

4038387 SHCJ/M : MAJOR : CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ;
M.A. (CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE)

KEYWORDS : ECSTASY

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RESULTING FROM ECSTASY DRUG USE : A CASE STUDY OF FREQUENT USERS
OF ECSTASY. THESIS ADVISORS : KAMONTIP KHATIKARN, Ph.D.(Development
Administration), CHALERMSRI DHAMABUTRA, Hon.Ph.D.(Anthropology), PUSATEE
MONZON, M.A.(Sociology), 130 p. ISBN 974-664-082-8

The objectives of this research were to study causes leading to the use of Ecstasy drug and the user's behavior before and after drug use. This qualitative research focused on causes leading to taking Ecstasy drug and user's behavior within the group using the Ecstasy drug. Finally, the study focused on the impacts of the drug on the individual user and on the society as a whole. Purposive sampling was employed. Data were collected through individual interviews, observations and group interviews. The target group consisted of 6 Ecstasy drug users.

The results showed that the most important causes of taking Ecstasy drug were curiosity, family problems, influence through friends and the lax laws. Studying behaviors of Ecstasy drug takers showed that Ecstasy is hallucinogenic, and that drug users developed a group behavior. Finally, the results showed that taking, ecstasy has some impacts on the ecstasy users, their families, as well as on the society as a whole.

The suggestions of this study are as follows : knowledge of Ecstasy should be disseminated to Thai society through family and educational institutions. The authorities concerned should control and enforce sanctions on ecstasy producers and dealers, since ecstasy is a dangerous narcotic.