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POL.LT.COL. WUTTIPONG PETCHKUMNEARD : FACTORS WHICH AFFECTED ILLEGAL SALE OF AMPHETAMINES OF FEMALE OFFENDERS IN THE CENTRAL WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION. THESIS ADVISORS: JUAN CHAISUWAN, B.S., M.S., CHANKANIT K. SURIYAMANEE, M.A., NOP KANJANAGUNTI, M.S. 102 p. ISBN 974-665-007-6

This research aims to study the status and social backgrounds of female offenders in the Central Women's Correctional Institution, convicted of selling drugs and to obtain factors which affected this illegal sale of drugs. 310 female offenders in the Central Women's Correctional Institution were studied. Data were collected by questionnaires and analyzed using percentage, mean, deviation, analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and Multiple Classification (M.C.A.).

The results can be summarized as follows:

1. Demographic data - Most of the subjects were 31-40 years old. Their education level was primary school, their hometown was in the north/northeastern, and they were Buddhist. Their monthly income was 1,001 – 3,000 Baht. They were happily married with 2 children. Their occupation was an unskilled worker before being arrested. The subjects lived with their husbands and children and they were quite poor.

2. Social and economic backgrounds of the subjects – Most of the subjects did not live in the drug selling and consumption area. The subjects felt that these sales were not because their living place was close to the drug selling area. They felt that they were persuaded to sell drugs, but nobody forced them. Before selling drugs, the subjects felt that there was a high risk of being arrested. The subjects felt that they thought over and chose between the risk of being arrested and remuneration. This drug selling was not because of a reasonable choice but was highly influenced by the possibility of the high income they might receive, more than by any occupation. The subjects were employed and this was not because of unemployment. The subjects were not following role models. They loved their families, their husbands and children and could rely on them for support.

3. Factors affecting drug selling – The subjects felt that the factors of lack of education, unemployment, poverty, persuasion, living close to the drug consumption or selling area, the risk of being arrested and the fear of punishment affected drug selling.

4. Personal backgrounds- Marital status of the subjects affected drug selling of female offenders. Persuasion, the better chance, the decision between the risk of being arrested and remuneration, and lack of persons other than family members to turn to were factors which affected drug selling of the subjects.

The research suggests that the promotion of the strength of the family status, and the officers concerned with narcotic drug prevention and suppression should be encouraged to decrease the spread of drugs.