

Study on The Educational Needs of Illiterate Rural Women for Literate and Home Economic Programs in Hualien District¹

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summary

This study was aimed at discussing the responses of the illiterate rural women in the Hualien areas to their needs of literacy and home economics education and the differences in factors such as age, occupation, social activity group membership that influenced these women's needs on literacy and home economics curriculum. Based on the study results , the researcher made suggestions regarding the curriculum design and the execution of the discussed educational programs. The subjects of the study included one hundred and thirtyeight illiterate women from the farming areas and twenty-five literacy educators. The data were analyzed through FREQUENCIES & DESCRIPTIVES MEANS T-TEST, AND ONEWAY ANOVA.

Research findings are:

- (1)The age span of the illiterate women was wide. The older the women were, the higher the percentage of their being illiterate was. Over half of the women studied were over sixty-years old.
- (2)These women's needs on literacy and home economics education was very strong. They expected the government provide opportunities for them to attend programs on literacy and home economics education.
- (3)These women anticipated that the literacy program contents could focus on the daily living subjects, while the order of the top ten home economics topics were. sanitary and health matters, child-raising, diet and nutrition, environmental protection knowledge, guidance and counseling for the ageing,mother-and daughter-in-laws relationships, housekeeping and home management, couple relationships, knowledge of laws, and social customs and etiquettes.
- (4)Some home economics topics were influenced by the differences among the factors such as age, occupation, and social activity group membership of the studied women.

(Key Word: Illiterate women, Home economics education, Literate education, Women education)

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