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WITTAYA PATHOMNEELA : FACTORS AFFECTING THE MALE ADOLESCENCE'S DRUG USE (AMPHETAMINE) IN THE MEDICAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION IN PATHUM THANI. THESIS ADVISORS : CHANKANIT K. SURIYAMANEE, M.A., JUAN CHAISUWAN, M.S., NOP KANJANAGUNTI, M.S., 162 P. ISBN 974-664-751-2.

The objectives of this study were to study young male offenders' social background and factors affecting the level of the use of amphetamine by young male offenders in the Medical Correction Institution in Pathum Thani. The population of this study was 150 young male offenders who had committed drug offences (amphetamine use). The whole population was used as the subjects of the study without random sampling. The data was collected by the questionnaire method. The statistics were analysed using Percentages, Mean, Standard Deviation, Multiple Classification Analysis, Analysis of Variance and Correlation for research analysis. The finding of the study were as follows :

1. It was found that most of the young male offenders were 20 years old, single, junior high school graduates, low-skilled workers, earned less than 4,000 baht per month, could make ends meet, had previously been prosecuted of drug use and drug possession and before getting arrested this time had used amphetamines at least once or twice a day.

2. It was also found that before getting arrested, most of the young male offenders lived in the neighborhood where the use of amphetamines was widely spread and most of their intimate friends were fond of going out, smoking, drinking and using narcotics in group.

3. In hypothesis testing, it was found that being uneducated, being persuaded by friends, being curious and being sensitive had the relationship with the use of amphetamines and all aforementioned variables were able to predict the level of use of amphetamines by young male offenders.

4. It was recommended in the study that social institutions like family, religion, and education should play a more important role in narcotic prevention and suppression with juveniles' drug problems.