

ABSTRACT

THESIS : Abortion Policy Development in Thai Society
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This study has two objectives as : 1) to study opinion of people in various occupations on abortion issue 2) to analyse policy development about abortion in Thailand, of which, also divided into two parts : the first part focused on policy development in the past, the second was to analysed present situation for future action. This study used qualitative approach consisted of documentation research and in-depth interview of twenty six key-informants divided into major group and minor group, major group : 1) 7 theologians 2) 3 physicians 3) 2 attorneys of laws 4) 2 economists, and minor group : 1) 4 social workers 2) 4 faminist activists 3) 4 educational experts.

1. Findings:

1.1 The opinions of major and minor groups were consistency in all issue. Details are as follows :

A. Policy alternative issue:

Abortion policy must has clear cut alternative or practical procedure and has consistency in equality, efficiency, ethics and effectiveness.

B. Terms and conditions in considering abortion policy :

Problems of abortion in Thailand have related factors as: health factor, educational factor, social and economic factor.

C. Abortion working policy procedure :

Working policy procedure is still unclear and must be developed in the future.

1.2 The study found that the appropriate abortion policy in Thailand should base on basic philosophy of "Abortion is not women misconduct" by giving and advice on clear information with all alternative available to assist women to decide by themselves.

Regulations and measures in all related agencies must be launched by considering abortion issue as an ethics problem.

2. Recommendations :

2.1 Due to Abortion problem in Thailand is obviously increased, the present criminal code B.C. 2499 is neither appropriate nor up to data, and most importantly could not be enforce effectively.

2.2 A special law of abortion problem in Thai society should be pushed and policy guidelines should be created by considering with 5 principles.

- A. Basic philosophy of "Abortion is not women misconduct".
- B. Principle of Counselling.
- C. Principle of Self-determination.
- D. Principle of Alternative decision making under social support system.
- E. Principle of Co-ordination among concerning agencies organizations and ministries.