

18207

A STUDY OF BURMESE COMMERCIAL SEX WORKERS IN THAILAND

SUBMITTED TO

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### **Abstract**

This paper investigates the phenomena of Burmese sex workers, including the causes and effects on Thailand. An interview of a professional in the field, who has assisted these sex workers for more than 10 years, was conducted to obtain pertinent information concerned with the following research questions:

- (1) What factors facilitate their entry into the sex industry?
- (2) What are the effects of Burmese sexual commerce in Thailand?

These findings expose the reasons why these Burmese migrants become sex workers in Thailand i.e. poverty and oppression. To escape poverty, Burmese women try to support their families by looking for any job opportunities in Thailand including commercial sex. Moreover, most of them have had their human rights violated by employers who do not pay their wages for unskilled jobs such as housemaids, fishermen, and construction site laborers which led them to seek employment in sexual commerce.

Moreover, HIV/AIDS infection is a significant problem, which affects Thailand. However the risk of HIV/AIDS infection is lessened now due to the efficiency of the government, NGOs, and other international organizations.

This study will provide guidance for future studies that investigate the causes and effects of Burmese commercial sex workers in Thailand. Moreover the findings may be beneficial in finding a solution to the problem of Burmese commercial sex workers on Thai society.

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