

ABSTRACT

Title of Research Paper : Factors Related to the Attitude of Suppression Police Officers toward Arrest, Detention, and Inspection in Accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution of the Thai Kingdom

Author : Pol. Maj. Anuwat Suwannapume

Degree : Master of Arts (Social Development)

Year : 2001

The two objectives of the study were (1) to find out the attitude of suppression police officers toward arrest, detention, and inspection in accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution of the Thai Kingdom, and (2) to identify the factors related to their attitude toward these matters. The sample group was composed of 215 suppression police officers. A questionnaire used for data collection consisted of three parts. The first part dealt with the general data of the samples, i.e., sex, age, marital status, education, undergraduate major, and graduate major (if any), position, number of working years as a police officer, experience in arrest, detention and inspection, nature of the present work, and affiliation. The second part measured the police officers' attitude toward arrest, detention, and inspection in accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution of the Thai Kingdom. The third part contained open-ended questions to seek information about the impact of the B.E. 2540 Constitution on their job, and their suggestions about these matters. Frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation were used to describe the data, while t-test and One-Way Analysis of Variance or F-test were employed to test the hypotheses.

The findings were briefly stated below.

1. The suppression police officers were found to have a moderately positive attitude toward arrest, detention, and inspection in accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution of the Thai Kingdom.

2. The factors significantly related to their attitude were age, marital status, undergraduate major work experience, and affiliation. That is the older suppression police officers (36-40 years and 46 years old or more) had a better attitude toward arrest, detention and inspection than the younger ones (not more than 30 years old). Also, the married and divorced police officers had a better attitude toward arrest, detention and inspection than the single ones. Next, the suppression police officers who majored in law in the undergraduate program had a better attitude toward arrest, detention and inspection than those who had other majors (public administration, engineering, guidance psychology, physical education, liberal arts, and computers). Furthermore, the suppression police officers who had experience in arrest, detention and inspection for 11 years or more had a better attitude toward these matters than those who had less experience (not more than 5 years and 6-10 years). In addition, the police officers under Division 3 and Division 4 had a better attitude toward arrest, detention and inspection than those under Division 1. Lastly, the police officers under Division 3 had a better attitude toward the three matters than those under Division 2.

3. From the answers to the open-ended questions, the police officers said the most unfavorable impact of the B.E. 2540 Constitution was that it caused a delay in arrest and inspection. The suggestion that most of the police officers made was the high-ranking police officers should be permitted to issue a search warrant or the traditional method of issuing a search warrant should be used. Also, the steps of requesting for a warrant for search, arrest or detention should be reduced.

To build the suppression police officers' good attitude toward arrest, detention, and inspection in accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution, the researchers made the following recommendations.

(6)

1) The police officers should be clearly explained about the principles and practice of arrest, detention, and inspection in accordance with the B.E. 2540 Constitution. Also, they should be educated about the law as a tool to give justice to people.

2) There should be a meeting between the National Police Office and the Court to have a mutual agreement in different matters, such as operational regulations and steps in order to work together smoothly.

3) The advanced technology should be used to support the police work so that they can act immediately and effectively.