

Myth of Drug Addictions

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Abstract

The objectives of this study are to find; 1) the power and knowledge that create the myth of drug addictions, 2) the illusive mythology, and 3) the approaches in which the myth of drug addictions can be dismantled using the critical discourse analysis or CDA. This work reflects the use of language with social context, culture, dimension of power, dominance, ideology on knowledge and social culture. The in-depth interviews were conducted revealing the results of study which are; 1) power and knowledge create the myth of drug addictions through social institute structure such as medical institutes, legal institutes. The knowledge creates the myth of drug addiction in the society and the power in dealing with the drug addicts. 2) For the illusive mythology, in the United States and many other countries, drug addictions are accepted through the definition of addiction in the view of medicine, and 3) for the power to dismantle the myth of drug addictions, the government agencies try their best to eliminate drug problems. However, such effort has created a trap in another aspect. For example, white schools, white factories, drug-free communities are new sets of discourses that aggravate drug use. The power to heal the addiction found in this research is the power of family and community strongly bound with the same direction.

Keywords: Myth, Power, Knowledge, Drugs

Introduction

The definition of "drugs" is different from "addiction". Drugs are part of addiction. Human can be addicted to materials, substances, or activities variously. According to the literature review, it is found that the definition of happiness is associated with addiction. In other words, it can be said that from one or more addictions whether with any behavior or substance, human will be happy. The happiness can be clearly explained that happiness is caused by neurotransmitter in the brain. If the neurotransmitter in the brain works properly, completely, and balance, human will be happy. But if the defect exists, it is likely to emit a negative emotion.

Steve Sussman paid attention to the Science of addiction by emphasizing the interest in the functionality of brain. When doing something that satisfies, it will cause the brain to release substances leading to happiness. Addictions are closely associated with "happiness" in the anatomy which is the physical structure. Understanding the organs and functions of brain cells is one source of knowledge that explains human happiness that happiness, unhappiness, loneliness, depression, anxiety, etc. are partly caused by neurotransmitters in the brain. This neurotransmitter is a chemical that sends signals from one neuron to another. They are mostly in the brain and spinal cord. The important role is to control the body. If the neurotransmitter loses the balance, it can cause negative impact on one's health. Most importantly, it can cause mood disorders such as depression, anxiety, and Insomnia (Sussman, 2017). The neurotransmitter in the body and the brain related to happiness and sufferance of people is varied. Those important to the emotion, mood, and feeling are 1) Acetylcholine (ACH) spreading inside the brain, spinal cord, and nerves in red blood cells and other cells in the body. This neurotransmitter functions in the Autonomic Nervous System (ANS) in the part of parasympathetic involves almost all functions of the body such as heart rate, sleep, respiration, digestion, excretion, reproduction, and memory. 2) Dopamine is the neurotransmitter helping controlling the brain parts of Reward and Pleasure Center playing the role in learning behaviors, sleep, memory of skills, immune system, work intent as well as helping controlling the response to the movement and emotion. If the dosage level of dopamine is too high or too low, it possibly leads to various diseases such as Parkinson's disease or depression. This is due to the lack of dopamine. Meanwhile, if there is too much dopamine, it is associated with schizophrenia. 3) Glutamate is the stimulating neurotransmitter which is in high amount and is used by half of the neural cells in the brain. It is the Central Nervous system (CNS) functioning on memory and learning which is related to GABA the most related to brain function. 4) Epinephrine or Adrenaline is the neurotransmitter and hormone contained in large amount in blood, some organs in the body and some in the brain. This neurotransmitter is essential for metabolism. It controls and responds to stress, emotion, fear, anger, and anxiety. If the level of Epinephrine is abnormal, it shall affect sleep, anxiety, emotion, pressure and level of immunity. 5) GABA is an inhibitory neurotransmitter that reduces neuronal function. This kind of neurotransmitter is distributed throughout the brain. It controls the flow of nerves and electrical energy in the brain involved with the emotion and stress. When the level of GABA decreases or it malfunctions, the nerve cells will change affecting the rest and depression. Moreover, the lack of GABA can also cause convulsion. 6) Serotonin is an inhibitory neurotransmitter that is considered as Happiness molecule functioning related to emotion, feeling, and perception. It is mostly found in the brain, intestine, and platelet. If the amount of serotonin is low, it can lead to depression, suicide tendency, insomnia, and Migraine. 7) Endorphin is the neurotransmitter with structure and functions similar to opioid which influences the brain, nervous system of the body, and gastrointestinal tract as an analgesic, stress relief. Each person has different levels of endorphin release.

According to Neurology, it can be explained that under the neural system, there are relationships of these issues; 1) Appetitive effects which means impact on craving and desire, 2) Pragmatics which means accessing routes of addictions differently, 3) Attraction which means the strong desire for it, 4) Addiction-related communication which means the learning and use of language that is associated with specific addictions, 5) Addiction makes accomplishing the Expectation.

There is also a set of explanations that bring happiness to depend on other things. For example, the economist, Richard Layard, wrote the book called "Happiness: Lessons from a new science" representing the factors that make people happy. Such book is the book of economists and academics leading to many researches and academic works. The purpose of

these works is to explain that human has to work in order to have a happy life. The Layard's chart shows the will to create human happiness and presents the ideal happiness. Such chart consists of; 1) Income earned from good economic policy, 2) Family life gained from good family policy, 3) Community environment gained from good community policy. But at the same time, it portrays the happiness in the reality of today's society. Happiness is in fact complicated and moving. Happiness comes from more income with the reduction in family security, more crime, and normative changes. These are the key elements that make real world happiness move away from the pleasures of the ideal world. The Layard's work is interesting because even though he is an economist, he has expanded his work space into a knowledge-based frontier of psychology. Questioning about the happiness of Layard is therefore out of the way or out of the frame of the traditional economists. For example, he questioned in his own book that the problem existing in the society is that even people are working to make money until they feel so rich, they still do not feel happy. He suggested that there should be a complexity in measuring the happiness of people. But the evidence also shows that people grow up unhappily. It can be seen from the number of people with depression and increased use of drugs as well as criminals. Although Layard is aware of the problem with the definition and the measure of happiness, the challenge he presents in the book is to focus on the issues of psychology. He calls it as "Science of Happiness," which he gave space to more psychological dimension (Layard, 2005: 35-38).

Research Questions

What is the myth of addiction? What is the process of formation? What is the myth of pleasure from drug use? What are the power and knowledge forming the myth of addiction?

Even though Layard's concept offers mental delight, in the view of the researcher, Layard still cannot cross the line of linear thinking. This is because happiness of human beings is still determined and organized by the discipline from the main social institutes. Even the psychology, Layard mentioned the definition of happiness and the sense of happiness in a dimension that went beyond capitalist approaches. This is considered the economics that shines but it has not really touched the root of the real problem. Mitchel Foucault tried to explain the happiness in a sluggish dimension unlike the happiness pegged to the values that are molded up. What is implied in the Foucault's suggestion is that human being is happy because they are forced to feel happy in the framework of the power of knowledge which is done with human life in a real way and man has no choice. The happiness that is done with human life with this chain of power of knowledge is the only choice in life. It is the standard form of life that happiness should have such a pattern. If another standard deviates or goes beyond the definition of happiness, it is not happiness or it is the distress. With this power and knowledge that organizes happiness, it blocks and does not allow opportunities for happiness in other alternatives to have a common ground in society. (Foucault, 1977: 5)

The empirical knowledge and the science have tried to measure the happiness of people. It can be measured by the value of goods and services as the set of goals, the happiness and the measure of happiness. The human body looks like a body bound by a set of rules, the power of knowledge and discipline. Foucault proposed the concept of "body under the mastermind". The human docile body is dictated by the normative conditions by determining what the normality is and it is justified through the actions of those responsible such as teachers, doctors, judges, police and administrators using "science" under the institutes built specifically. Human activities created by these institutions have generated a set of knowledge that is a power that has been practiced everywhere in society including the dominance of the human body. While Foucault presents the power of knowledge that is being created, Roland Barthes presents the cultural "myth" in the form that human being is deflated to be perceived as natural as the story goes on in everyday life. The myth works by taking over the meaning of all things. The mechanics of the myth refer to language in the sense of Denotative

Meaning which is the meaning that everyone accepts and Connotative Meaning which is normal (Barthes, 2001). The myth of Barthes's works analyzes the power of institutes in the society. Those who have power or those who have more power can use the power to change the implicit meaning into the generally-accepted one and use the authority to create words and methods such as story-telling, defining, valuing, and creating facts. In addition, the myth also limits the meaning of some implications. When someone who uses it cannot change, it accepts repetitive actions in order to accept oneself into the myth. It is a social action to accept the myth. In addition, the mechanism of mythology has given the Binary Opposition and Value assignment by determining the provisions to compare for good and bad, right and wrong judgment. The competent institutes can guarantee and can make such myth to become true (Kaewthep and Hinwiman, 2008: 32)

According to the concept of Steve Sussman, the meaning of happiness is explained by the concept of neurotransmitter secretion. The meaning of the neurotransmitter leads to the management and control of chemical levels in the brain to balance. Meanwhile, Layard presented the economics of happiness by asking why people have money and huge assets still have troubles. The answer to Layard's question is about paying attention to the mental dimension. However, the concept of the two scholars still cannot release the bond of chain that attaches to mankind as the "organized happiness". Today human being is happy with one pattern. The value of life is as if being pumped out of the factory. As everyone follows the same pattern of capitalism, the human body becomes docile body that believes and enjoys the "myth" of happiness especially the pleasure that comes from addiction. Human beings are dealt with by discipline through the rules of what is the "permitted" addiction while one is the "banned" addiction. Therefore, the researcher's interest is based on the concepts of Barthes and Foucault as the Foucault's concept is very challenging for the researcher to note what kind of power and knowledge cause the addiction which is human happiness not to be able to exist in the society. At the same time, there is the power of knowledge that enables other addictions to exist in the society such as the addiction to liquor and cigarette. It is the reason why human is consent to be the docile body to be organized through the social actions, the processes of power and knowledge as well as various operations which have existed so long ago that man became one with power and knowledge. This is what Barthes called "Myth" which was built together until becoming the thought of people in the society. The society builds such belief and is also the user. Maya appeared in front openly and not deceived. There is indeed truth. Anything that appears in the domain of myth, whether it is verbal, non-verbal, gesture, or view is interpreted as "sign" reflecting the concept that is tied to social values whether it is good, evil, obscenity, cruelty such as the myth of drug addiction through the symbol of "language" as "methamphetamine". The implication of latent meaning of amphetamines is criminal. It is rape and murder. When talking about amphetamines, the meaning of amphetamines is shifted from the truth in the mythic view that amphetamine is not just a drug that can be ingested to make people have fun in their own home but there is the latent meaning of serious drug that causes chaos to the society.

Research Objectives

The researcher studies the "Myth of Addiction" to the extent that addiction is the drug addiction. The research objectives are; 1) to study the power and knowledge through social institutes that create the myth of addiction, 2) to study the myth of happiness which is beaten, blocked, and put pressure as otherness, and 3) to study the methods of demolition of the myth of addiction.

Research Methodology

This research uses the Critical Discourse Analysis or CDA of Norman Fairclough as the study of "Myth of Addiction" has the linkage between the language use and the social and

cultural contexts. The relevant views are power, dominance, ideal on knowledge, social institutes, establishment of science to organize the human body, the use of power through the dialectic discourse, etc. (Fairclough, 2010: 24). For the concept of CDA, Fairclough had the conceptual framework in 3 dimensions as follows:

1) Text: According to the ideas of Fairclough (Fairclough, 1995b), the information will be analyzed to study the methods both in the spoken and the written language, both verbal and non-verbal. Each text has 3 roles:

1.1) Textual function is to present the contents in the text to signify and bind the understanding in the integrated way.

1.2) Ideational function is to present the ideas, beliefs, and knowledge of community in the society

1.3) Interpersonal function is the action to generate the relationship between people and groups.

2) Discourse Practice: Text production and interpretation. Discourse Practice links the Text to the Sociocultural Practice. Text and social contexts are interrelated. Text may be defined by socio-cultural contexts through Discourse Practice. At the same time, the role itself may also affect social change. Thus, the analysis of discourse is the nature of a systematic relationship between the context and the process of creation through the Discourse Practice.

3) Sociocultural Practices are the relationships among the different characteristics of the text, the complexity of the discourse process and the process of social and cultural change. It is the analysis on the abstract context that results in discourse such as ideology, power, identity, value, inequality, or hegemony embedded in the social structure. This will lead to repetitive production, or to the transformation of economic, political and social relationships by learning what the society is doing and how it works. This includes the study of economic situation, politics and culture as well as studying the institutional and organizational surveys of the discourse in order to consider how these situations influence the practice of discourse, and how the effect of discourse is. It requires background, experience and knowledge in such context well. Mostly, it is often found that such context is derived from the social and cultural contexts at that time.

Key Informants

In this research, the text of happiness, knowledge, and drugs in the narrations to society are studies. This will lead to the explanation and interpretation of how these are built under the power of knowledge reflected in the text especially the reflection through language. The researcher has collected data from electronic media, radio media, television media, internet media, and printing media especially various academic papers both in Thai and foreign languages. In addition, the researchers collected the field data by interview both from the Focus group and in depth interview. The researcher selected the sample group from Theoretical sampling initiated by contacting with the "intimated persons" and knowing that person or that community has some issues related to drugs or has some theoretical examples. In this field study, the researcher is interested in mainly focusing the south because of the outbreak of marijuana and Mitragyna. After having returned from the south, the researcher was reported that the drugs transported to the south came from Minburi which is the influence source of Bang Ron. For Sa Kaeo, it is an area for loading drugs from the Cambodian border. From this reason, the interviewed groups and the main informants were divided into 3 groups: 1) community groups including the village headman, the police officers, the teachers, the volunteers of public health, the NGOs, the drug addict rehabilitation foundation in the group of provinces ((Yala, Surat Thani, Pattani, Ta Phraya, Sa Kaeo, Prachin Buri, Minburi)., 2) Group of Prisons, Correctional Department, Ministry of Justice (Surat Thani, Minburi, Yala, Sa Kaeo, Pattani), 3) Narcotics Control Units (Bangkok, Yala, Pattani, Sa Kaeo, Minburi), and 4) University Students Groups.

Research Results

The Power and Knowledge to Create the Myth of Drug Addicts

1) Creation of Knowledge about Drugs

The researcher went into the communities and found that many workers still used Mitragyna and marijuana especially in the agricultural community. As the working people in the agricultural sector have to use labors, they rely on Mitragyna as "diligent medicine" by chewing fresh Mitragyna to be energized and happy in working. They can withstand sun and outdoor for a long time without feeling tired and have a good mood. They can be lively and do not have pain. They can work in the garden for a longer time than usual. The doctors in the community say that the benefits of Mitragyna are medications in the form of drugs, diarrhea, pain, bloating, body aches, sleep and sedation. Marijuana or Marihuana is a plant that people in the community "secretly use". If they are arrested by the police, they are likely to go to jail. In the documentary research, marijuana is both medical herb and stimulant. Marijuana has major contributions to religious beliefs in meditation, rituals and godly worship (Munmek, 2015). In religious activities in India around 700 BC, Marijuana was considered to be the good mood modifier. It was found that marijuana is a psychoactive herb. In AD 0 (543), Hashish was found in the grave in Siberia. In 47 BC (590), Thracians (Southern European tribe) addicted to marijuana. Marijuana was regarded as the king of many medicinal herbs in the world, and is popular with the herbs for the belief that they can communicate with God. Marijuana is also mixed with yoga called "marijuana yoga" or "Ganja Yoga". It is believed to deepen the relaxation. Marijuana is like salt on food. It enhances the taste making yoga more gentle (Matichon Online, 2018). Regarding medical properties, Marijuana can cure cough, fatigue, and asthma because it can expand the bronchi and reduce the contraction of the bronchi, relieve migraine, and menstrual cramps. For people with cancer, marijuana is also used to treat side effects, prevent nausea and vomiting from chemotherapy, use as an appetite stimulant, help slowing down the weight loss in cancer and AIDS or use glaucoma treatment.

Opium is a drug that reflects the power and knowledge that goes into practicing true knowledge building until knowledge becomes overwhelming and deal with the way people live. After the industrial revolution, England became the superpower and dominated the economy over other countries. Using technological advances to increase the productivity in the factories, more industrial products could be produced. England was rich and wealthy, especially the production of firearms. English colonialism was a demand for power and it needed the land to support the expansion of the population in order to open the door to trade and to access the resources of colonialists who were hunted righteously. England controlled most of India's land and made India an important opium crop. At the same time, England also traded with China but England always had the trade deficit with China because Europe needed precious commodity from China such as silk, tea leaves, ceramics, paintings and crafts. As China imported very little products from England, England had to find a way to create trade with China in order to balance the trade. England had to look to turn the situation by introducing opium to the Chinese.

The myth that England created determined the habit of the Chinese people. As the Chinese world is dominated by opium civilization, it gives meaning to the new world. The values had to be changed. Opium had been rapidly spread in China. Women, men, boys, and even the royal family were addicted to opium. Belief or feeling, the whole world, and the whole life of the Chinese were dominated by opium. The opium war between China and England occurred two times with China being defeated and disadvantaged. The greatest loss was humanity from the spread of opium throughout the kingdom.

Later, these natural substances were synthesized as Synthetic products to be used in medical treatment as same as Amphetamine which was first discovered in 1887 and was used in

medicine in 1927 in treating asthma instead of Ephedrine. The benefit of myth in the way of happiness has been created clearly. During the Second World War, amphetamine was used for warfare to be used by soldiers on duty or soldiers performing some special tasks to make them be able to work longer without being weak or fast sleep. After the war, amphetamine was widely used in medical and other fields, for example, horse racing or other sports, long-distance riding, exam review, and weight loss.

Methamphetamine entered Thailand after World War II and was well known in the public as “amphetamine”, especially among truck drivers, taxi drivers, and labor groups. Regarding the formation of drug dependence apart from being derived from medical use and used for enhancing the work resistant, the influence of drugs on stimulants contributing to happiness is also major factor in the spread of the drug. Furthermore, the value of drug trafficking, especially amphetamines, is much higher than that of generic drugs. While the cost of amphetamines for tablets is about 0.35 baht, it can be sold up to 100-150 baht per tablet. Such myth of economic value creation is the main reason that results in the creation of the myth of Amphetamine in Thai Society.

2) Power and Knowledge Created By Social Institutes

The first set of power and knowledge in creating the myth of the drug addiction is the knowledge through medical knowledge in the meaning of mainstream science which has defined the drug as a neurological substance. Drug users are dangerous to people close to them. It leads to the feeling of society that the drug users are ready to commit crimes that create problems and disturbances to the society and people close to them. In addition, knowledge has defined the value and meaning of drugs as illegal. Those who involved in drugs are those who break the law. Drugs are what the law says they are wrong. Knowledge has also defined drug users as worthless people. The society does not accept those who are addicted and treat them in the way of being pushed away from society. Power has been committed against drug addicts, claiming the legitimate authority of the law such as decisive and radical solution, extrajudicial killing, and killing of people involved with drugs. The killer officers did it innocently in destroying one or more human lives. Power and knowledge of drugs has become a culturally embedded process through various social institutes. This is done by empirical knowledge. These processes have been realigned with the world and people in the understanding that the knowledge is true. That is the knowledge about the poison of amphetamines. When passing the language analysis, the meaning of methamphetamine results in a set of thoughts behind. The mindset of this myth has created "fear" for society and social institutes regardless of the border of knowledge of science. In the whole government structure, government agencies, and media, they are pleased to present a plea, news, and statistics of Amphetamine harm continuously. Sometimes, it is "exaggerated". Such fear leads to the creation of various discourses, nationalist discourse, the power of the land, etc. These are used to legitimize the use of violence and to accept the "means" of government violence.

3) Myth of Legal Institutes

Social institute is an important mechanism in the production of science to create a series of narratives describing drugs. Legal institutes are the institutes that have a very solid concept and practice with the nature of the need to deal with the peace and order of the society. At the same time, the problems of society are progressing beyond legal compliance as the legislation process is the decision-making. The data of the decision comes from the knowledge that the science has created. Besides, the scholars who consider the law are also the product of creation by science. For example, in considering the offense of drug carriers, the drug carrying in the drug process is the important factor in the analysis as the drug carrying is the communication between drug traffickers and drug users. Almost all of the drug carriers are drug users. The drug can be purchased at cheap prices. Thus, drug carrying is in the form of

"sharing" rather than having only a commercial intent. Drug trafficking is an important process and step in drug addiction and distribution. It is important to bring drugs from capitalists who do not want to be exposed to drug users. Moreover, because the value of paying the difference in drugs is high, if you are a drug addict, you can deal with it in order to save money in buying drugs. You can also gain income as the risky cost in the drug carrying. From entering the field study area, it was found that there were some 5-year drug carriers. They were used in drug carrying for camouflaging and concealing the drug delivery from the police officials. The undeniable thing is that these kids are perceived and accept of participation in the field of drugs. The interesting question is, in the future, how these children can survive from the power of drugs. In addition, what is found in the research area is the spread of drugs in schools. Elementary school children are used as tools for senior high school students to carry drugs. What is used by the senior students to motivate elementary school students is the promise of "If you put this package or this box there, I will buy you a mobile phone that is advertised on TV. It is not tired. You just walk around and get a good mobile phone to play games."

While social problems are progressing beyond the ability to manage effectively, in legal aspect, the attitude of the Thai government about drugs is delayed and does not keep up with the condition of the problem such as marijuana and Mitragyna. According to the Forest Act B.E.2484, which was amended in B.E.2518, Mitragyna was defined as restricted plant. To cut it must be authorized by the official. Currently, the possession of Mitragyna is illegal in accordance with the Narcotics Act B.E.2522 prohibiting the purchase, sale, importation, exportation or possession which covers the prohibition of planting. Marijuana is classified as Category 5 narcotics which are comprised of four addictive substances including marijuana, Mitragyna, opium and psilocybe mushroom. The penalty for the offender to be imprisoned for not more than 1 year and fine not exceeding 10,000 baht. For the manufacturer, import, export, distribution or possession for sale, the imprisonment ranges from 2 to 15 years and a fine from 20,000 to 150,000 baht.

Creating Thai law on drugs is influenced by international law mainly including the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961) and the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs. 73 countries attended the meeting to draft this convention which gathers the existing international convention or agreement in the same volume with the contents of power, control, and restriction on the use of drugs for medical and scientific purposes only. Marijuana and Marijuana extracts are prescribed as controlled drugs (Lertpanichpan, 2013). For hemp grown in the same species as marijuana, it is prohibited to grow as illegal as well. The violence of the law on drugs includes the government's suppression of narcotics control which is even stronger. In 1997, the policy of "capture dead of the drug dealers" was given to the police and high-rank government official. In the late 1996 to late 1997, it was filled with extrajudicial killings using the method of "Tempted to buy and kill". Even the Amnesty International said that Thailand has the most extrajudicial killings in the world and the government is put pressure to accept the truth. However, extrajudicial killings have been widely praised by Thai society for its use of violence against amphetamines with the belief that by doing this, amphetamine will disappear from Thai society.

The Myth of Happiness from Drugs and Others

1) Myth of Happiness from Drug Addiction

In the United States of America, there are many people who enjoy using drugs which can be found in many different careers. A group of people who find themselves in drug use are a group of veterans and people who come to the church to get relief from daily fatigue, poverty, the cost of living, and the weakness of family institutes. There are several causing a number of people in USA to approach drugs. In these groups, some accept that their drug use is a

mistake and admit that drugs destroy personal and family life. This group desires to end the drug use. Another group is found to be still satisfied with drug use. In order not to fall into the narrative of drug addicts, this group recognizes the status of patients requiring substance abuse and stimulants on the body function. In order to generate the fairness in the drug use, this group of addicts choose not to discontinue the drug but choose to continue using drugs by allocating the physicians for treatment reasons. This group of people who use drugs accepts the status of patients as depressive disorder. Drug is used for reducing the stress, for creating emotional resistance from everyday stress, and for medically pain relief. However, there are people who view drug users as a justification of their illness. This is because the drug users do not have the desire to quit. However, the need to seize the drug addiction to reduce the pressure from the society to call for quitting in order to reduce the burden and expense of the government. Therefore, the drug users continuing to be in the rightful place taking medication under the order of doctor becomes a safe alternative to social stigma and does not face the unacceptable condition of others. However, there are some drug addicts who can quit on their own. From the analysis through the concept of self-reliant technology, it is believed that the in-person power of drug addicted people is desirable in the desperate need to quit. It creates the awareness directing the drug addicts to struggle for physical and psychological medication to stop drug use (Schirato, Danaher, and Webb, 2000) with the aesthetics of existence. It encourages the drug addicts to successfully quit using drugs in order to live happily in the future.

2) No Space for Difference

While Thailand's policies have made a difference for drug users, drug traffickers, drug carriers and the process of drug use, the attitude of other countries on the Mitragyna and marijuana generates the different myth. In Malaysia, Mitragyna is legal plant. In Australia and Myanmar, Mitragyna is regulated under the drug law. For EU countries, such as Denmark, Poland and Sweden, Mitragyna is classified as controlled medicine. However, in many countries, Mitragyna is legally traded. For example, in Indonesia, Mitragyna is legally planted and exported to countries in Asia, Europe and North America. For the United States of America, England and Germany, there are not the laws governing the use of Mitragyna. There is only the surveillance and Mitragyna is sold in many forms such as fresh leaves, dried leaves, powder, and resin extracts. The consumers can buy it from coffee shops or via internet without prescription. For the United States of America since 1839, the law is issued to allow the use of marijuana in 14 states including Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. Currently, there are 7 states in USA that allow marijuana for medical and recreational purposes; Colorado, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada. California is the sixth state in the United States to allow the legal retail of marijuana from 1st January, 2011, apart from the use of marijuana for the treatment of diseases in the United States allowed for approximately 20 years ago. The law allows the adults of over 21 years to grow marijuana up to six pieces and possess no more than 1 ounce of marijuana. Almost 200 marijuana licenses were issued temporarily. For the government of Canada, it has been officially announced that Marijuana in Canada is legal by the year 20. However, it must be for medical purposes (Cover Story, 2017). For Japan, Mitragyna has been patented as a medicinal plant. The researchers from Japan have patented the Alkaloid derivative in the Mitragyna leaves as the substance that helps relieving pain, treating fatigue, and curing the digestive system. It can be said that Mitragyna leaf is the best substance to solve these symptoms. This patent application is for patent applications through the Patent Cooperation Treaty or the PCT in effect in different countries. It is a member among the 117 countries including Thailand (Cover Story, 2017). For the Australian Government, it aims to become the world's leading medical marijuana exporter with the use of medical marijuana legally

valid from 2016. Previously, using marijuana for recreation was still illegal. The export of medical marijuana is not only for dried marijuana but it also covers marijuana products such as oil, sprays, pills and tablets. Moreover, Australia also launches the 'Cannabis Club' for medical use for the first time. The Netherlands has allowed marijuana smoking legally with smoking outlets clearly distinguished. Marijuana can be purchased in general but it is not allowed to be produced and grown (Panichkul, 2015). Portugal is the first country to launch a new drug policy in 2001 and it is viewed that to "subdue" a serious drug or to make it as the 'War on Drugs' is an American concept initiated by Richard Nixon. As it is ineffective and failed, the new concept of drug possession occurs and is not as serious as it used to be. The decriminalization of drugs (Sookprecha, 2018: 2) has eliminated all criminal penalties for drug possession as in the type of personal possession and starts more focused drug-centric policy.

The Power in Removing the Myth of Drug Addicts

The process of drug use is dynamic. For example, in Thai society, the language used for calling methamphetamine was created and was lost. It was then created in a new way such as the language used to call methamphetamine from the "horse drug". If analyzing the text, it can be found that the horse drug looks valuable and meaningful for a group of people who need stimulus to work effectively. But when it is changed to "amphetamine", it is to create the new meaning to this substance. It is the implied meaning that becomes the Denotative meaning. When creating the ideas, beliefs and actions in the form of myth through power and knowledge, the mechanism of resistance in society is manifested in the phenomenon of Deconstruction in various forms. The deconstruction principle is the analysis of the binary opposition in the deep structure of thought and culture. Because people in the society often match different ideas to be put together and judge that these opposites have an anode and subtract, these ideas lead to judgments in many dimensions whether cultural, religious, educational, and political aspects. For example, in the narcotic substance, what the authorities do is to mean "amphetamine" which does not only eliminate the word "horse drug" or drug that keeps truck drivers on the go but to create the new drug and it is called "amphetamine".

Thailand is in the process of drafting ideas and efforts in the form of drug liberalization. It means the process of 'eliminating' or 'reducing' the laws related to the prohibition of narcotic drugs. There are two major forms; reduction of control and punishment from existing laws, such as fines or other penalties, instead of imprisonment and legalization of drugs. It may mean to be legalized for some laws. However, it does not mean liberation. It is to change from Prohibition to Regulation instead such as forcing the label to specify the size, instructions of usage, and medical caution. There are the limitations on advertising, consumer's age, number of purchases each time, prohibition for selling to those who are intoxicated. In some countries, there are special rules such as 'Injection rooms' for those who use certain drugs that need to be injected. The injecting person must be staff with knowledge. The issues in working through legal processes may be difficult and time-consuming. At the same time, the ideas and proposals are created by other social institutes other than legal institutions, for example, the creation of medical recognition processes, the medical use of marijuana, the adoption of marijuana as a substance of happiness at a level that can be controlled.

The issue of community empowerment is a major force in the demise of addictions found in research with the government efforts to solve drug problems using various state mechanisms in every agency whether Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Industry. For example, in the field of education, Ministry of Education prepares the integrated action plan for all relevant parties, conducts the White Classroom Project in all educational institutes nationwide. In cultural practice, the project of White Village and Strong Village / Community to win over the drug harm has been organized. It is the project that aims to stop

the drug addiction. People in community are important to solve drug problem in community. The agencies give good response to this policy. For example, Ministry of Development and Human Security by the National Housing Authority conducts the project of White Flag Design Program and Non-drug Village. The village leaders survey the community members. When being found that any house members are free from drugs, they will put a white flag in front of the house as the declaration to the community that this house is not a slave to drugs. Any house without a flag shows that the house has members who are addicted. This is a measure to put pressure on the families to let family members quit drugs. Therefore, the family is expected to be the most important because it is closest to the addict. But the difficulty of the family is to raise children in the context of a drug-addicted community until the drug becomes the social myth. Parents are semi-cumbersome. On one hand, they need to pull their children not to get involved. On the other hand, they must be flexible and do what the situation at that moment is the best. The embarrassment in this situation is not unique to the community but it also happened to the agencies and inquiring officials. While there are measures to "lure buyers," the police have to try to keep the balance between people who will be helpful in pointing out clues. The community in the area knows the clues and wants to help the community to be free from drugs. The clues to the police give negative results because the police do not conceal the witnesses. They are disclosed to the accused. This acts make the clue pointers a feudal to the drug abuse undermines community resilience and paranoid one another. Community strength found in this research is the participation of people in the community, such as building a collaborative system in the public health group, housewives group, volunteer health group (volunteer), volunteer group and other groups in the community by changing the perspective of drugs. The definition of "drug addict" is something that the rehabilitation center and the public health agency have already done but it has not received much public recognition.

Discussions

This research views the addiction through the myth. The image of drugs is evil, criminalization. The drug problem is a problem that affects the security of the government. The problem must be solved with zero tolerance in the form that must be removed from society. This process of producing this potion is based on the power of knowledge that governs and orchestrates the area of addiction as well as the binary opposition to drugs in every case in order to eliminate drugs from society. In the analysis of the demolition, the dismantling of this drug has made the drug addictive in trying to use white as a tool to obliterate and declare the opposite pair. However, it turns out that drug abduction has created a new identity incubating social problems in another way. The proposed approach to democratization is to mitigate the legal and empowerment of families and communities to protect, hold back and resume the life back from drug addiction. This research reveals these areas and processes. It also presents the power and knowledge that drive drug cartels to have no place in society.

This research is to further the conceptual study of drug narcotics: the freedom of female inmates (Ongkasingha, Piriyaangsan, Chareonporn, Prohsunthorn, and Korsuwansiri, 2016: 13) stating the research results which revealed the new meaning to drugs. It is something the society should be aware of and it should be obvious about the drug as well as the new meaning including the researches that reveal the value of bringing in drug addicts to be imprisoned in the dimension of human resource damage occurring.

This research agrees with the research of Katie Sills in *Constructing the 'Addict': A Discourse Analysis of National Newspapers Concerning North America's First Supervised Injection Site*. Master in Social Justice and Community Engagement Thesis, in Wilfrid Laurier University. The research question is how having the safe injection site can provide safe areas

for injection drug users with clean equipment under the supervision of physician. This study focuses on the indirect analysis of newspaper presentations. The first controlled place of injection in North America is located in the east side of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, with the exception of drug and chemical control laws, and has offered clients the benefit of reducing public injection. This can reduce the spread of infectious diseases by sending customers to communities and other social services. However, for these successes, the federal government of Canada, led by Stephen Harper, has made efforts to close this facility. This resulted in legal battles and led to the fighting in the Supreme Court of British Columbia and the Supreme Court of Canada. This study also focuses on the Canadian National Newspaper, presenting the Supreme Court's ruling in 2011, which allowed this place to be still open to the exclusion. A total of 25 articles were analyzed by The Globe and Mail and National Post with textual analysis of the situation. The results of the analysis revealed that Insite was presented in terms of health benefits to customers and the benefits to the wider community through increased public order in general indicating the benefits to the wider community which is important to be aware of when using a regulated care facility and people are calling for such a place as legally.

Conclusion

The key conclusion of this research is that the myth of drug addiction created by the power of knowledge of institutes and social structures has created their own set of knowledge in the form of text such as "Zero Tolerance." This knowledge set affects drug dealing, such as extrajudicial killings. There are also other sets of knowledge such as "White Factories" which make it harder for people who used drugs to find the jobs. It is the exclusion of work. The power of knowledge that generates a great deal of myth is the news presentation considering the drug addicts as persons with no space in society. The suggestion is that there should be a new knowledge creation process to demolish the myth of drug addiction in order to create a new set of knowledge that will open up legitimacy to drug users that is now differentiated in the society.

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