3837351 SHCR/M : MAJOR : COMPARATIVE RELIGION ; M.A.

(COMPARATIVE RELIGION)

KEY WORDS : BUDDHADHAMMA / HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR

KANTES TESKEO: BUDDHADHAMMA AND HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR : A CASE STUDY OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ATTITUDES IN BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISOR: WAREEYA BHAVABHUTANONDA NA MAHASARAKARM, M.A., BOON KETUTASSA, M.A., CHANTARASCHNAN SINGHATAT NETNIMIT, Ph.D., 121 P., ISBN 974-664-782-2.

The purpose of this research was to study the teaching of Buddhadhamma regarding the homosexual behavior which was mentioned in the Tripitaka, Buddhist commentaries and the other documents concerned including the attitudes of 100 male students at universities in Bangkok, selected as the sample group for this study by method of questionnaires and percentile statistics for data collection and analysis.

The research results have shown that, according to the Buddhist teaching, homosexual personality was caused by violating the third article of the five precept which is concerned with wrong sexual behavior. It is regarded as bad Karma. Not only by violating the third precept continuously, but being homosexual is caused by craving and by clinging in human mind. However Buddhism advises that homosexual people can practice the Dhamma but they are prohibited to be ordained.

For the field research, the attitude of most of the studied population appears that they seek social acceptance of this behavior and need more freedom in the areas of work and education, although their beliefs in Buddha's teaching were fully met. In contrast, their religious participations in making the merit, practicing meditation, and going to the temples, were in rare occasions, accept to get rid of bad luck.

Homosexual behavior problem should be accepted by other educational institutes, agencies, social communities and families for homosexual behavior and activities. All of the Buddhist activities should be promoted and extended to them in order to decrease their behavior for good morality.