

## ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Lesbian's Way of Life in Bangkok Metropolitan  
Author : Miss Pojana Siriwiwat  
Degree : Master of Arts ( Social Development )  
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This research aims at studying the background, forms or ways of life and environments, causes and the process of becoming lesbian including problems and impacts of being lesbian. The researcher applies the in-depth interview technique for data collection by interviewing 15 lesbians as key-informants; the approach to key-informants is the snowball technique; the lesbian's life history was also collected when possible. Data analysis is done with the logical context description and descriptive statistics.

Results of the study can be summarized as follows :

Most of the lesbians studied are working women who work in a private corporation, being a business owner, government officials, etc. They distant themselves from their families and live with other women as "Lover".

They became lesbian when they started to like girls more than usual at school in grades 3-6 or by learning from close friends in girl schools; later they accept of being lesbian; some of them have doubts before finally accepting it. Some may reject the label "lesbian" by reasoning it as only a taste (for love). After accepting, most of them changed their behavior and dress. Normally they will let it known only among girlfriends.

An important cause leading to lesbianism is the sex satisfaction between women, among girlfriend, in school, including in the families having only daughters or sons.

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The process of becoming lesbian can be described in 5 steps as follows:

Step 1 : Starting to fond of woman.

Step 2 : Starting to have sexual feeling with woman.

Step 3 : Identification definition (2-way communication).

Step 4 : Acceptance or concealing the behavior to outside.

Step 5 : Uphold the identification, deciding to choose lesbian way of life;  
difficult to change back to normal love life.

It is noticeable that being lesbian causes no problems and no negative impacts; they think that nowadays the society at large is more open and more acceptance of their lesbian way of life.