CHAPTER 4

DATA EXERCISE

4.1 Introduction

Data exercise for the proposed project was performed at Assumption University. The rationale for choosing Assumption University as the venue of the pilot study was that it was accessible to me. The purpose of the data exercise was to observe the response of the students on this questionnaire, in order to answer the followings;

1. The prevalence of Amphetamine use among Assumption University students.
2. Factors leading to Amphetamine use

4.2 Sampling Procedure

The pilot sample of 65 students was selected by using the convenience sampling technique. On March 25, 1997 morning, self-administered questionnaires

were given to the students by myself. As the students entered the Assumption University either singly or as a group, the I stopped and introduced myself and the study. The students were identified by the Assumption University dress rule for the students to wear uniforms especially the school's belt. The respondents were requested to return questionnaire to my mail box on the same day.

The questionnaires consisted of the followings:

Part 1 Informant's background

Part 2 Ya ba use by informant

Part 3 Ya ba use by informant's friend

Part 4 Reasons for using Ya ba

4.3 Data Handling

All 65 students who were given the self-administered questionnaire, returned the questionnaire and answered all items completely. None of the students made comments on any of the items in the questionnaire. The data was entered by statistical package of social science(SPSS). In all analyses, a P-value of 0.05 or less was taken as an indication of possible statistical significance.

4.4 Results of the pilot study

4.4.1 Description of study sample in pilot study

Most of the Amphetamine users were male with the mean age of 19 and out of 65 sample students, most of the non users were also male with the mean age of 20, as shown in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Number and Percentage in each characteristics of Sample students stratified by User and Non-User

Characteristic	User (n=30)	Non-User (n=35)	Total (n=65)
Male Female	25 (83.3 %) 5 (16.6%)	25 (71.4%) 10 (28.6%)	50 (76.9%) 15 (23.1%)
Age (mean± S. D)	19.733 ± 2.038	20.114 ± 3.471	

Most of the Amphetamine users were not living with their parents but most of the non-users were living with their parents. Since the P-value is 0.05, there is no relationship with Amphetamine use and living with their parents as shown in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Comparison of living with their parents between Non-Users and User

Respondents	User (%)	Non-User (%)	P-value
Living	11(36.7%)	19 (54.3%)	0.1555
Not Living	19 (63.3%)	16 (45.7%)	
Total	30 (100%)	35 (100%)	

Most of the Amphetamine users and non-users answered that their perception of study was moderate to fail as shown in Table 3. Since the P-value is 0.05 there is no relationship with Amphetamine use and their perception of study as shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Comparison of students' perception of study between Non-Users and Users.

Respondents	User	Non-User	P-value
Excellent-Good	6 (20%)	11 (31.4%)	0.29593
Moderate-Fail	24 (80%)	24 (68.5%)	
Total	30 (100%)	35(100%)	

Most of the Amphetamine user started to use Amphetamine at the age of 16-19 years; as shown in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 Number and Percentage of First time Amphetamine Use

First time Amphetamine use (age)	No. of user	Percent (%)
13-15	7	23.3%
16-19	16	53.3%
20-22	7	23.3%
Total	30	100%

The maximum duration of Amphetamine use of the Amphetamine user is 1-2 years, as shown in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 Number and Percentage of year of Amphetamine Use

Year of Amphetamine use	No. of user	Percent (%)
< 1	2	6.6 %
1-2	18	60.0 %
3-5	10	33.3 %
Total	30	100%

Out of 30 Amphetamine users, most of the Amphetamine users have never been to treatment centre, as shown in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Number and Percentage of visit to the treatment centre

Visit to treatment centre	No. of user	Percent %
Ever	11	36.6 %
Never	19	63.3 %
Total	30	100%

4.5 Lesson Learned

In the data exercise Amphetamine user was taken as the one who professed that he/she has used it before. The Amphetamine user and non-user were counted from the part 2 of the questionnaires. The questions set were extracted below:

8. How old were you when you use ya ba at first time?

10. How long have you been used ya ba?

19. How often do you use ya ba?

20. How many ya ba do you use per day?

All the Amphetamine users answered these questions among others. Those who do not use ya ba, do not answer the part 2. These questions were checked and confirmed the use of amphetamine by informants.

According to the registration office of the Assumption University in the last academic year (1996) was over 7000 male students and 8000 female students. The gender ratio between male and female was (1:1.12). The total population of the sample was 65 students with 50 male and 15 female. The gender ratio of the sample was (3.3:1.0). It was found out that the female informants sample was significantly lower than that of male informants of total sample students. In other words the gender ratio of the sample was not representative of the student populationIf it could be assumed

that male students are more inclined to use Amphetamine, the disproportionate ratio could be a basis of bias.

According to the registration office of Assumption University source, the mean age was approximately 16-17 years. However the mean age of the informants in the data exercise was 19.5 which means our informants are senior students. This could also lead to the bias in data exercise provided that senior students are more likely to use Amphetamine.

The main reason for the disproportionate gender ratio and higher mean age estimated in the respondents compared to the University registration's was the method of selecting the sample which could be called as convenience sample, by standing at the University gate, I advertent sampled a group of students who lived off campus. They were more likely male and older that this is so the finding that more than 50% of the respondents reported that they did not live with their parents.

In the part 3 of the questionnaire, the following questions were set to establish the relation and influence between the informant and their friends.

25. How many close friends do you have?

26. How many your closed friends using ya ba do you have?

27. When did your closed friends addict ya ba (compare with you)?

However these questions were answered by users only, not by non-user. The possible reason of non response may be due to the fact that it was self-administered questions and non-user might understand that this part was not their concern.

If these questionnaire could be guided by myself, high response could be obtained, in which case this could be able to trace the relationship between user and their friends on one side and non-user with their friends on the other hand.

After reviewing the results I learned that my questionnaire did not match the questions posed by my model shown in the proposal. Therefore questionnaire has to be revised for the future study.

4.6 Recommendation for the pilot study

I was failed to test the validity and reliability in the pilot test. Therefore the result of the pilot study could not be said that it is completely reliable or valid. However, I have a plan to do the reliability and validity in my further study. I would do test-retest to improve the validity and reliability of the questionnaire. The questionnaire might be further developed in several ways.

(a) Have you ever taken Amphetamine? (ever use)

(b) Are you still taking Amphetamine? (current user)

(c) How often have you used Amphetamine during the past 30 days?

(frequent use)