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SONGVUT CHANAPAI : FACTORS RELATED TO DRUG RECIDIVISTS IN THE PRISONER AT MEDICAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, CENTRAL REGION. THESIS ADVISORS: ATCHARAPAN JARASWATHANA, LL.B., M.A., ASVIN WATANAIBOOL, LL.B., M.A., KAMONTIP KHATIKARN, M.A., Ph.D. 112 p. ISBN 974-662-529-2

This research study's main objective was to know/understand the prisoners' environment in order to study factors related to drug recidivism special attention was paid to the suggestions /proposals to rehabilitation recidivism of the prisoners at Medical Correctional Institution, Central Region. The project study sample was 440 of drug related-offenders. Data was collected through a range of qualitative data collection methods including questionnaires, (multiple choice and fill in the form), percentage, means, standard variation, and variation analysis.

Results indicate that for most subjects, their first and most recent criminal offences were selling drugs, which they did because of persuasion from friends and acquaintances. The kind of drug typically involved was amphetamine. The average period after release until arrest for another drug offence was 12 months. Average jail sentence was approximately 34 months for first offence and 49 months for second offence. Most subjects intend to not become involved with illegal drugs after they are released. They did hope that their relatives would give them love and forgive them, they would have a secure job, they would be accepted by society /community, and obtain government support.

The study shows that factors related to drug recidivism of the prisoners at Medical Correctional Institution, Central Region indicated that personal factors - the prisoner with level of age and occupation, social and family factors – close friends, parent's occupation and the parents' relationship, the lack of the elementary factor – family's health care, and the environment in the prison (formerly) – the prisoners who missed their families and adjusted themselves while being put in the prison formerly are related to recidivism. There is a statisticed difference in the recidivism times of subjects at the 0.05 level.

The proposal for in preventing drug recidivism was that family ought to pay attention to, take care of, forgive and pay regular visits to offenders. While being imprisoned, the prisoners should receive encouragement and advice of how to associate with friends after they have been released.

The Department of Prisons should undertake positive methods/implementation in the prison , for example, occupational training that matches social needs, the implementation of a project to proted communities from drug offenders.