

4137508 SHCJ/M : MAJOR : CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

M.A. (CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE)

KEY WORDS : AMPHETAMINE / FEMALE OFFENDER

MONTREE TEDKHAN : FACTORS AFFECTING FEMALE OFFENDERS' DRUG ABUSE IN THE CENTRAL FEMALE PRISON. THESIS ADVISORS : CHANKANIT K. SURIYAMANE, M.A., JUAN CHAISUWAN, M.S., NOP KANJANAGUNTI, M.S., 144 P. ISBN 974-664-767-9.

The objectives of this study were to study female offenders' social backgrounds and factors affecting the level of the use of amphetamine by female offenders in the Central Correction Institution for females in Bangkok. The samples of this study were 209 female offenders who committed drug offence (amphetamine use). The samples were chosen by the simple random sampling method. The data was collected by the questionnaire method. The data were analysed using Percentages, Mean, Standard Deviation, Multiple Classification Analysis, Analysis of Variance and Correlation for research analysis. The findings of the study were as follow :

1. It was found that most of the female offenders were under 25 years old, junior high school graduates; low-skilled workers; earned less than 4,000 baht per month and could not make ends meet; had previously been prosecuted for drug use and drug possession and before getting arrested this time had used amphetamines at least 3 times a day.

2. It was also found that before getting arrested, most of the female 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 not only the factors of occupation and monthly income of female offenders made a significant difference in the level of amphetamine use, but also those of: broken home family; dealing in amphetamine trafficking and possessing the belief that amphetamine use is a good thing; being dependent on amphetamines at all times; having mental problems; and lack of family love and close bonding.

4. It was recommended in the study that the family institution should be strengthened by family love and care and people should be informed about the bad effects of narcotic problems. Finally, government agencies concerned with narcotics prevention and suppression should co-operate with the community on the matter of preventive measures.