

## People's Participation in Preventing and Solving the Narcotic Drug Problems in Taweewattana District Area, Bangkok Metropolis

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### Abstract

The purpose of the research was to study people's participation in preventing and solving drug problems in Taweewattana district area Bangkok Metropolis. The sample of this study consisted of 395 volunteers, leaders and the ordinary people in Taweewattana district area Bangkok Metropolis and classified by sex, age, status, education and income. The study instruments were a set of questionnaires. Statistics used to analyze the data were percentage, mean ( $\bar{X}$ ), and standard deviation (S.D).

The data analysis has revealed the following facts: Holistically, the people's participation in the prevention and revolution of the drug problems was found to be at a medium level ( $\bar{X} = 3.07$ ) Separately, the people's participation in descending order by degree was as follows: setting a good example to the family members as to refraining from drug abuse ( $\bar{X} = 4.26$ ), serve punishment to those getting involved in drug abuse ( $\bar{X} = 4.10$ ), participation in guarding against drug abuse in the worst place of Thaweewattana District area In terms of personal backgrounds, it was found that the people with the following characteristics took part in the prevention and resolution of drug abuse to a greater extent: males aged 31-40 years, married people, a bachelor's degree holders public employees and state enterprise employees and people having a monthly income more than 15,000 baht.

**Keywords:** People's participation; Preventing and solving; Narcotic drug problems

### Introduction

The widespread of narcotic drug in Thailand, caused many problems including: the human power since the person with substance abuse would have weak body and mind. They would become population without quality. They would not only be able to participate in activity or work efficiently. But they would be burden for society for providing support which would be an obstacle for national development. In economic, when people are addicted, the human power would be lost. Consequently, the agricultural and industrial products would be decreased. The poverty would be occurred which would affect the national revenue in overall as well. In social aspect, the narcotic drug would be the cause of change in the addicted persons since they would not be able to control themselves. They would not only cause the trouble for their family members, they would try to find money for buying the drug by illegal ways such as stealing, robbery, mugging, killing, and depriving. For female addicted persons, they would use special occupation which would become the problem decreasing security as well as peacefulness of people in society.

Therefore, to prevent and solve the problem of narcotic drug problem effectively, every division and sector of society had to have common awareness that the problem solving of narcotic drug was not only duty of specific work unit. But, it was every people's responsibility for collaboration from the public sector, private sector, and people from every community group in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis which was an area being affected from narcotic drug as well. As a result, the work in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem was implemented to be unity by principle in constructing the village/community in order to oppose narcotic drug, to be strong under strategy of "Land's Power" so that every public sector, private organization, and people in village/community to collaborate in solving the problem seriously by providing the campaign as well as developing the social trend, and stimulating people's alertness and awareness of narcotic drug problem.

According to the above problems, the researchers were interested in studying "the Participation in Preventing and Solving the Narcotic Drug Problem in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis," in order to use the research findings as the guidelines for developing

the participation, knowledge, comprehension, and planning for implementation in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problems being occurred in studied area by using the land' power for preventing and solving the problem of narcotic drug problem further.

### Objective

To study the situation of people's participation in preventing and solving the narcotic drug Problem I Taweewattana District, Bangkok, as classified by demographic data.

### Research Methodology

There were 2 Phases of this research study: Documentary Study, Survey study.

#### Documentary study

It was to collect data from different documents including the theoretical approach as well as research findings in people's participation in the activities for prevention and problem solving in narcotic drug addiction, as the guidelines for this study.

#### Survey study

The population and samples of this study were the volunteers, village/community leader, and people in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis from data base in 2014, there were population was 76,787 persons. The sample size was calculated based on Yamane's Formula [1]. The samples were 395 persons. They were selected by taking lots.

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The research instrument was the 5 Level Rating Scale. Data were analyzed by using the Descriptive Statistic.

## Conclusions of Research Findings

The situation of people's participation in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis, in overall, the Mean Value was = 3.07 ( $\bar{X} = 3.07$ ), in "Moderate" level. Most of them were males. Their ages were ranged between 31-40 years old. Their marital status was "marriage". The second order was "widow" or "divorce." Classifying their occupation, they were government officials or state enterprise employees. The second order was the merchant and agriculturist respectively. For people's participation in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem, the role model practice for family members in being not involve with narcotic drug addiction, was found in "The Highest" level. The second order was "the prosecution" with the culprits regarding to the narcotic drug. The serious penalty should be given to them. The Mean Value was = 4.10 ( $\bar{X} = 4.10$ ). For the lowest level of participation, it was the participation I controlling and taking care of the service place and place of misconduct in narcotic drug. The Mean Value was = 2.35.

## Discussions

The research findings could be discussed by the researchers as follows:

The comparison of people's participation level in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis, found that the males had higher involvement than females. The persons, whose ages were ranged between 31-40 years old, participated in higher level than the other age ranged persons. The married persons participated in higher level than the other status persons. The persons graduated in Bachelor's Degree participated in higher level than the persons with higher Educational Levels. The government officials and state enterprise employees, participated in higher level than the persons with other occupations. In addition, the persons whose salary was higher than 15,000 baths had higher level of participation than those with lower salary. It was indicated that males had high salary as well as knowledge, were more responsible for society. It was supported by research findings of Somsak Sponpinij [2] found that males who had higher revenue and Education, participated in higher level.

The people's participation level for preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem in Taweewattana community, the research findings found that in overall, the people's participation was in "Moderate" level. It might be due to the area of Taweewattana Community, Bangkok Metropolis was a rural area. People lived in the village or Sub-district as the former residents. Their families were extended families with close relationship in helping and caring for each other. When there was a problem of widespread narcotic drug affecting their society and village. The villagers were aware of danger and impact of narcotic drug. They collaborated in preventing and solving the drug problem. It was congruent with policy in preventing and solving the narcotic drug in Action Plan to overcome the narcotic drug 2009 which specified both of strategy and mechanism for preventing and solving the narcotic drug based on the government's policy. The narcotic drug problem was an important one which would have an impact not only on people's peacefulness but also the national security. The government was aware of the serious danger of narcotic drug problem. So, the important and emergent implementation was determined by collaborating the power from every sector or division off society in order to be able to prevent and solve the problem situation of narcotic drug problem efficiently. The expansion of narcotic drug must be

stopped by separating the alliance of culprits. The mass had to fight for protecting their offspring, village, and community to be free from danger of narcotic drug until there was strength of village/community. Furthermore, the power of every people in the country would conquer the narcotic drug. Consequently, the cutting point in solving narcotic drug problem was the village, community, and every people's energy in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem. As a result, it was not responsibility of the government sector only. It was responsibility of every Thai people to be conscious in gathering their energy all over the country to collaboratively solve narcotic drug problem. It was congruent with research findings of Pramual Roojanaseree [3] titled "The Land's Power and Problem Solving the Narcotic Drug Problem." The land's power was to collaboratively think and cooperatively gathered the resource as well as collaboration in solving the narcotic drug which was duty of every Thai People as our responsibility to step over it collaboratively.

1. The participation in solving the problem of narcotic drug addiction being occurred in Taweewattana District, should be increasingly promoted by advertising the information and news in implementation of prevention and problem solving in narcotic drug for people by public relation, for instance, the broadcast tower or brochure to be distributed through the volunteers as well as the coordinators for land power in order to overcome the drug addiction in village/community level, and develop knowledge as well as comprehension and awareness of necessity for collaboration in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem [4].

2. The participation of people in Taweewattana District, Bangkok Metropolis should be emphasized on truly, for example, to develop faith and confidence in police officers for implementation in preventing and solving the narcotic drug problem truly.

3. The policy in providing the Education for people in narcotic drug, prevention, compression, treatment, and rehabilitation, and law of narcotic drug should be provided by the government in order to enhance people's knowledge and comprehension which would lead to higher level of participation [5].

4. The policy for enhancing and supporting in order to prevent as well as solve the narcotic drug problem, should be provided more than in the present by determining the problem solving plan, enhancing and allocating the budge for implementation according to the work plans, projects, and activities sufficiently in order to prevent as well as solve the narcotic drug problem to be eradicated from the land sustainably.

5. The policy for prevention and compression on narcotic drug, treatment, rehabilitation, and campaign in being against the narcotic drug use in different techniques, should be provided by police station. In the meanwhile, the community police principle as well as mass relation should be applied by providing the training for providing knowledge for people, youth, volunteer so that they would be aware of its danger of narcotic drug. The techniques should include the persuasion as well as stimulation the awareness so that the alliance for opposing the narcotic drug problem would be occurred. Moreover, the information and news of narcotic drug should be informed continuously.

6. The activities in providing knowledge for pupils and students should be managed by Educational Institute so that they would be aware of danger in narcotic drug as well as transfer the obtained knowledge for their family members and community, be aware of, and participate in preventing and solving narcotic drug problem.

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