AUNCHALEE CHAISUWAN: COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF CRIME. THESIS ADVISOR: ASSO.PROF. VIRAPHONG BOONYOBHAS, 214 PP. ISBN 974-578-674-8

Where a crime is committed, the victim of that crime is certainly the one who actually suffers. Although, in law, the victims of crime may be entitled for restitutions from the offenders, the latter, in reality, normally have no financial mean to pay. Furthermore, there are still some faults in the Criminal Procedure Code B.E. 2477 which make it difficult for the victims to claim for the damages.

In order to overcome the unpleasant problem, it is suggested that besides the duty to punish the offenders, the state should have the obligation to compensate the victims in this respect. This idea derives from three main concepts. Firstly, the state has the duty to prevent crime. Secondly, the victims of crime are just the unfortunate persons who have to experience the losses which can happen to anyone else. Therefore, the society as a whole should help the victims as well. Thirdly, every state should expand its welfare service which should include setting up a compensation scheme.

It is the aim of this thesis to study on the possibility of the introduction of the state compensation scheme as a part of the welfare service in Thailand so as to ensure that the victims will recover as much as possible. The thesis does recommend the criminal procedure law reform in respect of the legal process in filing any civil cases in connection with criminal cases in order to assist the victims. Furthermore, the research also recommends criminology and sociology recommendations in order to explains the main concept of the Victimology to the public.