

Model of Crime Prevention and Suppression on Human Trafficking in Border Liaison Office (BLOs): Case Study for Children and Youth

Pol. Maj. Gen. Monthon Ngernwattana

Ph.D. Candidate

Criminology, Justice Administration and Society

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Mahidol University, Thailand

Dr. Sunee Kanyajit

Assoc. Prof. Criminology

Justice Administration and Society

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Mahidol University, Thailand

Abstract

Child sexual exploitation is so disturbing that the government tries every approach to eradicate real causes. This study explores the policies and collaboration to prevent and suppress children and youth sexual exploitation, investigate problems and setbacks, including learning how different ASEAN countries collaborated to develop the model and directions for preventive system as the country becoming one of AEC members. Data for qualitative study were collected from 229 police officers from Anti-Human Trafficking Division, Royal Thai Police and officers from Central and Regional Divisions of Ministry of Social Development and Human Security assigned to same functions, whereas qualitative data gathered from 20 field specialists. This research recommends incorporating international model in the plan to prevent children and youth from sexual exploitation, including the suppression through protection, assistance and reintegration of victim, as well as apprehension of the perpetrator to bring him to justice.

Keywords: Child sexual exploitation; AEC; Collaboration; Reintegration

Statement of Problems

Child sex trafficking and child sexual exploitation are major social problems in Thailand and throughout the world. Presently, child sexual exploitation is almost a common occurrence on millions of children, in numerous countries, large and small communities, across a range of cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. Child sexual exploitation is a crime with destructive impacts on its victims and their families. It encircles many types of sexually abusive acts toward children, such as sexual assault, rape, incest, and the commercial sexual exploitation. Despite large numbers of children and youth suffered from serious physical and mental abuse associated with trafficking, there is limited information available regarding the nature and severity of children trafficking and how law enforcement may help protect the children. Knowledge of risk factors, recruitment practices, and possible indicators of child exploitation will help the officers to recognize potential victims and respond appropriately.

What is child sexual exploitation?

According to the Department of Education UK , child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse that may involve physical contact, assault by penetration (rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts (masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside clothing) or non-contact activities such as, involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities or pornographic materials, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for sexual abuse ,including via the internet (2017).

The annual report of World Health Organization mentioned that sexual abuse victims such as, children and youth is the group with the highest health cost. Each year, estimated 79,000 cases or 0.1% of total deceased population worldwide, over 800 million are victims of child sexual abuse. According to the statistical records of National Child Abuse and Neglect System (NCANS) in 1996, the findings revealed that sex child abused were 12 percent and in the year 2007, the number increased to 23.9 percent in which the age span most found between 12 - 15 years. In Thailand, the statistical record of One Stop Crisis Center, Ministry of Public Health, the number of child sexual violence from 2004-2011 increased drastically as shown on Table 1:

Table 1: Number of Children and Youth Exposed to Sexual Exploitation

Number of Children and Youth Exposed to Sexual Abuse (Persons)							
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
2,158	4,087	5,298	6,020	9,175	8,140	9,374	8,518

Thailand has made drastic attempt to combat and suppress child sexual exploitation by first signifying the Universal Declaration of Covenant against child sex exploitation at Stockholm in 1996, followed by at Yogohama in 2000. Later, Thailand had incorporated the preventive and suppressive measures on the women and children sexual exploitation in the Criminal Penal Code B.E.2550 (2008), and the Anti-trafficking Act B.E. 2551(2009).

The attempt to prevent and suppress child sexual exploitation may encounter the setbacks from the integration of “ASEAN Economic Community” although it helps to facilitate travelling or trading , but ASEAN members must cope with enormous problems, particularly, the child sexual exploitation in which the world communities heightened scrutiny through a close watch on all countries in this region.

Signs of Sexual Exploitation

The signs of child sexual exploitation may be hard to spot, particularly if a child is being threatened. Children are vulnerable and easily becoming victims of sexual exploitation, and they can be at greater risk of being sexually exploited if they are homeless, have feelings of low self-esteem, have had a recent loss of love one or someone very dear and near to them, and those who are in care of adults.

Research Questions

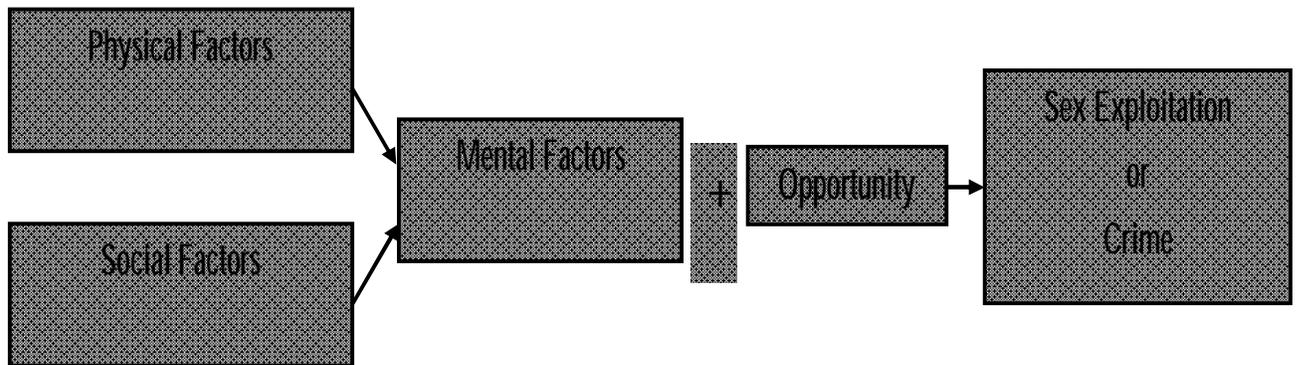
Because this study aims explore the model, policies and collaboration between ASEAN countries to establish preventive and suppressive measures against children and youth sexual violation as well as investigating problems and setbacks during the operation and seeking recommendations to combat children and youth sexual violation. This has led to the following three key questions that required responses from this study.

- Q1. Are there any policy and collaboration in setting up preventive and suppressive measures against children and youth and children sexual violation? If any, what are they?
- Q2. Are there any problems and setbacks during the operation and collaboration between countries in formulating preventive and suppressive measures against youth and children sexual violation?
- Q3. What is models and directions of crime prevention and suppression system on child sexual exploitation?

Literature Review

Data were extracted from texts, research materials, articles and documents on the topic related to child sexual exploitation, including information from the relevant laws. In this section, the author will conclude the key essence of the findings.

Figure 1. Cause of Sexual Exploitation based on Criminology Theory



Criminology Theory (Vipaporn Kongcharoen, 1990, page 13-16) proposed three key factors caused of crime and one element in Figure 1:

- 1) Physical factors refer to the cause of crime influenced by human surrounding, including hygiene affecting human behavior and living conditions. Few examples are surrounding of living quarter, climate and narcotics.
- 2) Social factors are the social surroundings, such as family conditions, congested society and social inequality, and media.
- 3) Mental factors: Due to the differences in each person background, one could a person behave in such a way due to the differences in his origin, child rearing and surrounding from childhood. The person's life experiences and the surroundings that he had been exposed to earlier in life would mold him into different behavior patterns.

Sexual harassment as explained by Hega and Enriquez (2000 cited Romna Viriyaprabok, 2011:14) that it is complicated matter. Most theories refer to sexual harassment as a action leading to sexually arousing and abuse of power.

Three types of sexual harassment

1. Natural Biological model is the sexual harassment that came naturally through the urge between a man and a woman. Presumably, man has more sexual drive than woman, which contributed to male displaying his aggressiveness.
2. Organizational model is specified as the cause of sexual harassment in the organization power.
3. Socio-cultural model is sexual harassment reflecting from the distribution of power quite different in large society and status.

According to the Center for the Protection of Children (cited in Supka Sirisup, Police Major, 1999:22), sexual harassment originated from mental abnormality or defective personality, social psychology, and socio-cultural).

Sexual harassment, according to Woman Foundation (2008:48) caused physical, mental, family and social impacts among battered women that could leads to physical trauma such as injuries or deformity, contact social transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancy, become suicidal and burden of society.

Besides data retrieved from documents, articles and literatures in this subject, many Thai laws have been incorporated into the study such as follows:

- 1) Prevention and Suppression of Prostitution Act, B.E. 2539 (1996) is designed to specifically prevent and suppress Children trafficking by prohibiting any person from conducting activities related to selling and solicit sex, advertising, procurement, deceitful or forceful means, using force or physical injury or violence or luring any person into prostitution. A person caught violating such act shall be liable to imprisonment in two clearly separated counts, offence in relation to children fifteen and under, and fifteen to eighteen years old.
- 2) Anti-Money Laundering Act, B.E. 2542 (1999) has imposed penalties based on the violation of the Penal Code (specifically on the procurement, deception or manipulation for indecent act and gratifying others sexual desire and taking children illegally).

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- 3) Prevention Act is the measure against procurement, deception or manipulation on prostitution, and the penalties also imposed on the owner of establishment conducting prostitution, caretaker or manager of the prostitution business or prostitution establishment or organize prostitution ring.
- 4) Criminal Penal Code No. 21 B.E. 2551 has established the criminal measures to prosecute the offender as being stated in section 276.
- 5) Anti-trafficking in Person Act B.E.2551 is amended from the Preventive and Suppressive Measures on Women and Children Act B.E. 2540 to include sexual exploitation, not only limited to women and children, but also included the public wrongdoings.

With regards to Crime Theories and concepts, few scholars have contributed to this study. Purachai Piemsomboon et al. (1988) gave the meaning of “Victim” or “Crime Victim” as those who had been injured by the action of offender, not only the one received direct impact, but all also those who had been affected by criminal act.

Jutharat Aieumnuay (2008) stated that a crime victim is an individual or the association who had been injured, physical, mental and property damages from criminal act or loss of rights from criminal wrongdoings such as physical injury, homicide, sexual assault, stolen property and robbery.

There are more contributions from Theories of Victimization as follows:

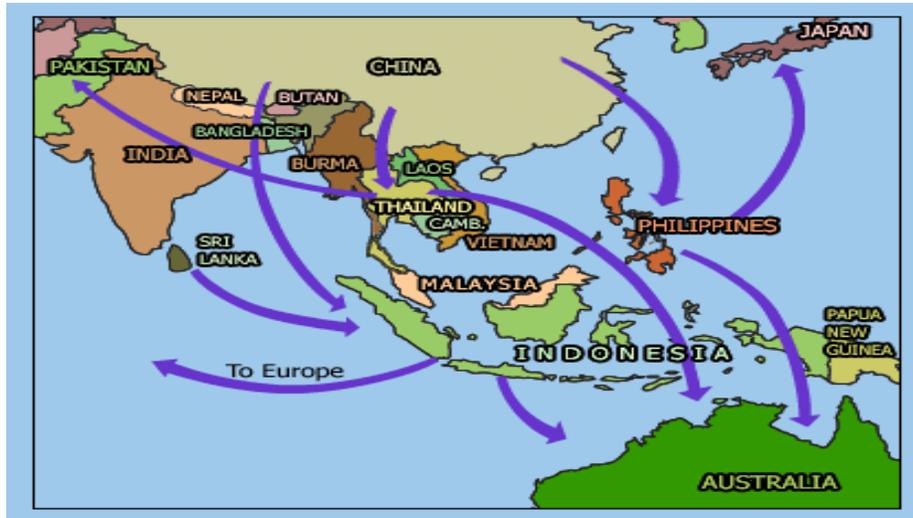
1. Victim precipitation by Marvin Wolfgang suggests that criminal violence may be encouraged by the behavior of its victim leading to injury or death. The victim’s behavior may be either passive or active. For example after the incident, the victim may display the threat or use challenge speech or provoke the other parties or initiate the fight. This so-called victim-precipitation crime or crime that victim get involved could be seen from the brawl in Karaoke parlor or wife threatening to kill the husband. Another frequent crime pattern is when the victims is being categorized in the group that make the perpetrator feeling unsafe, damaging reputation, prestige, status, including economic or well-beings, so-called, Hate Crime such as the case when the immigrants settled in the established community in U.S.A., the Americans felt as if they had to compete finding employment with the new corners, apart from threatening their life security, interrupting ways of living. As a result, the refugees became the targets or victims of hatred such as a group of white males with paper bags covered their heads entered the groceries stores owned by a Chinese man whom the perpetrator had not known before, and destroyed most of the merchandises.
2. Life style theory of Gary Sensen & David Brownfield suggests that individual’s lifestyle contributed to her being victimized. It is found that the victims of Human Trafficking are destitute, but tried to escape poverty to comfortable life, and wealth.

Current Situation on Women and Children Human Trafficking Current Situation

Women and Children Trafficking are categorized into sex services, children sex services, human trade for household labor, forced marriage, forced labor and panhandling (Balis Center for women, Cambodian Women’s Crisis Center, Solidarities, Perempuan, Tengnita-CARAM-Asia, 2002: 10-25 cited in Kittit Intarakul, 2010:38) including child sex tourism).

Thailand has been affected from the migration and influx of woman and children who are seeking better economic opportunity, in which Thailand is being scrutinized as the origin, transit and destination country of women and children as the victims of sex trade (Department of Social Development and Welfare, 2007:98-207), having women and children local trafficking routes and transnational routes as being shown in Figure 2 below:

Figure 2. Women and Children Transnational Trafficking Routes



(Source: www.google.co.th/search)

According to the report on worldwide human trafficking of UNODC (2006 cited Chaiporn Piboonsiri 2007:51) mentioned that the Human Trafficking situation in Thailand is extremely critical as being the origin, transit and destination country as being explained in the following details: Women and children sex trafficking comprised of women sexual services, children sex trade, human trade for household works, for marriage or forced marriage, forced labor, being beggar (Batis center for women, Cambodian Women’s Crisis Center, Solidaritas Perempuan, Tenaganita-CARAM-Asia, 2545 : 10-25 cited Kitti Intarakul , 2010: 38), including Child sex tourism.

Table 2 Human Trafficking Situation in Thailand

<p>Country of Origin : Very High Thailand</p>	<p><i>Reported Destination Out of the Country :</i> High : Australia, Japan, Taiwan province of China, United Kingdom, United States of America. Medium : Canada, France, Germany, Malaysia Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa Switzerland. Low : Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Greece, Hong Kong China SAR, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malawi, Myanmar, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Viet Nam</p>
<p>Country of Transit : Very High Thailand</p>	<p><i>The Country is a Report Transit for Victims Trafficked :</i> From China, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Russian federation to Japan. From China to United States of America, to Western Europe, to Taiwan Province of China, to Singapore, to Malaysia.</p>
<p>Country of Destination : Very High Thailand</p>	<p><i>Report Origin for the Country :</i> High : Cambodia, China, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Viet Nam. Medium : Russian federation. Low : Czech Republic, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Poland, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Sri Lanka , Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Zambia.</p>

Thailand has been affected from the influx of migration and the relocation of women and children to seek better economic opportunity, which in turn making Thailand being named as the origin, destination and transit country of the women and children sex trade victims (Ministry of Social Development and Welfare, 2008: 98 -207) with the trafficking local and trans international route for women and children as shown in Table 2.

Methodology

The study was conducted as mixed research with targeted population selected for qualitative study among the scholars and experts in children and youth sexual abuse prevention. As for quantitative study, responses were collected from Anti-Human Trafficking Division officers, Royal Thai Police and officers from the National Operation Center on Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking in Persons, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security who had experienced in preventing children and youth sexual violation.

Because of the sensitivity of the research topic, approval of the Human Ethical Committee and permission from each participating agency were received before each interview could be made. To ensure the accuracy of the gathered data, follow-up communication between interviewees and the researcher was made. Data were collected through interviewing and reports, official documents, and general publications related to the research topic. Based on Taro Yamane, the formula was formed to calculate sample size of 229 samples. A set of questionnaire was developed to try out on 30 non-samples with similar attributes to the selected samples in order to find the Reliability of questionnaire using Cronbach Coefficient. As a result, the designing and direction to formulate preventive and suppressive measures on children and youth sexual exploitation equaled to .903, whereas the problems and setbacks on the operation and collaboration between countries in preventive and suppressive yielded reliability. 955.

Data Analysis

Content analysis was applied to sum up on policies and collaboration to formulate preventive and suppressive measures. Also, the outcomes from applying computerized program SPSS for Windows explain the general characteristics of samples, level of opinions on problems conditions and the situation severity on child sex exploitation in Thailand, including problems and setbacks in preventive and suppressive child sex exploitation.

Results

The structure of this sector fundamentally follows the constructed interview questions, and the perspectives of both government and respondents are presented separately in respect of each question. Their points of agreement and disagreement on each question are also drawn and summarized to answer the set questions.

Q1. Are there any policy and collaboration in setting up preventive and suppressive measures against children and youth and children sexual violation? If any, what are they?

Answer: Thai government is extremely aware of the urgent need to prevent and suppress the child sex exploitation as well as safeguard them from all other danger in the society by appointing the Coordinate Sub-committee to solve problem on Women and Children Trafficking, including preparation for the preventive plan as one out of several approaches to the National Plan on model and directions to seek the preventive measures for community, provincial and international levels. Apart from that, Thailand received assistance through Bilateral, Multilateral projects or others projects with international collaboration in financial, academics areas and others issues such as:

1. Joint campaign with communities in Payao in order to combat the movement of women and children for sex trade (Office of Social Development and Human Security Payao Province with the budget support from the International Labor organization (I.W.O))
2. Joint project to prevent and support women and children trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation (The Foundation of child Understanding Chiang Mai, Budget support from I.W.O)
3. Drafting the Nation Action Plan on protection, rehabilitation, and preventive measures on the use of child labor at the extreme hardship (I.W.O-IPEC together with the Department of Labor Protection and Welfare , Ministry of Labor).
4. Setting up workshop to educate the risk group children along the borders, especially the Stateless children, migrant children and children of migrant workers (I.W.O-IPEC together with the Educate and council).
5. Drafting the practical guidelines to prevent and suppress laborer trafficking as well as arranging the training for the labor department officers throughout the country (I.W.O-IPEC together with the child, youth, underprivileged and elderly Welfare Promotion and Protection Division, Department of Labor Protection and Welfare, Department of Employment, Ministry of Labor)

6. I.W.O-IPEC Regional Program on combating child trafficking for Sexual and Labor Exploitation (I.W.O-IPEC support the operation of Center for the Protection of Children's Rights Foundation with the budget support from the Ministry of Labor U.S.A (USDOC))
7. Increasing knowledge campaign and servicing for-Reproductive Health for Youth with the assistance of Communities in the North and South region (International Planned Parenthood Federation with the support budget from UNEPA)
8. Training legal volunteer for rural women project (Female Study Center, Chiang Mai University with the support budget from Vithetpattana Foundation (CIDA CANADA))
9. Building potential of the Network to prevent sex exploitation from women and children (Stop Sexual exploitation) among children from Chiang Rai with the Budget support from group Development / British Embassy and the European Union)
10. Broadcasting the access to Human Trafficking of Victim (Child Development Foundation with the support budget from UNIAP)
11. Arrange training for the officer of Supanimit Foundation and the officers of agencies involved so they could learn and develop necessary skills (collaboration at Chiangrai between Supanimit Foundation and UNIAP)
12. Issue Newsletter UNIAP to distribute was human trafficking news
13. Arrange radio shows and television shows to raise the people awareness and understand the problem on human trafficking (TRAFCORD) with the support budget from U.S. the Asia Foundation)
14. The Royal Thai Police received the assistant from ARCPPT in Australia to provide training on Human – trafficking covers by arranging for ARCPPT lecturers.
15. As for ASEM or ASIA-Europe, the Action plan to combat trafficking in Person especially in Women and Children has been arranged such as, the report on the study demand in Human trafficking, seminar on the view point on sex as related to Human trafficking, seminar on promoting, collaboration to develop social policy assisting women,

On the international level, Thailand has entered the agreement between countries, and operate at bilateral, multilateral operation and State Parties as follows:

- MOU on Joint Declaration of the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking COMMIT was signed on October by the government of six countries, namely, Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Laos , Vietnam and Thailand on October 29, 2007 at the Union of Myanmar and the 5th COMMIT meeting and the 2nd Cabinet Meeting on 12-14 December, 2007 at the Republic of China by all Ministries of all six countries signed the COMMIT Joint Declaration to display Joint Declaration in combating human trafficking as well as overlooking the Second COMMIT Plan (2008-2010) comprised of the following seven main topics: (1) Training and developing potential,(2) National Operational Plan, (3) Bilateral and Multilateral Collaboration , (4) Legal framework and Law enforcement, (5) Victims separation and protection, (6) Preventive measures, (7) Tourism collaboration.
- MOU has been arranged between the Government of Kingdom of Thailand and the Kingdom of Cambodia and Lao PDR on Bilateral Collaboration to eliminate women and children trafficking and providing the assistance for the victims.

Q2. Are there any problems and setbacks during the operation and collaboration between countries in formulating preventive and suppressive measures against youth and children sexual violation?

Answer: Table 3, 4 and 5 provide the answers for Q 2 as follows:

Table 3. Personnel Problems and Setbacks in the operation and collaboration between countries in Prevention and Suppression on Child Sex Exploitation

Personnel	\bar{x}	S.D.	Level
1. Lacking knowledge on guidelines to collaborate on giving assistance the child sex exploitation cases	3.31	0.81	Moderate
2.Lacking legal knowledge on giving assistance the child sex exploitation cases	3.31	0.85	Moderate
3. Organization lacks personnel to perform duties problems	3.44	1.02	Moderate
4. Failure fails to cooperate in performing tasks	2.93	1.05	Moderate
5. Lacking skills to analyze the child sex violation cases	3.02	0.95	Moderate
6. Lacking initiative in solving problems	2.95	0.93	Moderate
7. Lacking fundamental data of agencies involved in assisting the child sex exploitation	3.00	0.93	Moderate
8. Lacking the follow-up on operational outcomes	3.03	0.86	Moderate
	$\bar{x} = 3.12$	S.D.=0.93	Moderate

Table 3 reveals the Mean in personnel equaled to 3.12, indicating problems and setbacks in personnel for prevention and suppression in Child Sex Exploitation prevention at moderate level.

Table 4. Administrative Problems and Setbacks in operation and collaboration between countries in Prevention and Suppression on Child Sex Exploitation

Administrative Areas	\bar{x}	S.D.	Level
1. Management ignore the necessity of collaboration	2.80	1.03	Moderate
2. Indecisive chain of command in administrative function	2.99	1.01	Moderate
3.Unclear task responsibilities	3.08	0.94	Moderate
4. Uneven division of work	2.96	0.90	Moderate
5. Complicated administrative tasks	2.97	0.84	Moderate
6. Lacking good administrative control	2.99	0.84	Moderate
7. Organization rules and regulations against performing tasks	3.03	1.01	Moderate
	$\bar{x} = 2.97$	S.D.=0.94	Moderate

Table 4 reveals the Mean in administrative area equaled to 2.97, indicating problems and setbacks in personnel for prevention and suppression in Child Sex Exploitation prevention at moderate level.

Table 5. Data System Problems and Setbacks in the Operation and Collaboration between countries in Prevention and Suppression on Child Sex Exploitation

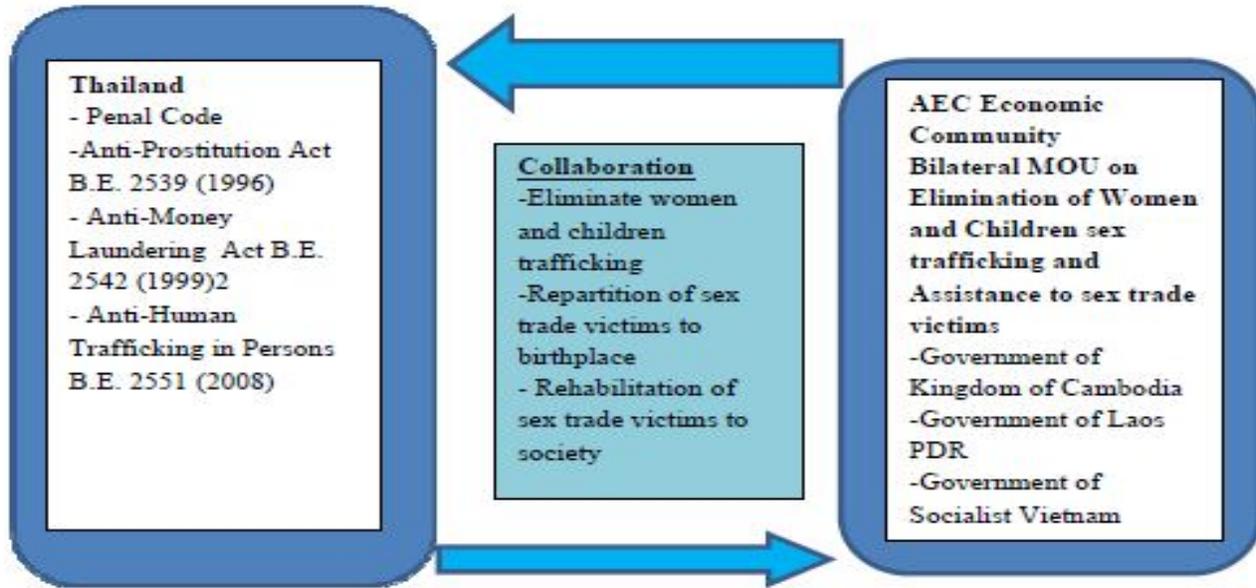
Data System	\bar{x}	S.D.	Level
1. Different data storage system	3.27	1.08	Moderate
2. Lack central data and inferior quality	3.10	1.00	Moderate
3. Obsolete data	3.09	1.01	Moderate
4. Lack of transferring data between the coordinated organizations	3.07	1.03	Moderate
5. None of the Central Organization to assist the child sex exploitation cases	3.38	1.06	Moderate
6. Lack of data in child sex exploitation cases to incorporate useful data in planning management	2.26	0.98	Moderate
7. Data system has no connection with other organization data system	3.32	1.00	Moderate
8.Lackof disseminating news to the public on assistance to child sex exploitation case	3.37	1.04	Moderate
	$\bar{x} = 3.23$	S.D.=1.03	Moderate

Table 5 reveals the Mean in data storage equaled to 3.23, indicating problems and setbacks in data system for prevention and suppression in Child Sex Exploitation prevention at moderate level.

Q3.What are models and directions of crime prevention and suppression system on child sexual exploitation?

Answer: First, the family members should build love and caring atmosphere in the family. There is the regional campaign against children sex trade in Asia and MOU was signed between Thai government, Government of Cambodia, Laos PDR and Socialist Vietnam to eliminate women and children trafficking and provide assistance to the victims of human trafficking.

Figure 3. Developing Model and Collaboration to prevent and suppress Child Sexual Exploitation in Thailand



Discussion and Conclusion

According to the Rights of the Child (CRC), a universal 22 standard was set in all member states of ASEAN have ratified. Later, Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam also ratified the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (OPSC) (Child Wise, 2009). All signatories to this Convention are required to create a national plan of action to combat social issues, especially in relation to sexual exploitation of children (Child Wise, 2009). At a regional level, agreements have been reached to strengthen co-operation and coordination among the ASEAN countries to collectively and effectively combat CSEC and CST. The ASEAN Tourism Agreement, which was established in 2002, is one of the most effective agreements among the member countries in the tourism sector, as it has allowed tourism authorities to work together to combat sexual exploitation (Association of Southeast Asian Nations, 2003). This agreement is also to reaffirm the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (Child Wise, 2009). In addition, the ASEAN Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children, as well as the ASEAN Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (Asset Recovery Knowledge Centre, 2004), were ratified by all member states in 2004, except Cambodia, the Philippines and Thailand. These agreements play a significantly important role in enhancing the communication and co-operation among member countries as well as providing effective mechanisms for combating children sexual exploitation .In addition, the ASEAN Charter was adopted in 2007 in order to group six countries in the Mekong Sub-Region together (Centre for International Law, 2009), so-called the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, which was established in 2004 (Human Trafficking Organization, 2004). This agreement has shown the level of commitment on the part of government decision makers to address these important issues.

Child sexual exploitation situation in Thailand

Although the tourism industry has been recognized as one of the country's major income generators, it has also brought about severe negative impacts on children from some tourists taking advantage of the children. Each year about 14 million tourists visit Thailand, and approximately 6 to 7% of gross domestic product (GDP) is drawn from tourism (Pouille, 2011).

Prevention

To prevent commercial sexual exploitation, long and short term prevention strategies have been planned by Thai Government to improve the status of children, especially those who are most likely to be exposed to any type of sexual exploitation and further reducing and eradicating poverty. In 2000, a policy was developed for all children undertake nine years of compulsory education coupled with a policy of free education for all children in 2009 (The Government Public Relations Department, 2009), which enables some of the disadvantaged group to access education . Moreover, Legal Assistance Centre was established in order to help individuals without citizenship cards to obtain Thai nationality or legal status (Human Development Foundation, 2008), so those children could access to the basic social services such as education, health care and employment, making them less vulnerable to sexual exploitation.

In the private sector, a number of awareness-raising activities have been introduced to tourism, travel and hotels sectors, so that they could participate in child protection activities. The hospitality sector became involved in the child prevention initiatives through the signing of a Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism by monitoring and reporting any signs of children sexual exploitation (ECPAT International, 2012). A number of training programs have been created to raise awareness of this business sector. Brochures, posters and flyers were produced by businesses to distribute to tourists to raise their awareness on children sexual exploitation.

Protection

On the national level, Thailand has developed the legislation to curb trafficking of children as well as to address the issue of sexual exploitation. In 1997, the Thai government enacted The Measures in Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Women and Children Act (Pouille, 2011). In 2008, the Anti-Trafficking in Person Act B.E 2551 was promulgated to align with international standards under the OPSC (International Labor Organization, n.d). In addition, the National Plan of Action against trafficking was created, heavily based on the recommendation of the Rio Declaration and Call for Action (Pouille, 2011).

Rehabilitation and reintegration

In 2009, total 138 centers were built throughout Thailand to accommodate the sexual abuse victims (Pouille, 2011) where they would receive physical and mental health checks before receiving further treatment. In the case of domestic victims, they are sent to any one of 15 recovery centers consist of eight welfare protection and occupation development centers , three shelters for children (one for girls and two for boys) and four for general male victims (Pouille, 2011).

International Collaboration between countries to prevent and suppress child sex exploitation ***Prevention***

The State and Private Agencies in Thailand have collaborated with the government in numerous countries International Non-government Organization, United Nations and International Organization in developing and solving problems through activities promoting collaboration between countries to eliminate the root of problems In 2001, the campaign against the child sex exploitation in Asia Region focused on building awareness and community capabilities to prevent child sex exploitation which involved the Local NGOs from numerous countries and local NGOs in Thailand.MOU was signed between the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic in July 2005 and Socialist Republic of Vietnam on March 24, 2008 focused on the victim repatriation and rehabilitation, training the agencies involved to prosecute the violator effectively. Furthermore, Thailand and Yunnan Provincial in China established the Focal points to combat the Transnational Crime, including the Human Trafficking.

In Thailand, the Royal Thai Police is being assigned to oversee this operation, whereas, the International Cooperation Division, Yunnan Provincial Public Security Department of People's Republic of China. The Ministry of Tourism and Sports in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security under the Greater Mekhong Sub-regional (GMS) to combat Human Trafficking by arranging the seminar together with the Business and Tourism Sectors on similar topic, in which the representatives from the counties under the Greater Mekhong Sub-regional had participated as well. The United Nation Organizations (World Tourism Organization : WTO and UNICEF), including the international NGOs such as, ECPAT International and Global Business organization attempt to seek solution to the problem of child sex exploitation in tourism business such as, change the image of Thailand to become the tour destination for the family. During 2007, Thailand had set up the child protection system in twenty-five provinces of Thailand (2007-2011).

In the year 2007, such system began with six provinces that had been affected by Tsunami before extending the project to another 19 provinces in the next year just to prevent physical injury, abandoning and child sex exploitation in numerous ways by collaborating between the state and private sectors to provide and assist the child thoroughly and effectively. Moreover, the collaboration between local agencies to formulate measures and guidelines for child prevention especially the child had been targeted of sex trade and exploitation such as Aranyaprathet and Sa Kaew Provinces, including the meeting between Thai and Cambodian government in order to find the preventive measures for child sex exploitation such as, Children Trafficking, Children beggars, Child sex trade, as well as providing assistance in each country, including enhancing safe migration and encourage better educational system among venerable group of children.

Figure 4. Policies in collaboration for Preventive and Suppressive Child Sex Exploitation

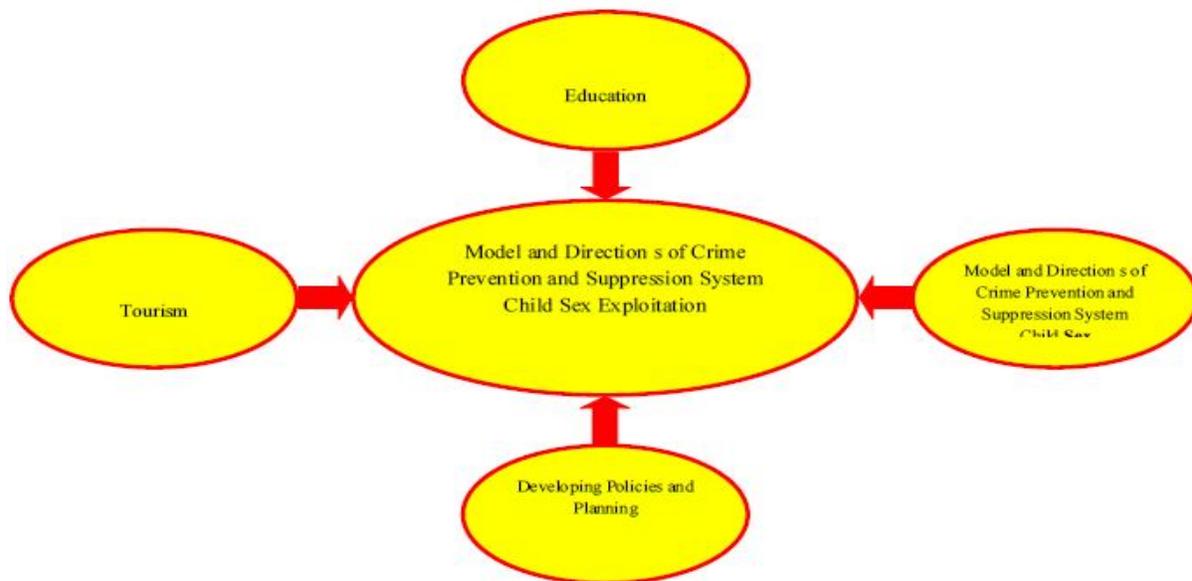


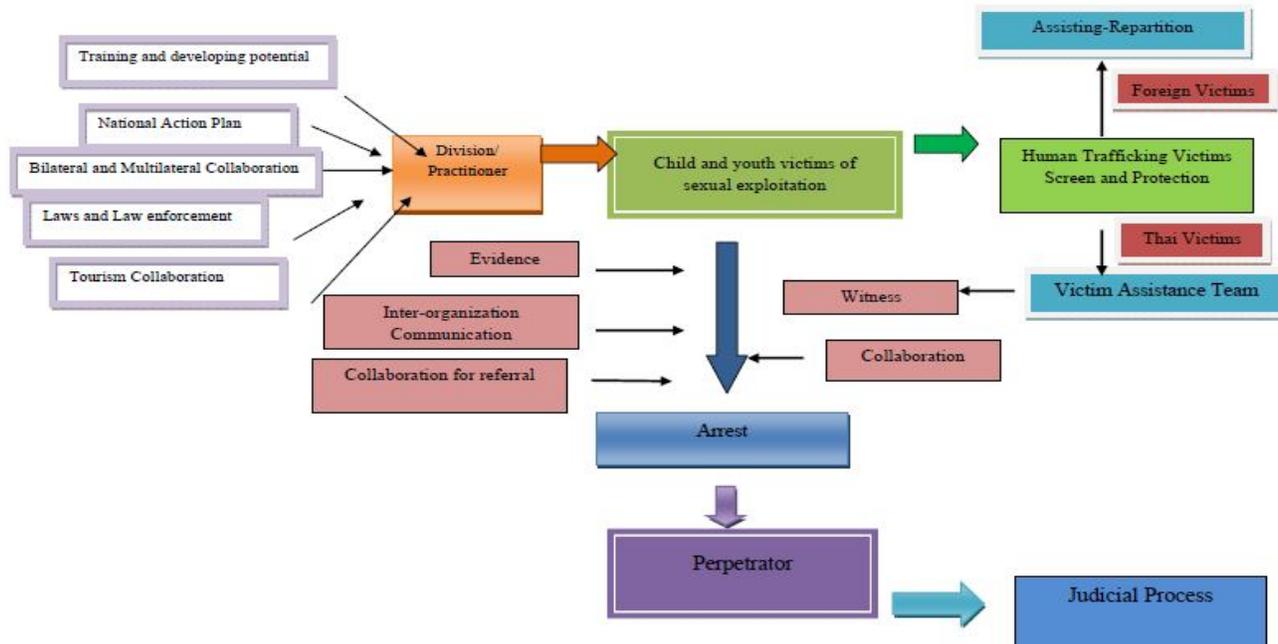
Figure 4 represents the formulation of policies in collaboration between local and international agencies to prevent and suppress child sex exploitation that focused on Education and Tourism to strengthen the country's roles.

Conclusions

While police tackle the problem, child sexual exploitation continues to happen every day. It's important to understand what child sexual exploitation is and to be aware of warning signs that may indicate a child you know is being exploited. The extent of awareness was assumed to have a considerable impact on the design and implementation of strategy to protect children from sexual exploitation. It is evident that a number of points need to be considered when drawing research conclusions and formulating recommendations. The collaboration at the regional and global level has significantly contributed to public awareness of the issues. Few key points relate to the literature review that has covered different dimensions at different levels including the international, regional and local scope of child sex tourism and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Literature in relation to sexual exploitation and child sex tourism was also reviewed to extract key areas and to identify the gap which was used to justify the research question. The literature review includes the international, regional and local scope of child sex tourism and commercial sexual exploitation of children in general. The end result is the complete construction of proposed model for child sexual exploitation preventive and suppressive measures.

Figure 5. Complete model of preventive and suppressive measures for child sexual exploitation



As a consequence of this research, the complete model is developed and proposed as intended in the research objectives that also covered all concerned aspects.

Recommendations

- 1) Thai Government should seek to improve status of children, especially children who are most likely to be exposed to any type of child sexual exploitation.
- 2) Formulate the strategy to close the gap between the rich and the poor, which currently appears to have generated a significant extent of social inequality.
- 3) Eliminate five factors that pushed children into the sex network. These are 1) the willingness of children who want to challenge themselves 2) poverty 3) slow socio-economic development 4) low and/or uneducated children and 5) dysfunctional families.
- 4) Future research must examine the barriers and facilitators within efforts at dissemination and implementation, and evaluate various strategies to improve reach and uptake.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sunee Kanyajit, Pol.Col. Dr. Sanya Niumpradit and for those who will be taken part in the revision of my manuscript, I would like to offer my gratitude and appreciation.

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