

other students, 8) problems with relatives, 9) health problems, 10) academic limitation and course interest. Its internal consistency reliability was. 85.

Ethical Considerations : This study has been approved by the ethical committee of Nursing Graduate studies, Faculty of Nursing, Burapha University before administering the questionnaires to the participants. Participants and their parents were asked to provide their signatures on the Consent Form. Prior to sign the consent form, selected adolescents were invited to participate and receive a full explanation of all aspects of the study. It were included potential risks and benefits related to uncomfortable feelings due to the sensitive nature of some questions and possible fatigue associated with completing the pencil and paper forms. Adolescents and their parents also were informed that their participations were voluntary and that they could refuse to participate at any time without any penalty.

Data collection : After the IRB approval by the ethical committee of Nursing Graduate studies, Faculty of Nursing, Burapha University, and permission procedures. The researcher met with the facilitated teachers to make an appointment. At that time, written informed consent for completing was obtained. Data collection in a given school setting took approximately 1 hour.

Data Analysis : descriptive statistics was used to describe demographic characteristics and the study variables in terms of frequency, per cent, mean,

standard deviation and range. Stepwise multiple regression were carried out to determine association and prediction of overall distress, negative psychological attributes, self - esteem, stressful event to suicidal ideation.

Results

A total of 408 participants with about 43% were male. Their age ranged from 12 - 19 years with a mean of 15.35 (SD = 1.76). Approximately equal percent of the participants were studying in M. 1 - 6. More than one half of the participants (68%) had grade point average above 3.00. Most of them was living with their family (85%), and had sufficiency of living expenses (90%). Approximately 70% of their parents were married. There were 84% of non - smoking, and 72% of non - alcoholic drinking adolescents.

The total score of suicidal ideation ranged from 0 to 24 (M = 6.61, SD = 5.05). This mean score of 6.61 implied a high risk for suicidal ideation among this sample. The total actual score for overall distress ranged from 0 to 9 with a mean of 1.56 (SD = 2.05). The mean total score of negative psychological attributes were 18.87 (SD = 5.00) and ranged from 8 to 34. Self - esteem contained 10 items with rating scale from 1 to 4. The total score of self - esteem ranged from 19 to 30 (M = 24.72, SD = 1.67). The mean total score of stressful events was 51.05 (SD = 29.81) and range from 0 to 153. (Table 1)

Table 1 Descriptive statistics of variables (n = 408)

Variable	Mean	SD	Range
Suicidal Ideation	6.61	5.05	0 - 24
Overall distress	1.56	2.05	0 - 9
Negative psychological attributes	18.87	5.00	8 - 34
Self - esteem	24.72	1.67	19 - 30
Stressful events	50.60	30.25	0 - 153

Table 2 Correlation matrix of variables predicting suicidal ideation (n = 408)

Variables	1	2	3	4
1. Overall distress				
2. Negative psychological attributes	.306***			
3. Self - esteem	-.019 ^{ns}	.116*		
4. Stressful events	.285***	.436***	.068 ^{ns}	
5. Suicidal ideation	.293***	.329***	.067 ^{ns}	.406***

* p< .05, *** p< 0.001, ns = non - significant

The general assumptions of multivariate analysis including missing, outlier, normality, linearity, and multicollinearity²³ were tested prior to data analyses in order to reduce the potential distortion and bias in the results. Correlation matrix of Pearson’s correlation coefficients found that overall distress, negative psychological, and stressful events were statistically associated with suicidal ideation (p< .001), while self - esteem was not statistically associated with suicidal ideation (p > .05). Details were presented in Table 2.

To identify the significant and the best predictor of suicidal ideation among Thai adolescents, stepwise multiple regression analysis was carried out. It was found that stressful events is significant and the best predictor. It accounted for 16.5% in variance explained ($\beta = .293, t = 5.900, p < .001$). The second significant best predictor was overall distress which increasing accounted for 3.4 % in the prediction ($\beta = .163, t = 3.462, p < .01$). The third and significant last predictor was negative psychological attribute. It increasingly accounted for 1.8% ($\beta = .151, t = 3.022, p < .05$). These three predictors accounted for 21.7% ($F_{3, 404} = 37.218, p < .001$) in the prediction of suicidal ideation among Thai adolescents. (Table 3)

Table 3 Stepwise multiple regression statistics of variables predicting suicidal ideation (n = 408)

Variables	ΔR^2	b	SE-b	β	t
Constant		.620	.873		7.100 ^{ns}
Stressful events	.165	.049	.008	.293	5.900***
Overall distress	.034	.401	.116	.163	3.462**
Negative psychological attributes	.018	.153	.051	.151	3.022*
$F_{3, 404} = 37.218$ *** $R^2 = .217$ Adjust $R^2 = .211$					

*p,<05,** p<.01, ***p<.001, ns = non - significant

