

A Study of the Use of Model Mothers as Family Planning Motivators in a Thai Rural Village

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A 22-month study was carried out in Lopburi, a province in the Central region of Thailand, during 1985-1987. The study aimed to use *model mothers* as family planning (F.P.) motivators to determine their effectiveness, two noncontiguous rural villages were chosen, one as the control (Muban Nokkhoaplao, Khok Samrong district) and the other (Muban Delung, Pattananikome district) as the intervention village. The population to be studied were married women of reproductive age (MWRA) in the study area. Seven model mothers were recruited from the intervention village. They were given a five-day training course in motivation and communication skills and worked for 12 months as F.P. motivators. The baseline and post-intervention survey were conducted in both villages. Sixty-five percent of previous nonusers in the intervention group became users but only 46 percent in the control village. The difference was statistically significant at 0.10 level.