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## "Fascinating Findings From A Survey of Children Living In Thailand"

*Survey reveals that being a Doctor is the most popular career choice and that spending time with family is far more important than earning money*

An annual survey of children living in Thailand, conducted by Adecco Group Thailand, a subsidiary of the world's leading human resource and staffing services company, reveals that 93% of the children surveyed believe that it is more important to spend time with family than to make lots of money.



The survey of children, aged between 7-14 years, asks just five simple questions:

What do you want to be when you grow up? Why have you chosen this and how much do you expect to earn?

What is the best/coolest job that you can think of?

If you became Prime Minister of Thailand, what are the first three things you would do?

What is more important: to make lots of money or to spend time with you family?

What are you looking forward to doing in 2010?

The most popular career choices for those surveyed are for becoming a Doctor, Teacher, Footballer, Scientist, Pilot or joining the Royal Thai Police Force. Those wanting to become a doctor nearly all want to help people – however their monthly salary expectations range from THB100 right up to THB1,000,000! Other children surveyed have slightly different career aspirations that include wanting to be a Badminton Player and a Gamer. The child wanting to be a Gamer because they 'like to play games'.

One of the children surveyed hopes to become an astronaut and to become Thailand's first person in space, with another wanting to become a Chef as they are 'happy to cook'. Another is hoping to become a Soldier as he feels that all soldiers are 'handsome'.

When asked about the best/coolest job that they can image, being in the Royal Thai Police Force came out tops. Others thought that being The Prime Minister, a Supermodel, or an Actor would be very cool too. Others considered being an Engineer, Nurse or simply a 'Super Star' – as the best job.

The children surveyed had little hesitation in suggesting what the first 'three things they would do' were if they were fortunate enough to become the Prime Minister of Thailand. Many children wanted to help others and to maintain a safe Thailand for all to enjoy. Ensuring that the environment was protected was also a popular choice. A selection of the first things the respondents would do if they got this 'top job' are:

- ✔ Build a dam
- ✔ Solve drug problems
- ✔ Make my own football team
- ✔ Build houses for those in need
- ✔ Travel the world
- ✔ Expand education
- ✔ Make playgrounds for children
- ✔ Grow more forests

The most moving answers to the survey came from the question "What is more important – to make lots of money or to spend time with your family?" As many children see their parents' lives becoming more hectic, some wise answers make it very clear that children value family time over money earning opportunities. Some of the responses include:

- ✔ Families have more value than money
- ✔ My family makes me happy
- ✔ Human lives are more important than money

The survey also asked the question "What are you looking forward to doing in 2010?" A fascinating selection of academic & lifestyle responses were received and that include:

- ✔ Making Mum & Dad Happy!
- ✔ Getting good grades at school
- ✔ Giving money to the poor
- ✔ Relaxing

This is the first year that Adecco has conducted this survey in Thailand - a survey that allows us a peek at what our children and those around us think about their future and how they would like it to look.

While this may not be the most scientific survey of the year, it comes at a time when the topics of jobs and careers are very much on the mind of Thai people. The survey shows that thoughts about work, responsibilities and quality of life, begin early on in children.



Tidarat Kanchanawat, Country Manager - Adecco Group Thailand, commented "In as much as there is always humour in a survey like this, we are amazed at just how grown up and responsible the surveyed children are. It is encouraging to see so many of the children choosing to spend time with their family over money and deeply appreciating the family that surround them. 2009 was clearly a challenging year for many families in Thailand and this has been demonstrated in many of the answers provided by the children in the survey. Children in Thailand sometimes get a hard time for being too materialistic, although we're thrilled to say that our survey has shown otherwise."