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THESIS ABSTRACTS

The Living Conditions of the Hooligans at Nonglaloek Reformatory Institution, Ban Khai District, Rayong Province

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Hooligans have played a big role in frustrating the public peace, the economic affairs and government stability. In reaction to this, the Head of the Revolutionary Party, Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat, gave high attention to the problem and supported the passage of special laws. According to the legislation, the hooligans are dealt with in two ways; the first step is to arrest and train them at Laad-yao Vocational Training and Reform Centre for a period of time; the second step is to release and parole them into two groups. One group who have property are sent back to their homes, and those who have none are sent to Nonglaloek Reformatory Institution.

The Purpose of Nonglaloek Reformatory Institution Program is to train these people in a vocation, primarily agriculture, and in being good citizens. Each starts with a plot of land of 15 rais and is granted a loan of about 2,000 bahts.

The objectives of this program are as follows:

1. To encourage and train them in agriculture for sound economic life.
2. To raise their sociability.
3. To improve their living conditions through community development.

In this study, a field survey consisting of interviews and observations on economy, social conditions and community development activities, was undertaken at Nonglaloek Reformatory Institution. Data was collected only from groups one through eight at the Institution.

The hypothesis of this study is that the living conditions of the hooligans at Nonglaloek Reformatory Institution constitute a crucial factor in the satisfactory outcome of the program. The author collected the facts and data available about the incomes, expenditures, education, health, recreation and some cooperative community development activities for analytical consideration of the hypothesis.

The study result reveals that the average annual income of the inmates is about 7,124 bahts and their average annual expenditure is about 6,863 bahts. Generally speaking, their economic lives are at the subsistence level, although Self-Help Settlement of Rayong. Social and community development activities are rather good. The result of this study confirms the hypothesis.

However, there are some crucial problems such as those involving the tree-cutting prohibition, the high cost of living, the falling price of tapioca, etc. These problems cause their living conditions to be poor and discourage them from becoming good citizens. The author recommends that these problems ought to be solved carefully by advising them to use plant rotation of crops intensively instead of cutting trees without permission, by establishing a cooperative store in order to reduce the price of goods in the institution and by motivating them to pool their products for sale to get a fairer price. It may be expected that if these recommendations were implemented their living condition would be better than at present.

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