1.000    |        |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| migra     | .165***  | .114*    | .077     | -.081   | .051     | 1.000  |          |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| ocu1      | -.302*** | -.114*   | -.008    | -.089   | -.173*** | .022   | 1.000    |          |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| ocu2      | -.125*   | .052     | .065     | -.016   | -.144**  | -.100* | -.197*** | 1.000    |          |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| ocu3      | .335***  | .044     | -.054    | -.009   | .278***  | .109*  | -.133**  | -.293*** | 1.000    |         |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| family    | .048     | .092     | .023     | -.011   | .086     | .014   | .007     | -.040    | .027     | 1.000   |          |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| takecare  | .115*    | .437***  | .496***  | -.135** | .123*    | -.082  | .016     | -.013    | .012     | .288*** | 1.000    |         |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| afmf      | .235***  | .173***  | .162**   | -.019   | .278***  | .023   | -.078    | -.032    | .140**   | .005    | .157**   | 1.000   |       |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| afmm      | .237***  | .089     | .013     | .026    | .188***  | -.051  | -.062    | -.005    | .034     | .017    | .107*    | .624*** | 1.000 |          |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| money     | .129***  | .028     | -.028    | .063    | .032     | .047   | -.054    | .045     | -.042    | .027    | .060     | .041    | -.022 | 1.000    |          |        |         |         |          |  |
| time      | .313***  | .000     | .077     | -.041   | .248***  | -.076  | -.092    | .024     | .125*    | .035    | .044     | .105*   | .083  | .118**   | 1.000    |        |         |         |          |  |
| health    | -.122*   | .003     | .044     | .044    | -.051    | .015   | .020     | .055     | -.027    | -.033   | -.061    | .012    | .033  | -.155**  | -.120*   | 1.000  |         |         |          |  |
| expect1   | -.023    | .045     | .079     | -.057   | .098*    | -.109* | .044     | .080     | -.094    | -.039   | .034     | .026    | .024  | -.021    | .045     | -.028  | 1.000   |         |          |  |
| expect2   | -.060    | .035     | .055     | -.032   | -.047    | .019   | .096     | .011     | -.016    | .029    | .047     | -.013   | -.055 | -.005    | .001     | .002   | -.107*  | 1.000   |          |  |
| attitude  | -.116*   | .244***  | .305***  | -.005   | -.155**  | .058   | .121*    | .111*    | -.197*** | .029    | .331***  | .011    | -.056 | .134**   | -.128*   | .068   | .013    | .101*   | 1.000    |  |
| Mean      | 25.60    | 171.3806 | 139.7250 | .45     | .4050    | .49    | .0825    | .3025    | .1650    | .7775   | 84.3400  | 23.64   | 21.08 | 1873.05  | 38.5680  | .8550  | .1325   | .0700   | 117.2675 |  |
| S.D       | 4.909    | 43.85796 | 27.50765 | .498    | .49151   | 1.155  | 2.7547   | .45992   | .37165   | .41645  | 19.95495 | 4.134   | 3.858 | 3595.174 | 30.82896 | .35254 | .33946  | .25547  | 29.53340 |  |
| Min       | 13       | 45.00    | 43.00    | 0       | .00      | 0      | .00      | .00      | .00      | .00     | 26.00    | 14      | 13    | 0        | 1.00     | .00    | .00     | .00     | .00      |  |
| Max       | 42       | 265.00   | 234.00   | 1       | 1.00     | 10     | 1.00     | 1.00     | 1.00     | 1.00    | 126.00   | 39      | 35    | 50000    | 158.00   | 1.00   | 1.00    | 1.00    | 193.00   |  |

Note: \*p<.05      \*\* p<.01      \*\*\* p<.001

afm = age at first marriage  
satiwork = work satisfaction  
satilife = life satisfaction  
gender = sex (male, female)  
edu = the highest education at first marriage  
migra = the number of the premarital migration

ocu1 = the premarital unemployment  
ocu2 = the premarital private occupation  
ocu3 = the premarital government official/  
state enterprise officer  
family = the parental marital status  
takecare = the childhood cultivation

afmf = the paternal age at first marriage  
afmm = the maternal age at first marriage  
money = the responsibilities for families/relatives  
time = the knowing period before the first marriage  
health = the health at first marriage  
expect1 = expect their child's delayed/no marriage  
expect2 = expect their child's marriage early marriage  
attitude = attitudes toward marriage while first marriage

**Premarital migration** relates positively to work satisfaction and premarital government official/state enterprise officer, but negatively to premarital private occupation and parental expectation for children's delayed marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $-.109$  to  $.114$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Premarital unemployment** relates positively to the attitude toward the marriage, but negatively to work satisfaction, education, premarital private occupation and premarital government official/state enterprise officer. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $-.197$  to  $.121$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Premarital private occupation** relates positively to the attitude toward the marriage, but negatively to education, premarital migration, premarital unemployment and the premarital government official/state enterprise officer. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $-.293$  to  $.111$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Premarital government official/state enterprise officer** relates positively to education, premarital migration, premarital unemployment, premarital private occupation, paternal age at first marriage and the premarital knowing period, but negatively to the attitude toward the marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $-.293$  to  $.278$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Parental marital status** relates positively only to childhood cultivation. Its Correlation Coefficient is  $.288$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Childhood cultivation** relates positively to work satisfaction, life satisfaction, education, parental marital status, paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage and the attitude toward the marriage, but not negatively to other independent variables. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $-.135$  to  $.496$ , which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Paternal age at first marriage** relates positively to work satisfaction, life satisfaction, education, premarital government official/state enterprise officer, childhood cultivation, maternal age at first marriage and the premarital knowing period, but not negatively to other independent variables. Its Correlation Coefficients are between  $.105$  to  $.624$ .

**Maternal age at first marriage** relates positively to education, childhood cultivation, and the paternal age at first marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between .107 to .624.

**Premarital responsibility for family/relative** relates positively to the premarital knowing period and the attitude toward the marriage, but negatively to premarital health. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.155 to .134, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**The premarital knowing period** relates positively to education, the premarital government official/state enterprise officer, paternal age at first marriage and the premarital responsibility for family/relative, but negatively to premarital health and the attitude toward the marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.128 to .248, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Premarital health** relates positively to the premarital responsibility for family/relative, but negatively to the premarital knowing period. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.155 to -.120, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**Parental expectation for children's delayed marriage** relates positively to education, but negatively to premarital migration and parental expectation for children's early marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.109 to .098, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**The parental expectation for children's early marriage** relates positively to the attitude toward the marriage, but negatively to the parental expectation for children's delayed marriage. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.107 to .101, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

**The attitude toward the marriage** relates positively to work satisfaction, life satisfaction, premarital unemployment, premarital private occupation, childhood cultivation, the premarital responsibility for family/relative and the parental expectation for children's early marriage, but negatively to education, the premarital government official/state enterprise officer and the premarital knowing period. Its Correlation Coefficients are between -.197 to .305, which does not lead to many relationships to the independent variables.

### 5.2.2 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage with Hierarchical Regression Analysis

In order to analyze the factors that influence the dependent variable - the age at first marriage, four groups of the independent variables with 18 variables are analyzed (as in the above-mentioned details as to the variables).

The researcher presents the model for the analysis of the influences of the working and the different factors that affect the age at first marriage as four equations since there are four related variable groups. The researcher arranges the variable sets to be analyzed as in the following equations.

$$afm = \beta_1 \text{satiwork} + \varepsilon \quad \text{-----} \textcircled{1}$$

$$afm = \beta_1 \text{satiwork} + \beta_2 \text{gender} + \beta_3 \text{edu} + \beta_4 \text{migra} + \\ \beta_5 \text{ocu1} + \beta_6 \text{ocu2} + \beta_7 \text{ocu3} + \beta_8 \text{family} + \\ \beta_9 \text{takecare} + \varepsilon \quad \text{-----} \textcircled{2}$$

$$afm = \beta_1 \text{satiwork} + \beta_2 \text{gender} + \beta_3 \text{edu} + \beta_4 \text{migra} + \\ \beta_5 \text{ocu1} + \beta_6 \text{ocu2} + \beta_7 \text{ocu3} + \beta_8 \text{family} + \\ \beta_9 \text{takecare} + \beta_{10} \text{satalife} + \varepsilon \quad \text{-----} \textcircled{3}$$

$$afm = \beta_1 \text{satiwork} + \beta_2 \text{gender} + \beta_3 \text{edu} + \beta_4 \text{migra} + \\ \beta_5 \text{ocu1} + \beta_6 \text{ocu2} + \beta_7 \text{ocu3} + \beta_8 \text{family} + \\ \beta_9 \text{takecare} + \beta_{10} \text{satalife} + \beta_{11} \text{afmf} + \beta_{12} \text{afmm} + \\ \beta_{13} \text{money} + \beta_{14} \text{time} + \beta_{15} \text{health} + \beta_{16} \text{expect1} + \\ \beta_{17} \text{expect12} + \beta_{18} \text{attitude} + \varepsilon \quad \text{-----} \textcircled{4}$$

$\beta_1 - \beta_{18}$  = Regression Coefficients

$\varepsilon$  = Random Error

In analyzing the model as four equations, the researcher equates the independent variables group by group with the following steps:

**Step 1** Equate the work satisfaction (satiwork) first;

**Step 2** Equate the social factors, comprising gender, highest education at first marriage, the number of the migrations before the first marriage, premarital unemployment, the private occupation at first marriage, the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage, the parental marital status and childhood cultivation;

**Step 3** Equate the life satisfaction (satilife); and

**Step 4** Equate the marriage factors, consisting of the paternal age at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the premarital expense responsibility for the family/ relative, the premarital knowing period before the first marriage (month), health at first marriage, parental expectation for children's delayed/no marriage, parental expectation for children's early marriage and the attitude toward the marriage.

Equating the independent variables group by group, the results of the Hierarchical Regression Analysis of the influences of the working and the different factors that affect the age at first marriage are shown in Table 5.3.

**Model 1** Analyzing the work satisfaction (satiwork), the important factor for this study, it was found out that it related with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage (afm) with a positive relationship direction ( $\beta = .175$  at the statistical significance of .001). This can be explained that work satisfaction has the Regression Coefficient of only .175, which is a low relationship level, explaining the variation of the age at first marriage of only 3.1 percent.

**Table 5.3** The Results of the Hierarchical Regression Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage

| Variables  | Model 1   | Model 2   | Model 3   | Model 4   |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Work satisfaction (satiwork)                             | .175***   | .045      | .016      | .027      |
| Social factors   |           |           |           |           |
| Gender (0=female ,1=male)                                |           | .109*     | .113*     | .098*     |
| Highest education (edu)                                  |           | .360***   | .359***   | .292***   |
| The number of the migrations (migra)                     |           | .136**    | .130**    | .146***   |
| Unemployment (ocu1)                                      |           | -.197***  | -.198***  | -.176***  |
| Private occupation (ocu2)                                |           | -.007     | -.009     | -.019     |
| Government official/<br>state enterprise officer (ocu3)  |           | .184***   | .188***   | .177***   |
| Parental marital status (family)                         |           | .000      | .007      | .009      |
| Childhood cultivation (takecare)                         |           | .059      | .034      | .020      |
| Life satisfaction (satilife)                             |           |           | .070      | .093      |
| Marriage factors   |           |           |           |           |
| Paternal age at first marriage (afmf)                    |           |           |           | -.044     |
| Maternal age at first marriage (afmm)                    |           |           |           | .176**    |
| Expense responsibility (money)                           |           |           |           | .095*     |
| Premarital knowing period (time)                         |           |           |           | .173***   |
| Health (health)  |           |           |           | -.056     |
| Expectation for children's delayed<br>marriage (expect1) |           |           |           | -.028     |
| Expectation for children's early<br>marriage (expect2)   |           |           |           | -.042     |
| Attitude toward the marriage (attitude)                  |           |           |           | -.053     |
| Constant values  | 22.327*** | 21.218*** | 20.526*** | 17.492*** |
| R <sup>2</sup>   | .031      | .333      | .335      | .411      |
| SEE  | 4.759     | 3.996     | 3.994     | 3.806     |
| F  | 10.950    | 18.654    | 16.947    | 12.694    |
| Sig F  | .001      | .000      | .000      | .000      |

**Notes:** The numerals in the table are Unstandardized Coefficients.

\* significance of .05 \*\* significance of .01 \*\*\* significance of .001

**Model 2** Analyzing the social factors, comprising gender, the highest education at first marriage, the number of the migrations before the first marriage, premarital unemployment, private occupation at first marriage, the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage, parental marital status and childhood cultivation, the Regression Coefficient of work satisfaction decreases as .045 without any relationships with the statistical significance to the dependent variable. Nevertheless, the power to explain the variation of the dependent variable of the independent variables, that comprise the work satisfaction and the personal factors, increases with the percentage of 33.3. The independent variables that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage (afm) are the gender ( $\beta = .109$  at the statistical significance of .05), the highest education at first marriage ( $\beta = .360$  at the statistical significance of .001), the number of the migrations before the first marriage ( $\beta = .136$  at the statistical significance of .01) and the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage ( $\beta = .184$  at the statistical significance of .001), with the positive relationship direction. On the other hand, the at first marriage unemployment ( $\beta = .197$  at the statistical significance of .001) is of the negative relationship direction.

**Model 3** Analyzing life satisfaction, the Regression Coefficient of the work satisfaction decreases as .016 with no relationship with the statistical significance to the dependent variable. Nevertheless, the power to explain the variation of the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - of the independent variables that comprise work satisfaction, the social factors and the life satisfaction increases with the percentage of 33.3. The independent variables that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage (afm) are composed of the gender ( $\beta = .113$  at the statistical significance of .05), highest education at first marriage ( $\beta = .359$  at the statistical significance of .001), number of the migrations before the first marriage ( $\beta = .130$  at the statistical significance of .01) and the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage ( $\beta = .188$  at the statistical significance of .001), with the positive relationship direction. On the other hand, the premarital unemployment ( $\beta = .198$  at the statistical significance of .001) is in the negative relationship direction.

**Model 4** Analyzing the marriage factors, the Regression Coefficient of work satisfaction increases a little as .027, still with no relationship with the statistical significance to the dependent variable of the age at first marriage. Nonetheless, the power to explain the variation of the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - of all the independent variables increases with the percentage of 41.1. The social factors that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage (afm) consist of gender ( $\beta = .098$  at the statistical significance of .05), the highest education at first marriage ( $\beta = .292$  at the statistical significance of .001), number of the migrations before the first marriage ( $\beta = .146$  at the statistical significance of .001) and the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage ( $\beta = .177$  at the statistical significance of .001), with the positive relationship direction. On the other hand, the premarital unemployment ( $\beta = .176$  at the statistical significance of .001) is of the negative relationship direction. The marriage factors that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage are the maternal age at first marriage ( $\beta = .176$  at the statistical significance of .01), the responsibility for the family/relative ( $\beta = .095$  at the statistical significance of .05) and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage (month) ( $\beta = .173$  at the statistical significance of .001), all of which are in the positive relationship direction.

The results of the Hierarchical Regression Analysis of the influences of the working and the different factors that affect the age at first marriage are summarized in Table 5.3; all the independent variables can explain the variation of the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - as the percentage of 41.1, and out of all the 18 independent variables, there are seven that relate positively to the age at first marriage and one negatively. The importance order of the eight independent variables are arranged as follows: 1) the highest education at first marriage (edu), 2) the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage (ocu2), 3) the premarital unemployment (ocu1), 4) the maternal age at first marriage (afmm), 5) the premarital knowing period before the first marriage (month) (time), 6) the number of the migrations before the first marriage (migra), 7) the gender (gender) and 8) the responsibility for the family/relative (money).

However, according to the results of the analysis of the influences the different factors that affect the age at first marriage with Hierarchical Regression Analysis, the independent variables that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage are mainly the variables of the social factors and the marriage factors; nevertheless, the factors of working, i.e. work satisfaction, and life satisfaction do not relate to the age at first marriage, with the analyses of other free factors. In this regard, this may be the impact that results from the alteration of the current society, leading to the changes of both male and female roles. Also, the social role influences their decisions on the marriage. As a result, the researcher is interested in studying the analysis of the influences the different factors that affect the age at first marriage with the Hierarchical Regression Analysis by noticing the gender difference, which is one of the factors that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage. According to many research works, males have a higher age at first marriage than females, they are likely to be several years older at first marriage than females, and they want to generate economic stability before marriage (Population Reports, 1995); in relation to females, most of them expect marriage more than males, and are likely to get married earlier than males of the same age (Millward, 1991). Therefore, these additional studies lead to the understanding of which factors affect males' and females' age at first marriage.

### **5.2.3 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage with the Regression Analysis in the Event of Gender Difference**

Analyzing the factors influencing the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - by considering gender difference is done with all the 17 independent variables. The researcher presents the model for the analysis as in the following equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
afm = & \beta_1 \text{satiwork} + \beta_2 \text{satilife} + \beta_3 \text{edu} + \beta_4 \text{migra} + \beta_5 \text{ocu1} + \beta_6 \text{ocu2} \\
& + \beta_7 \text{ocu3} + \beta_8 \text{family} + \beta_9 \text{takecare} + \beta_{10} \text{afmf} + \beta_{11} \text{afmm} \\
& + \beta_{12} \text{money} + \beta_{13} \text{time} + \beta_{14} \text{health} + \beta_{15} \text{expect1} + \beta_{16} \text{expect12} \\
& + \beta_{17} \text{attitude} + \varepsilon
\end{aligned}$$

$\beta_1 - \beta_{17}$  = Regression Coefficients

$\varepsilon$  = Random Error

In analyzing the equation model, the researcher analyzes all the independent variables consisting of work satisfaction (satiwork); life satisfaction (satilife); the social factors comprising of the highest education at first marriage, the number of migrations before the first marriage, premarital unemployment, the private occupation at first marriage, the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage, the parental marital status and childhood cultivation; and the marriage factors comprising of the paternal age at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the responsibility for family/relative, the premarital knowing period before the first marriage (month), the parental expectation for children's marriage in children's points of view and the attitude toward the marriage. The results of the analysis of the influences of the working and the different factors that affect the age at first marriage with the Regression Analysis can be summarized as in Table 5.4.

The results of the analysis **in males** can be summarized in that there are four independent variables that influence the age at first marriage with the statistical significance, which can be arranged in their order of importance as follows: the highest education at first marriage ( $\beta = .344$  at the statistical significance of .001), the maternal age at first marriage ( $\beta = .243$  at the statistical significance of .01), the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage ( $\beta = .178$  at the statistical significance of .05) and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage ( $\beta = .145$  at the statistical significance of .05), all of which relate to the alteration of the age at first marriage and can explain the variation of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, with the percentage of 42.4.

**For females**, there are six independent variables that influence the age at first marriage with the statistical significance, which can be arranged in their order of importance as follows: the premarital responsibility for family/relative ( $\beta = .259$  at the statistical significance of .001), the premarital knowing period before the first marriage ( $\beta = .250$  at the statistical significance of .001), the premarital unemployment ( $\beta = -.225$  at the statistical significance of .001), the highest education at first marriage ( $\beta = .183$  at the statistical significance of .001), the number of the premarital migration ( $\beta = .182$  at the statistical significance of .01) and the premarital government official/state enterprise officer ( $\beta = .153$  at the statistical significance of .05). The premarital unemployment influences in the opposite of the age at first marriage. All the six above-mentioned independent variables that relate with the statistical significance to the dependent variable can explain the variation of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, with the percentage of 48.3.

Therefore, out of all the 17 independent variables that were analyzed in this respect, the variables that influence the age at first marriage of both male and female are education, the premarital government official/state enterprise officer and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage. This is congruent to many research works in the past that insist that the education is still the factor that influence the decision on the marriage of the people at present. As to the premarital government official/state enterprise officer, it can be explained that the people who decide to perform this occupation want to have a stable future, and the government official/state enterprise officer is a stable occupation, but the salary is less than that of a private occupation or the private sector; thus, those who are government officials or state enterprise officers need some time for occupation stability or income. In case of males, they will marry only if they have working status that is equivalent to that of their spouses (Koball, 1998), so they delay marriage until they achieve working readiness.

**Table 5.4** The Results of The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Marital Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage with Regression Analysis Classified by Gender

| <b>Variables</b>   | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> |
|--|-------------|---------------|
| Work satisfaction (satiwork)                             | .136        | -.050         |
| Life satisfaction (satilife)                             | 0.83        | .092          |
| <b>Social factors</b>                                    |             |               |
| Highest education at first marriage (edu)                | .344***     | .183**        |
| The number of the premarital migrations (migra)          | .088        | .182**        |
| Unemployment (ocu1)                                      | -.095       | -.225***      |
| Private occupation (ocu2)                                | .032        | -.057         |
| Government official/state enterprise officer (ocu3)      | .178*       | .153*         |
| Parental marital status (family)                         | .071        | -.019         |
| Childhood cultivation (takecare)                         | -.092       | .087          |
| <b>Marriage factors</b>                                  |             |               |
| Paternal age at first marriage (afmf)                    | -.025       | -.007         |
| Maternal age at first marriage (afmm)                    | .243**      | .119          |
| Responsibility for family/relative (money)               | -.001       | .259***       |
| Premarital knowing period (time)                         | .145*       | .250***       |
| Health at first marriage (health)                        | -.417       | -.066         |
| Expectation for children's delayed/no marriage (expect1) | -.784       | .007          |
| Expectation for children's early marriage (expect2)      | -.847       | -.030         |
| Attitude toward the marriage (attitude)                  | -.093       | -.116         |
| Constant values  | 14.531***   | 19.251***     |
| R <sup>2</sup>   | .424        | .483          |
| SEE  | 3.908       | 3.594         |
| F  | 6.107       | 9.346         |
| Sig F  | .000        | .000          |

**Notes:** The numerals in the table are Unstandardized Coefficients.

\* significance of .05    \*\* significance of .01    \*\*\* significance of .001

### **5.3 Conclusions**

With reference to the results of the study in the working and the marriage factors that affect the age at first marriage of the people in urban areas in this chapter, the researcher divided the issues of the study result presentation into two parts: (1) the relationship of the working factor which means the work satisfaction to different factors that affect the age at first marriage in urban areas and (2) The analysis of the relationship of the work satisfaction to the marriage factors that affect the age at first marriage in urban areas.

#### **5.3.1 The Relationship of the Work Satisfaction and Different Factors to the Age at First Marriage in Urban Areas**

It can be concluded that those who are married before the age of 25 with work satisfaction at a high level are mostly males, finished junior high school, were government officials/state enterprise officers, had domiciles in urban areas in regional provinces mostly with the living places in rural areas in regional provinces before marriage, had positive attitude toward the marriage, had work satisfactions in high level in spite of life satisfactions in mental health at a low or high level, and had work satisfaction at a high level, in case of the life satisfaction in security at a high level. Regarding those who married at the age of 25 or higher, both male and female mostly had work satisfaction at a high level; mainly, those who finished primary school, junior high school or bachelor's degree with any occupations depending on their education had work satisfaction at a high level. Moreover, no matter which domiciles or living place they lived before the first marriage and whether or not they had migrated before marriage, they had work satisfaction at a high level; also, those with the attitudes towards marriage at a medium or high level had work satisfaction at a high level. Furthermore, in the event of the life satisfaction in physical or mental health at a medium or high level and life satisfaction in security at a high level, they had work satisfaction at a high level.

### **5.3.2 The Analysis of the Relationship of the Work Satisfaction and the Marriage Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage of the People in Urban Areas**

#### **5.3.2.1 The Analysis of the Relationship of the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage by Finding the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient**

It was found that the independent variables that related to the age at first marriage as the dependent variable with the statistical significance were work satisfaction, life satisfaction, highest education at first marriage, the premarital unemployment, the premarital private occupation, the premarital government employees/state enterprise employees, childhood cultivation, the paternal age at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the premarital knowing period before the first marriage and health at first marriage.

#### **5.3.2.2 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage with Hierarchical Regression Analysis**

The results of the analysis are that the independent variables can explain the variation of the dependent variable - the age at first marriage - with the percentage of 41.1, and that there are eight variables that relate with the statistical significance to the age at first marriage, which are arranged in their order of importance as follows: 1) the highest education at first marriage (edu), 2) the government employees /state enterprise employees at first marriage (ocu2), 3) the premarital unemployment (ocu1), 4) the maternal age at first marriage (afmm), 5) the premarital knowing period before the first marriage (month) (time), 6) the number of the migrations before the first marriage (migra), 7) the gender (gender) and 8) the responsibility for the family/relative (money).

### 5.3.2.3 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage with Regression Analysis in the Event of Gender Difference

The results of the gender difference analysis can be summarized as follows: **for males**, the independent variables that influenced the age at first marriage with the statistical significance, arranged in their order of importance, were the highest education at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the government employees /state enterprise employees at first marriage and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, which can explain the variation of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, with the percentage of 42.4. **For females**, the premarital responsibility for family/relative, the premarital unemployment, the highest education at first marriage, the number of the premarital migrations and the premarital government employees /state enterprise employees relate with the statistical significance to the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, and can explain its variation with the percentage of 48.3. The variables that influenced the age at first marriage of both male and female were education, the premarital government employees /state enterprise employees and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The study entitled marital working and social status that affect the age at first marriage in urban areas was to the aim of the study. This was done by studying the marriage factors, the social factors and the factor related to life satisfaction, and the working situation was studied by measuring the work satisfaction. According to the review of the literature, these factors are important for the age at first marriage, especially the working status, which is very influential to the age at first marriage.

This study is associated with the marriage of the employed populations in Bangkok with the data collected by the researcher. The population was male and female between the ages of 15-59, who worked in Bangkok with the working statuses of: 1) the owners of the firm or the private business without employees; 2) the employees of government and state enterprise departments; and 3) the employees or the officers of private companies. The random sampling was by the multi-stage random sampling of 5 random sample districts out of 50 districts of Bangkok, by two inner districts–Bang Rak District and Klong Tei District, two middle districts Bang Khen District and Bang Kapi District and an outer district–Lat Krabang District. Afterwards, a sub-district in each of the sampled five districts was sampled– Bang Rak Sub-district, Klong Ton Sub-district, Anusawari Sub-district, Lat Krabang Sub-district and Khlong Chan Sub-district. The data collections were done with 80 samples per a sub-district with a total of 400 samples. The instrumentation for the data collection was the constructed questionnaire. The collected data was compiled and analyzed with the instant program; the data analysis was done with the descriptive statistics, i.e., the frequency, the percentage, the average and the standard deviation (S.D.). The cross-tabulation is adopted in presenting the relationship between the dependent and independent variables with the work satisfaction as the controlled

variable. The inferential statistics is for the hierarchical regression analysis and the multiple regression analysis.

In this chapter, the researcher divides the presentation into two parts: (1) the conclusions the research findings and (2) the suggestions.

## **6.1 Conclusions**

### **6.1.1 Conclusions of the Descriptive Analysis**

#### **6.1.1.1 General Characteristics of the Populations**

The population had an average age of 33.89 years. Most of them held bachelor's degrees or higher with 49.8 percent. Most of them were private company employees with 61.3 percent, and without any supplement occupations with 82.5 percent. All the monthly current incomes excluding expenses were mainly between 10,000-19,999 baht with the average monthly income of 20,231.63 baht. The overall life quality was at the medium level with 70.0 percent; the overall living and couple life satisfaction was also at the medium level with 69.3 and 52.3 percent respectively.

#### **6.1.1.2 Premarital Personal Fundamental Information**

Most of the samples with 39.0 percent are first married between the ages of 25-29 with the average age at first marriage of 25.6. Most of the samples with the percentage of 40.5 held bachelor's degrees or higher; their main occupation was private company officer with the percentage of 45.0; they did not have any side occupations before the first marriage with the percentage of 82.8. Their monthly incomes excluding expenses were mostly less than 10,000 baht at 63.5 percent; their average income was 10,117.6 baht. The domiciles of most of the samples, with up to 42.5 percent, were in countryside or regional provinces. At first marriage, most of them lived in Bangkok and domains with up to 77.8 percent; also, 74 percent of them had never relocated before the first marriage. In case of the migration, most of them with the percentage of 57.7 have relocated once.

The premarital family background information consisting of the highest education of the samples' parents at first marriage that the samples' parents' highest education at first marriage was mostly of primary school or lower with 64.8 and 73.3 percent respectively. Most of the fathers first got married between the ages of 20-24;

the paternal average age at first marriage was 23.6. For mothers, it was found out that they were first married between the age of 20-24 with 41.5 percent, like fathers; their average age at first marriage was 21.08. Mostly, fathers with 39.8 percent have 3-4 children like mothers with 42.0 percent do. Before marriage, most of the samples with the percentage of 77.8 had the family status of coupling parents. As to the childhood cultivation, most of the samples were cultivated quite well in their childhood because the average of each of the items was higher than 5 and some of the negative questions had low scores. This indicates that as a whole, the samples were somewhat well cultivated in their childhood.

#### 6.1.1.3 Marital Social Factors

This was composed of the expenses at first marriage that were classified as ceremony and bride-price expenses; mostly, the average ceremony expense was 67,432.9 baht, and the average bride-price expense was 146,093.3 baht. Regarding the personal responsibilities for families or relatives, most of the samples with the percentage of 55.8 take responsibilities for their families or relatives in respect of general cares, alimony expenses, nursing expenses, tuition fees and other responsibilities, supporting with approximately 3,000 baht monthly. In reference to the premarital knowing period, most of the samples got to know each other for over three years. Also, the samples with 52.8 percent had never had premarital check-ups; up to 38 percent of them had annual check-ups. Most of the health assessment results before the first marriage were in strong level with 85.5 percent. Most of them with the percentage of 63.0 had attitudes toward the marriage at a moderate level.

#### 6.1.1.4 Premarital Psychological Factors

Most of the samples' parents with up to 59.8 percent did not expect their children's marriage at all; it was dependent upon their children's decisions. In relation to the life satisfaction before the first marriage, the samples were content with their physical and mental health in moderate level with 62.7 and 59.3 percent respectively, but their life satisfaction in the life and property security was in the low level with the percentage of 49.3. In respect of the work satisfaction, divided as the work characteristics, the wages, the superiors/heads, the work advancements and the colleagues, most of the samples had the work satisfaction at a moderate level with the percentage of 69.7, 65.0, 73.6, 42.0 and 73.7 respectively.

### **6.1.2 The Analysis of the Working Factor and the Different Factors that Influence the Age at First Marriage in Urban areas**

#### **6.1.2.1 The Analysis of the Relationship of the Different Factors that Affect the Age at First Marriage by Finding out the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient**

Analyzing the relationship between the age at first marriage and the different factors – the work satisfaction, the life satisfaction, the personal factors and the marital factors as the independent variables, and the age at first marriage as the dependent variable, by finding out the Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient, the independent variables that related to the age at first marriage as the dependent variable with the statistical significance consist of work satisfaction, life satisfaction, highest education at first marriage, premarital unemployment, premarital private occupation, premarital government official/state enterprise officer, e childhood cultivation, paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage, premarital knowing period and premarital health.

#### **6.1.2.2 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Marital Social Factors on the Age at First Marriage with the Hierarchical Regression Analysis**

In analyzing the factors that influenced the dependent variable, i.e. the age at first marriage, the researcher analyzed the following 18 independent variables in order: work satisfaction; social factors comprising the sex, highest education at first marriage, number of migrations before the first marriage, unemployment at first marriage, private occupation, government employees/state enterprise employees, parental marital status and childhood cultivation; life satisfaction; and marriage factors consisting of paternal age at first marriage, maternal age at first marriage, responsibilities for families/relatives, premarital knowing period before the first marriage, health at first marriage, parental expectation for children's marriage in children's points of view and attitude toward the marriage. There were seven variables that related positively to the age at first marriage and one variable negatively, all of which can be arranged in their importance's orders as follows: 1) the highest education at first marriage, 2) the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage, 3) the unemployment at first marriage, 4) the maternal age at first

marriage, 5) the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, 6) the number of the migration before the first marriage, 7) the sex, and 8) the responsibilities for families/relatives. All of these can explain the variation of the dependent variable – the age at first marriage – with the percentage of 41.1.

According to the research results, the ages at first marriage of the people at present relate to several independent variables. However, in this research, the researcher was interested mainly in studying the relationship between the working situation (the work satisfaction) and the age at first marriage, but the study result is that the work satisfaction relates to the age at first marriage by explaining the variation only a little; also, considering other factors together, they can explain the variation of the age at first marriage more than the work satisfaction can. Therefore, the working factor (the work satisfaction) does not so much influence the alteration of the age at first marriage of the people in urban areas, especially of the targets, i.e. the working people in Bangkok. Instead, other factors – the highest education at first marriage, the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, the number of migrations before the first marriage, and the responsibilities for families/relatives – do more.

#### 6.1.2.3 The Analysis of the Influences of the Working and the Different Factors on the Age at First Marriage with the Regression Analysis Classified by the Sex

The results of the analysis of the influences of the working and the different factors classified by the sex are that for males, the independent variables that influence the age at first marriage, arranged in their order of importance comprise the highest education at first marriage, the maternal age at first marriage, the government official/state enterprise officer at first marriage and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, which can explain the variation of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, with the percentage of 42.4. In relation to females, the premarital responsibilities for families/relatives, the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, the premarital unemployment, the highest education at first marriage, the number of the premarital migration and the premarital government official/state enterprise officer relate to the age at first marriage, which can explain the

variation of the dependent variable, the age at first marriage, with the percentage of 48.3. The factors that influence the age at first marriage of both males and females are the highest education at first marriage, the premarital government employees/state enterprise employees and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage.

## **6.2 Suggestions**

Because the study result is that the working factor, which was measured by the working contentment in this study, influences the age at first marriage only a little, the important variable that influences the age at first marriage is the education, the premarital government employees /state enterprise employees and the premarital knowing period before the first marriage, relating to the age at first marriage of both male and female. Although these are the factors that partly result in the continuously increasing age at first marriage, less married people and more divorced ones, less fertility, the number of children below the substitute level and the decreasing number of the child population, the researcher has the following opinions as the suggestions from the study results in this respect.

6.2.1 If the age at first marriage is needed to be extended, the compulsory education period should be prolonged, and people should be more educated. If people are in longer education periods, they can enhance the knowledge in different aspects, including sex education and related fields, so as to develop themselves for benefitting careers and quality families in the future.

On the other hand, the related departments should regard that if education is increased in level, causing the delayed age at first marriage – the delayed marriage – this may affect the policies in the population and fertility. This is due to the fact that if people are married late, the childbirth of old mothers affects the health of mothers and the development and wisdom of the children born to the mothers at the age of inappropriate pregnancy (20-35 years old). In addition, the increasing number of the single and divorced people leads to a higher number of single elderly people. As a result, if the strategy of education enhancement is invoked, education quality should be emphasized; that is, the focus of the education curriculum management should be on the population and the fertility in mother and child health; also, there should be

population preparation in order to tackle the problems in old people's health and society, including caring for the single elderly person. Whereas the number of the elderly tends to increase, the labour population tends to decrease; as a result, there should be plans to cope with the labour shortage in the future because this may affect the economy, which may lead to the lack of labour in the future.

6.2.2 The education-related departments can adopt the study results to create curriculums in sex education or morality, by instructing adolescents to get to know the right friends and sweethearts to prolong the premarital knowing period to delay the marriage.

6.2.3 The populations with higher migration numbers are married later than those without or with less migrations; therefore, if the age at first marriage is needed to be extended, there should be the way to instruct marriage to those without migrations.

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX A**

### **QUESTIONNAIRE**

#### **Marital Working and Social Status that Affect the Age at First Marriage in Urban Areas**

##### **Explanation**

1) This questionnaire is part of the research for the fulfillment of a doctoral degree dissertation in the field of Population and Development, School of Applied Statistics, National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA). The main objective of the research was to study social factors related to marriage, work and the age at first marriage in urban areas and to study the influence of the working and other social factors over the age at first marriage in urban areas.

2) Please fill up the questionnaire based on facts or according to your most approximate reflections. Please answer every question item.

3) The questionnaire consists of two parts as follows :

Part 1      deals with data on marriage, comprising

- Pre-marriage data
- Pre-marriage migration
- Family background
- Pre-marriage supportive factors
- Attitude towards marriage
- Parents' expectations of the child's marriage
- Life Satisfaction before marriage
- Work Satisfaction before marriage

Part 2      deals with personal data

Thank you very much for your kind cooperation.

## Part 1 Data on Marriage

**Explanation** Marriage here refers to the consent of a man and a woman to spend their life together regardless of whether or not their marriage is legal by registration and with or without a wedding ceremony. This study focuses on each couple's first marriage only.

Please give your exact or most approximate answers directly pertaining to your first marriage.

### Pre-marriage Data

1. The age of your first marriage was .....
2. Your highest education at the time of your first marriage.
  - Primary education (Prathom Suksa 6) or below
  - Lower secondary education/Certificate of Vocational Education/Certificate of Technical Vocational Education or equivalent
  - Higher secondary education/Certificate of Advanced Vocational Education or equivalent
  - Bachelor degree or higher
3. Your occupation before your first marriage
  - Main occupation  None
    - Personal business/Hired labor/Independent job (please specify).....
    - Civil service/Public enterprise
    - Private sector
    - Others (please specify).....
  - Secondary (Supplementary) occupation  None
    - Personal business/Hired Labor/Independent job (please specify).....
    - Civil service/Public enterprise
    - Private sector
    - Others (please specify).....
4. Your total income (without deduction of expenses) at the time of your first marriage (approximately) ..... Baht/month.

5. Expenses on your first marriage :
- 5.1 Expenses on the whole wedding process, including, for example, wedding celebration party, hair-do, photographing, etc. (approximately) ..... baht.
- 5.2 Dowry in the form of cash or property (approximately) ..... baht.

### **Pre-marriage Migration**

6. Your hometown or residence at birth
- Bangkok or its vicinity                       A province's urban area
- A province's rural area                       A foreign country
- Others (please specify) .....
7. Your last residence before your first marriage
- Bangkok or its vicinity                       A province's urban area
- A province's rural area                       A foreign country
- Others (please specify) .....

**Note :** Urban area refers to an area under responsibility of a municipality or sanitation district. Rural area refers to an area under responsibility of Tambon (Subdistrict) Administration Organization

8. Migration before your first marriage
- Explanation :Migration here refers to one taking place from one district (amphur) to an other as the minimum, and with at least six months' residence there.
- 8.1 Have you ever made any migration before your first marriage?
- No. (Skip to Question No.9)     Yes.
- 8.2 Before your first marriage, you have made (about) ..... time(s) of migration.

### **Family Background before Marriage**

Please reflect on the time when you lived with your family or parents before your marriage and give your exact or most approximate answers.

9. What was your father's highest education at the time of his first marriage?
- Primary education (Prathom Sukra 6) or below
- Lower secondary education/Certificate of Vocational Education/Certificate of Technical Vocational Education or equivalent
- Higher secondary education/Certificate of Advanced Vocational Education or equivalent
- Bachelor degree or higher

10. What was your mother's highest education at the time of her first marriage?
- Primary education (Prathom Sukra 6) or below
  - Lower secondary education/Certificate of Vocational Education/Certificate of Technical Vocational Education or equivalent
  - Higher secondary education/Certificate of Advanced Vocational Education or equivalent
  - Bachelor degree or higher
11. Your father's first marriage took place when he was ..... years old.
12. Your mother's first marriage took place when she was ..... years old.
13. Your father has ..... children (..... son (s), ..... daughter (s)).
14. Your mother has ..... children (..... son (s), ..... daughter (s)).
15. What was the family's status or married life like during the time you lived with your parents?
- They lived together.
  - They lived apart without divorce.
  - One of them died.
  - They were divorced.
  - They lived apart after divorce and you lived with one of them or with your relative (s).
  - You were an orphan or lived in an orphan-age.







**Pre-marriage Supportive Factors**

17. Before your first marriage did you have any burden responsibility for your family members or relatives?

(Note : Burden/responsibility refers to giving regular care or money for living, educational, medical and other expenses.)

No.(Skip to Question No. 18)  Yes.(Please answer Questions No. 17.1 and 17.2)

17.1 Before your first marriage your burden/responsibility for your family members or relatives consisted of the following (you may choose more than one choice) :

- Giving general, e.g. taking them to eat out, to see a doctor, to the movies, to a trip, etc.
- Giving money for living and daily expenses
- Giving money for medical care
- Giving money for your family members, relatives, etc.
- Others (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

17.2 Before your first marriage your burden/responsibility for your family members or relatives was estimated to be ..... baht/month.

18. Before your first marriage you spent your court-ship with your sweetheart for (about) ..... years (s) .....months) before getting married or living together as husband and wife.

19. Before your first marriage did you have any health check?

No. (Skip to Question No. 21)  Yes.

If yes, you had your health check  every six months.

every year.

every 2-3 years.

once after more than three years.

Others (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

20. Please assess your health before your first marriage.

Healthy

Moderately healthy/getting unserious sickness about ..... times/year.

Unhealthy/having ..... as a recurrent sickness which needed regular treatment.

























## APPENDIX B

### Variables Measurement

| Variables   | Code     | Measurement  |
|---|----------|--|
| <b>Dependent Variable</b>                             |          |  |
| - Age at First Marriage                               | afm      | years  |
| <b>Independent Variable</b>                           |          |  |
| <b>Work Satisfaction</b>                              | satiwork | total scales   |
| <b>Life Satisfaction</b>                              | satilife | total scales   |
| <b>Personal Factors</b>                               |          |  |
| - Sex   | gender   | 0 = female , 1 = male  |
| - Education   | edu      | 0 = lower bachelor degree<br>1 = bachelor degree or higher             |
| - Migration   | migra    | the time(s) of migration before<br>the first marriage                  |
| - Occupation  |          |  |
| ❖ Unemployment  | ocu1     | 0 = others<br>1 = unemployment   |
| ❖ Private Occupation                                  | ocu2     | 0 = others<br>1 = private occupation                                   |
| ❖ Government employees/<br>state enterprise employees | ocu3     | 0 = others<br>1 = government employees /<br>state enterprise employees |
| - Family Background                                   |          |  |
| ❖ Parental marital status                             | family   | 0 = separate or divorced<br>1 = living together                        |
| ❖ Childhood cultivation                               | takecare | total scales   |
| <b>Marital Social Factors</b>                         |          |  |
| - Paternal age at first marriage                      | afmf     | years  |
| - Maternal age at first marriage                      | afmm     | years  |
| - Responsibility for family                           | money    | bath/month   |

| <b>Variables</b>                                 | <b>Code</b> | <b>Measurement</b>   |
|--|-------------|--|
| - Premarital knowing period                      | time        | 0 = others<br>1 = 1 year   |
| - Health   | health      | 0 = unhealthy<br>1 = healthy                                     |
| - Expectation for children's delayed/no marriage | expect1     | 0 = others<br>1 = Expectation for children's delayed/no marriage |
| - Expectation for children's early marriage      | expect2     | 0 = others<br>1 = Expectation for children's early marriage      |
| - Attitude toward the marriage                   | attitude    | total scales   |



## **BIOGRAPHY**

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>NAME</b>                | Phanarat Phanuschutabool   |
| <b>ACADEMIC BACKGROUND</b> | M.Sc.(agricultural)<br>Chiangmai University, 1996<br>B.Sc.(agricultural)<br>Chiangmai University, 1993       |
| <b>POSITION AND OFFICE</b> | Policy and Plan Analyst<br>The Office of National Research<br>Council of Thailand, Bangkok<br>1997 – Present |