

C830754 : MAJOR ANTHROPOLOGY

KEY WORD:

LIFE HISTORIES / TRANSSEXUAL

U-SA SRIPANICH : LIFE HISTORIES OF MALE TRANSSEXUALS.

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The objective of the study is to understand the perspectives and feelings of male transsexuals. Particularly, it focuses on how they think and accept transsexualism and developmental processes of becoming homosexuals with a desire of having their sex change. Qualitative methods was used for data collection through in-depth interviews and participant observation.

The analyses is divided into 2 dimensions.

1. In term of self-perception, male transsexuals define their homosexuality through socializing with acquaintances who act like them. In addition, other people's acceptance of their homosexuality encourages them to keep their transsexual characteristics until the decision to have their sex change is made.

2. Developmental process of becoming male transsexuals is classified into 4 steps.

1) The step of differentiating from others. It is the phase when male homosexuals perceive themselves as different from other men. However, they do not pay much attention to their behavior.

2) The step of distinguishing the feeling and behavior from male identity. In this phase, these male homosexuals realize that their behavior do not fit their male identity. But they are satisfied to continue to socialize with homosexuals. Some may have homosexual relationship with men.

3) The step of identification. When they are confident of their homosexuality, they start to define themselves as homosexuals and get into the subculture of homosexual groups. Their homosexual personality become more obvious to others. This results in positive and negative reactions. However the informants in this study are satisfied with their identification of homosexuality.

4) The step of commitment. These homosexuals are committed and satisfied with women identity after getting acceptance from others. This stage is followed by transsexual surgery.

ภาควิชา.....สังคมวิทยาและมานุษยวิทยา.....

สาขาวิชา.....มานุษยวิทยา.....

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