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Social Causal Factors and Online Media Discrimination that Affect Narcotics-related Offenses of the Children and Juveniles

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Abstract

This research aims to study causal social factors, online media discrimination factors, and narcotics-related offenses of children and juveniles and to analyse factors that affect narcotics-related offenses for children and juveniles. The samples were 329 children and juveniles selected by an accidental sampling technique. Research instruments were a set of questionnaires on Causal Social Factors that had their reliability indexes between 0.866 and 0.933 and another set of questionnaires on online media discrimination factors that had their reliability between 0.866 and 0.933. Multiple Regression analysis with the Stepwise Technique was used for data analysis. The findings were as follows: 1) The practices on causal social factors and online media discrimination factors were high. The practices on narcotics-related offenses for children and juveniles were at moderate levels. 2) Factors affecting narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles were family relationships and parental upbringing. Both could share their effects to predict narcotics-related offenses for children and juveniles by 3.9% ($R^2 = 0.039$) and were statistically significant at 0.01. They could be shown in the following formula:

Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles = $0.1.748 + 0.560$ (Family Relationship) -0.361 (Parental Upbringing)

Keywords: social causal factors, online media discrimination factors, offenses, narcotics, children and juveniles

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Introduction

Media is an important factor that encourages children and young people to behave violently. It was found that the theory related to the media's impact on youth is the Reinforcement Theory presented by Klapper Joseph (Klapper, 2010, 121 - 124) saying that violence in the media, even if it does not increase or significantly reduce the likelihood of expressing severe behaviors of the messenger recipients, has resulted in reinforcing violent aggression or reinforcing the existing anti-aggression of the recipient. The Reinforcement Theory of violent aggression in the media suggests that the content in the media is a reinforcement of the attitudes, values, norms, and beliefs of the message recipients. If the persons already believe in violence, the violence in the media will reinforce that belief stronger.

Besides, there is also Cultivation Theory offered by Morgan (Morgan, 2009, 175-194). It is assumed that the news in the press has instilled the thought of the message recipients about the world of media influence that spreads to every door because of the advancement of Internet technology that can be accessed at the touch of a finger, and accessible anytime, anywhere you want. These types of media often have violent content, crime, conflicts, and aggression. Since they happen so frequently that they make the message recipients have a feeling that the world is full of violence, conflicts, insecurity for life and property, and struggling for life. Especially, if the content in the media is expressed in a powerful or triumphant matter only by force or violence, the message recipients will be cultivated to have the feeling that the world presented in the media is the real world and the winner, the person who uses violence, especially the youth, is unwittingly incubated. Most are amenable and believable as offered by online media in different ways. Some online media, which is popular, presents violence for solving some problems. It encourages adolescents who also have little life experience to absorb and imitate the actions and thinking unwittingly when combined with what can lead to more violence, such as spirit, beer, alcoholic mixed beverages, cigarettes, addictive substances, and addictive substances (Areekul. 2018).

The dangers of social media are becoming a greater threat to children and juveniles. Dr. Srida Tantathhipanich, the Managing Director of the Thai Internet Development Foundation and a member of the Sub-Committee on The Protection of Children and Youth from Online Media (Thai Health Promotion Foundation, 2020), made a survey of 15,318 6-18-year-olds children and juveniles in 2019 and found that almost all of them saw the Internet as useful, but at the same time realized a variety of dangers and risks. It was a worrying matter to find that 86 percent believed they could advise helping their friends who faced online dangers (Nokdee, 2020). At the same time, 54 percent of them believed that when a problem happened to them, they could solve the problem. Besides, 83 percent of the children used the Internet via their tablets or smartphones, and 38 percent used them to play online games more than three hours a day, which was too much time and would affect their mental health. He was also interested in the incidents in which ONCB (Office of the Narcotics Control Board) paid attention to posting pictures, selling and buying addictive substances, and other messages via Twitter by using hashtag #high (Ministry of Justice, 2017). Children and young people have joined together on social media, injecting the Ice (crystal meth or methamphetamine) into their blood vessels, including posting their pictures and text messages in the manner of selling the methamphetamine on social networks explicitly. This

action is an offense relating to addictive substances on social networks. In such a case, it is a crime to advertise an addictive substance on social media according to Article 48 of the Narcotics Act 2009, stating that it is prohibited for anyone to advertise narcotics in the forms of documents, pictures, movies, recorded sounds, or pictures. In Article 4, "advertisement" means any acts to make people see or know the message for commercial purposes. Typical characteristics and numbers of children and adolescents who commit crimes tend to be higher than before, the nature of the offense is more severe than in the past, and the causes of the wrongdoing are complicated (Ratvitayakron, 2010) as follows:

1. The causes of the offenders must be studied on the social component of personal development, genetics, disability or disease state of mind, etc.

2. Family Causes could be originated from home, the primary environment in which a child's creative character and personality are promoted (Schafer, & Kundton, 1980). Most of the children's behaviours are the result of home upbringing. Children and adolescents from happy families have fathers and mothers who have close relationships with each other. They care about their children and be a good role model for their children.

3. Present causes are social environments with important representatives acting in socialization (Adivadhanasit, Sudsawat, Rerkrujiphimon, Wiriyasombun, Piromkaew, & Petcharapa, 2009). There are 3 representatives as follows: 3.1) Influence of friends. Phuchit Duangchan (2005) found that friendship statistically influences the violation at $p = 0.05$. The more friends a child has, the more tendency he will break the rules than others. 3.2) The influence of the media. Dissemination of news or ideas through mass media, such as television, movies, newspapers, radio, etc., can affect members of society widely and rapidly. It can also create values, beliefs, and attitudes. Young people can learn different behavior patterns and apply them to practice in society (Cheuchat, & Laeheem, 2011). 3.3) Habitat environment. The environment can influence children to commit crimes, especially those living in residential areas that are slums. It is often found that many children are committing crimes in such areas (Phurisinsit, 1988).

This can be a problem caused by some Social Causal Factors and online media discrimination factors, which result in a higher number of children and juveniles as a result of the spread of online media, the growth of technology, and various media that affect children and juveniles widely in various ways. The results of the study will help to prevent the offenses of the children and juveniles in the Juvenile Observation and Protection (Detention) Homes in Bangkok and metropolitan areas. It can be applied to online media with young people in different groups, children, and juveniles effectively in the future.

Objectives

1. To study the Social Causal Factors, online media discrimination factors and narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles
2. To analyze the factors affecting the narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

Terminology

social causal factors Definition of Social causal factors are factors affecting narcotics-related offenses in children and juveniles which are 1. Parental upbringing 2. Family relationship 3. Peer influences 4. Social environmental conditions

online media discrimination factors Definition of online media discrimination factors are Medias selection affecting narcotics-related offenses in children and juveniles which are 1. How to access online media 2. Reasons to access online media

Affect Narcotics-related Offenses of the children and juvenile Definition of Narcotics-related Offenses of the children and juvenile is children and juvenile who devotional behavior and committed narcotic-related offenses resulted from exposure of social medias. The study collected data from children and juveniles in 6 Juvenile vocational training centers

Expected Benefits

1. To conclude social Casual factors and online medias resulting in narcotics-related offenses in children and juveniles located in Bangkok and surrounding areas which will build awareness in society of the important of Social medias and how medias should be properly selected.

2. Narcotics-related Offenses of the children and juvenile prevention guideline data from Juvenile vocational training centers located in Bangkok and surrounding areas related to current online medias exposure.

3. Encourage awareness of the important of social structure within family, school, community and related government agencies particularly ethical practice in Media entities for content present on online media platforms which could negatively impact the society.

Research Methodology

The population of the study was 30,356 children and juveniles from Juvenile Observation and Protection (Detention) Homes all over the country. The samples were 329 children and juveniles from 7 Juvenile Vocational Training Centers, namely, 1) Ban Karuna, 2) Ban Muthita, 3) Ban Ubekkha, 4) Ban Pranee, 5) Sirinthorn, 6) Ban Kanchanaphisek, and 7) Ban Mettha. There are 7 juvenile observation centers. However, collecting from Kanchana center was not allowed. Therefore, data sampling were collected from 1-6. They were selected by the Accidental Sampling Method. They were accidentally selected, not purposively and their basic typical characteristics were like those of the children and juveniles in Juvenile Observation and Protection (Detention) Homes. The sample size was calculated based on the actual data in August 2018 (the number of the children and juveniles varied frequently due to many reasons such as going to courts, being released and moving to different training centers). Finally, 329 samples were selected based on Taro Yamane's Sampling Size Table (Porntip Pimolsin. 2008).

Research Instrument and Its Qualities Checking

The research instrument was a set of questionnaires consisting of 3 parts as follows:

1. Personal information: sex, number of siblings, family status, family relationships, Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

2. Social causal factors had Indexes of Item Objective Congruence between 0.67 – 1.00, and reliability indexes for 1) Parental Upbringing, 2) Family Relationship, 3) Peer Influences, and 4) Social and Environmental Conditions were 0.922, 0.933, 0.866, and 0.882, respectively.

3. Online media had Indexes of Item Objective Congruence between 0.67 – 1.00, and reliability indexes for 1) How to Access Online Media and 2) Reasons to Access Online Media were 0.821 and 0.887, respectively.

Data Collection

In this research, the data were collected from the 329 children and juveniles by the questionnaires as mentioned above. The collected data were then analyzed.

Data Analysis and Statistics Used

1. Descriptive statistics to determine the nature of the distribution of each variable using basic statistics such as frequency counts, percentages, means, and standard deviations.

2. Multiple Regression Analysis with Stepwise Technique

Results

1. The analysis of the means and standard deviations of the factors that affect narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles.

It was found that, on average, the mean and standard deviation of the effect of the overall Social Causal Factors were 3.695 and 0.0438 which indicate at a high level. The descending order of the effects was 1) Family Relationship, 2) Parental Upbringing, 3) Peer Influences, and 4) Social and Environmental Conditions. As for the Online Media Discrimination Factors, it was found that, on average, the mean and standard deviation were 3.695, and 0.438 which indicate at a high level. The descending order of the effects was 1) How to Access Online Media and 2) Reasons to Access Online Media. On average, the level of Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles was at a moderate level. Details of the findings were shown in Table 1 as follows:

Table 1: The means and standard deviations of the factors that affect narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

Factors affecting narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles	\bar{X}	SD	Meanings
<u>Social Causal Factors:</u>	3.695	0.438	High
1. Parental Upbringing	3.837	0.623	High
2. Family Relationship	4.166	0.577	High
3. Peer Influences	3.490	0.749	High
4. Social and Environmental Conditions	3.285	0.903	Moderate
<u>Online Media Discrimination Factors:</u>	3.507	0.736	High
1. How to Access Online Media	3.664	1.023	High
2. Reasons to Access Online Media	3.349	0.702	Moderate
Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles	2.70	1.787	Moderate

2 Research Hypothesis Testing

To analyze the factors affecting narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles, the factors were divided into 2 main groups using Multiple Regression Analysis with Stepwise Technique and the following model:

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_4X_4 + b_5X_5 + b_6X_6$$

Where:

R means the Correlation coefficient

A means Constant

p means significance level

\hat{Y} means narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

X_1 means Parental Upbringing

X_2 means Family Relationship

X_3 means Peer Influences

X_4 means Social and Environmental Conditions

X_5 means How to Access Online Media

X_6 means Reasons to Access Online Media

R means Multiple Correlation coefficient

R^2 means Squared Multiple Correlation coefficient (Determination Coefficient)

Adj R^2 means Adjusted Squared Multiple Correlation coefficient (Determination Coefficient)

Std. Error means Standard Error of Estimate variables

B means Non-standardized Beta Weight (written in raw scores)

\hat{Z}_Y means narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

2.1 The analysis of the relationships of Parental Upbringing, Family Relationship, Peer Influences, Social and Environmental Conditions, How to Assess Access Online Media, and Reasons to Access Online Media and Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles. The findings were as follows:

There were positive and significant correlations between Parental Upbringing, Family Relationship, and Reasons to Assess Online Media at $r = 0.216$ and $= 0.194$ ($p = 0.001$), successively.

There was a positive and significant correlation between Family Relationship and How to Assess Online Media at $r = 0.124$ ($p = 0.025$).

There were positive and significant correlations between Peer Influences, Social and Environmental Conditions and Reasons to Access Online Media at $r = 0.384$ and $= 0.146$ ($p = 0.001$ & 0.008), respectively.

There was a positive and significant correlation between How to Assess Online Media and Reasons to Access Online Media at $r = 0.437$ ($p = 0.001$).

In addition, it was found the correlation coefficients between various independent variables were between 0.17 and 0.437 which were not as high as being multicollinearity. (They should be $= > 0.80$).

Next is the analysis of the relationships between the predictor variables or the independent variables and Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles. It was found that there was a positive and significant correlation between Family Relationship and Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles at $r = 0.154$ ($p = 0.005$). The details are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: The correlation coefficients between the independent variables and the correlation coefficient between the independent and the dependent variables (n=329)

variable	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	X ₄	X ₅	X ₆
X ₁	-	$r = .216^{**}$ $p = .001$	$r = .077$ $p = .164$	$r = .089$ $p = .106$	$r = .028$ $p = .614$	$r = .194^{**}$ $p = .001$
X ₂		-	$r = .083$ $p = .134$	$r = .050$ $p = .370$	$r = .124^*$ $p = .025$	$r = .077$ $p = .165$
X ₃			-	$r = .384^{**}$ $p = .001$	$r = .019$ $p = .735$	$r = .146^{**}$ $p = .008$
X ₄				-	$r = .101$ $p = .067$	$r = .108$ $p = .051$
X ₅					-	$r = .437^{**}$ $p = .001$
Y	$r = -.087$ $p = .116$	$r = .154^{**}$ $p = .005$	$r = -.032$ $p = .566$	$r = -.035$ $p = .530$	$r = .017$ $p = .754$	$r = -.040$ $p = .474$

** $p < 0.05$

2.2 The analysis of the effects of Parental Upbringing, Family Relationship, Peer Influences, Social and Environmental Conditions, How to Access to Online Media and Reasons to Access to Online Media on Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles.

The analysis of the factors affecting on Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles was performed by Multiple Regression Analysis in the following steps:

Step 1: Select the first predictor variable into the regression formula. It was Family Relationship (x_2) with its coefficient of determination (R^2) = 0.024 (p = 0.01). This means that Family Relationship could predict 2.42% of the variance of Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

Step 2: Select the second predictor variable into the regression formula. It was Parental Upbringing (x_1) with its coefficient of determination (R^2) = 0.039 (p = 0.01). This means that Family Relationship (X_2) and Parental Upbringing (X_1) could predict 3.90% of the variance of Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles

The rest of the variables, namely, Peer Influences(X_3), Social and Environmental Conditions(X_4), How to Access to Online Media(X_5), and Reasons to Access Online Media (X_6) were excluded from the predictive formula (prediction equation or regression formula). Therefore, finally, only 2 variables, namely, Family Relationship (X_2) and Parental Upbringing (X_1) were included in the predictive formula. The 2 variables could jointly predict or explain 3.90% (R^2 = .039) of the total variance of the Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles and statistically significant at p = 0.001 (F = 6.564, p = .002). Details of the findings are shown in Tables 3, 4, and 5.

As a result, the prediction equation from the Multiple Regression Analysis with Stepwise Technique was:

$$\hat{Y} = 1.748 + 0.560 (X_2) - 0.362 (X_1)$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles} &= 1.748 \\ &+ 0.560(\text{Family Relationship}) \\ &- 0.361(\text{Parental Upbringing}) \end{aligned}$$

When using standardized scores, this equation can be written as:

$$\hat{Z}_Y = 0.181Z_{X_2} - 0.126Z_{X_1}$$

To sum up, the finding from testing the research hypothesis is that only 2 independent variables can be included in the prediction equation. They are Family Relationship (X_2) and Parental Upbringing (X_1) which can jointly predict or explain 3.90% of the total variance of Narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles (p = 0.01).

Table 3: Prediction Equations to Predict Narcotics-related Offenses for Children and juveniles

Order	Variables	B	Unstandardize d Coefficients Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
1	Constant	.714	.712		1.003	.316
	Family Relationship (X_2)	.476	.169	.154	2.812	.005**
	R = .154		$R^2 = .024$	$R^2 \text{ adj} = .021$		
2	Constant	1.748	.842		2.076	.039**
	Family Relationship (X_2)	.560	.172	.181	3.251	.001**
	Parental Upbringing (X_1)	-.361	.159	-.126	-2.263	.024**
	R = 0.197		$R^2 = 0.039$	$R^2 \text{ adj} = 0.033$		

** $p < 0.05$

Table 4: Analysis of One-Way ANOVA of Linear Regression Equations on Narcotics-related Offenses of the children and juveniles

Order	Sources of Variance	SS	df	MS	F	Sig
1	Regression	24.726	1	24.726	7.905	.005**
	Residual	1022.879	327	3.128		
	Total	1047.605	328			
2	Regression	40.552	2	20.276	6.564	.002**
	Residual	1007.053	326	3.089		
	Total	1047.605	328			

** $p < 0.05$

Discussions

1) Generally speaking, it was found that Social Causal Factors had significant effects on narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles at a high level. The descending order of their effects was Family Relationship, Parental Upbringing, Peer Influences, and Social and Environmental Conditions, respectively. The finding corresponds with those found by Khumkom. (2009) in his study entitled Family Communication Patterns as Perceived by Juvenile Delinquents and Non-Delinquents in Bangkok Metropolitan. In his study, he investigated the family communication patterns of the children and juveniles, aging 12-16 years old, who committed unlawful and lawful acts, and the relationship between family communication patterns and juvenile offenses. It was found that family communications played an important role in the occurrence of offending behaviors and non-offending behaviors of the children and juveniles. The finding from his study corresponds with what were found in a study conducted by Khantasak (2010) whose research topic was Causes of Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile

Delinquency Process under the Juvenile and Family Court Act and Judicial Procedures for Juvenile and Family. She found that the causes of juvenile offenses could be divided into 3 main factors: Family Factors, Social Factors, and Physical and Mental Disorder Factors. For example, the Family Factors included lacking care, parental upbringing, morality cultivation, lacking love, and caring for both studying and counseling from parents when they had a problem. As for Social Factors, they imitated bad behaviors from the people around them. When the children and juveniles lacked mental restraint, they could be easily overwhelmed and persuaded by the persons around them to do something guilty. The Physical and Mental Disorder Factors were caused by physical and mental disorders, lacking restraint, and being unable to control themselves. As a result, they were convicted of a felony and committed an offense that led to violent acts against society and those around them.

In our study, it was also found that, on average, the effect of Online Media Discrimination factors on narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles was also at a high level. The descending order of the effects was How to Access Online Media and Reasons to Access Online Media. Generally speaking, the level of narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles was moderate. The findings correspond with what were found by Puranapanya (2015) who studied on Factors Affecting Juvenile Delinquency in Respect of Addictive Substance Offence: A Case Study of Buriram Province. In his research study, he also investigated the effects of media and social media on youngsters. It revealed that Internet media affected adolescents of any ages, not just early teens. Such media had a huge influence on their addictive substance addiction, such as finding new ways to consume addictive substances and to mix the substances. They made the adolescents imitate the actions of consuming addictive substances and being high from movie and TV stars. However, in a small community, the Internet or social media did not have significant effects on the decision-making of the adolescents but they imitated the behaviors from their friends.

Besides, in a study conducted by Somjing (2014) entitled The Media and Information Literacy with Deviant Behaviours of Youths at Risk in Trang, it was concluded that, on average, the adolescents in her study had a level of media literacy skills at 1 out of 4 and a low level of information literacy skills. She also found that the level of media literacy and information literacy negatively correlated with the deviant behaviors of the vulnerable juveniles in Trang Province. It indicated that their levels of media literacy and information literacy were low and thus made them have a high level of deviant behaviors. For practices to help the samples know the media literacy and information literacy, and express their behaviors conforming to social norms, the parents should pay more attention to their children by giving them their time. Teachers and instructors had to help cultivate the students from kindergarten to know the media literacy and information literacy they met in everyday life. Mass media agents had to present their media ethically, not only for commercial purposes. Any government concerned policy-making organizations should make laws to control the mass media with severe punishments and push up the media literacy and information literacy be national issues.

Moreover, Reid Chassiakos et al. (2016) conducted a study on Children and Adolescents and Digital Media and found that children and adolescents these days could access to both traditional and new digital media. Traditional media such as television had negative correlations with the length of viewing time and media

content and caused negative effects on their health. Over the past decade, the use of digital media, including interactive and social media, has grown, and research evidence suggests that these new mediums have both the benefits and health risks to children and adolescents. The benefits of using digital and social media were to help them initially learn new knowledge, create new ideas, and increase more opportunities for making connections and being supported socially. The children and adolescents could also access useful information for their health. However, such media created some risks and had negative effects on their sleep, attention, and learning. They could cause a higher incidence of obesity and depression, exposure to personal content and contacts inappropriately, inaccurately or unsafely, and intrude or break privacy and secrecy

2. Family relationships and parents' upbringing affect drug offenses in children and youths. They could predict drug offenses of children and youths by 3.9% ($R^2 = .039$), with a statistical significance at $p = 0.01$. They can be expressed as an equation Offenses relating to narcotics of children and youth = $.1.748 + .560$ (family relationships). This prediction is consistent with the research of Khamkom (2009), who studied family communication patterns according to the perceptions of children and youth aged 12-16 years who committed illegal acts and did not commit illegal acts to find the relationship between family communication patterns and the wrongdoing of children and youth. Based on a sample group of 150 persons from the study, it was found as follows: 1) Children and youth who committed illegal acts had positive and open family communication styles less than those who did not commit illegal acts statistically significant at the .01 and .001 levels. 2) Children and young men who offended the offense had more negative family communication patterns than open ones and less positive than those who did not commit illegal acts, with statistical significance at the level of .05, .01, and .001, respectively. They had fewer open family communication styles than non-offender children and young women, with statistical significance at the level of .01. 4) Positive and open family communication styles had a relationship with the wrongdoing and non-offense of children and youth, statistically significant at the .01 and .001 levels, respectively. The family communication styles played an important role in the occurrence of delinquent behavior and did not violate the law of children and youth. In other words, positive and open family communication was found more in families of children and youth who did not commit illegal acts. Therefore, each family should be supported and encouraged to communicate in both ways. This will help promote mental health in the family and may help prevent behavioral problems in children and youth.

In addition, Denise Ante-Contreras (2016) conducted a research study on the lack of interest in parenting during using social media affecting mothers and children, revealing that the use of social media among parents had become widespread. It occurs in the form of use for entertainment and communication purposes. However, excessive use of social media has been recognized as affecting the upbringing and upbringing of children by causing distraction. It reduced interactions with parenting and increased the risk of accidents for children. Research has shown that eye contact, one-to-one interaction, and interests not shared with others greatly strengthen the relationship between the child and the parents. The report hopes to understand the correlation between the number of hours parents spend online and the quality of being a parent. Questionnaires were distributed to parents in various groups, including online discussion groups on social media use, the number of hours spent, and parenting style. One question asked about children's accidents related to social media use and

parental relationships with their children. This research concluded that there was only one significant correlation between social media usage and parenting variables. That is the number of hours parents spend on social media and their authoritative parenting style. Although most parents generally agree with a neutral parenting style.

Moreover, in advocating for criminal or legal behavior, the association of people is accepted. They also allow individuals to imitate important groups of people, namely family, friends, neighbors, teachers, and the mass media or sources of good attitudes (Ponchai Khantee et al., 2015). When children and youths use each type of online social media to fulfill their objectives and get satisfaction from the media, the media can make them learn certain values and attitudes. As a result, there can be behavior imitation learned from social media based on Edwin Sutherland's Difference Association Theory, which emphasizes learning about criminal behavior from friends or close persons who are criminals and lead to crimes (Kakai, 2019). It is assumed that learning of criminal behavior or deviant behavior can also occur from learning from social media through the frequency of social media use, length of social media use, focus on social media, and intensity or engagement with social media. Based on Glaser's Differential Identification Theory (Kakai, 2019), it can very well support that learning is not only transmitted through close individuals but can also be transmitted through other reference groups, even if they are far away or never met. The mentioned reference groups can be found in movies, television, books, video clips, pictures, and the media. Besides, Acre's Social Learning Theory also reiterates that "deviant behaviors are the result of the learning process. through intimacy or imitation of the behavior of another person" (Agnew, 1991, Khandee, Treemek, & Putrakul, 2015).

Furthermore, it was found that the prediction of narcotic offenses of children and adolescents was 3.9 percent ($R^2 = .039$) with a statistical significance level was at .01. It can be expressed as an equation: Offenses relating to narcotics of children and youth = $-.361$ (parent's upbringing). This figure is consistent with the research finding of Ratvitayakron (2010) on the Elements of Juvenile Offenses in a Juvenile Detention and Protection Center in Chonburi. The objective of this research was to study the cause of the offense to compare the negative behavior of parents or guardians according to the perception of children and youth. It was found that elements of these juvenile offenses were caused by the perceptions of those children and young people towards their parents or guardians' negative behavior. It was also found that the smoking and gambling habits of the parents of children and young females were significantly higher than those of children and young men, at the .05 level. Based on the analysis of internal factors and external factors that constitute the offenses of children and youths, it was found that the internal factors consist of a) the aspect of parenting of parents or guardians. Twelve important variables were components of offenses of children and youths. b) In terms of family relations, it was found that there were 2 important variables. As for external factors, it was found that: a) there were 6 important variables in peer group influence and behavior imitation; b) there were 4 important variables in media influence. They were components of the offenses of children and youth in the detention and child protection center.

To sum up, since it was found from this study that Social Causal Factors and Online Media Discrimination Factors had significant effects on the narcotics-related offenses of the children and juveniles, they should access

to appropriate online media which could be possible under the mercy of their Family Relationship and Parental Upbringing.

Suggestions

Most children and youth who have left the school system do not consult before leaving the system. Some teachers and friends followed them up, but they could not return to the normal system, and most children did not pay attention to the normal school system again. However, when they had an opportunity, they went to study at the Non-Formal Education Centers instead (Office of the Basic Education Commission Ministry of Education, 2014). The researcher opined that this kind of education provides too few components for youth due to the lack of guidance from the closed education system. Strangely, many parents can accept that their children are not going to school and leaving the normal school system, except for some children who are parentless or lack parental supervision, such as death, imprisonment, or divorce.

The parents and all family members should be educated to know the tricks of mass media to build their immunity. They should know the tricks of online media. (Chutrakul, 2016). Some children and juveniles have their idols in online media. Their idols may fulfill their achievements in an inappropriate means. This can stimulate the children and juveniles to follow their steps aiming to be rich quickly by committing a minor offense, trafficking addictive substances, or committing a crime.

Generally speaking, children and juveniles are not aware of the law before committing an offense or a crime. (Office of the Basic Education Commission Ministry of Education, 2014). They do not know the consequences of their misconducts. Some of them know only the consequences of taking addictive substances, selling drugs, committing an offense, and using mass media inappropriately. They do not really know the consequences and related factors of their bad deeds due to a lack of experience.

Prevention of the children and juveniles by means of setting environmental conditions can be done in 2 main parts. (Sophonphongphat, 2017). Firstly, setting environmental conditions before the children and juveniles commit offenses. This part should deal with education, the prevention of youngsters to leave a formal education system, family empowerment, the effects of leaving the formal education system, the effects of drug abuse and narcotics, and the consequences of committing a crime. Secondly, setting environmental conditions while the youngsters are being detained. The education in this stage that should be promoted is "Nice Market" because of their individual differences. Some of them may have some formal education but have some problems and cannot achieve normal criteria. Therefore, their special forms of competency should be sought out in other different ways.

The Ministry of Digital Economy and Society has no clear measures on controlling online and social media because some of them belong to a foreign country or have a foreign base. (Office of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives, 2017). Besides, there are no worldwide mutual agreements on the rights to control such media. Therefore, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society must initiate and take action to control the media to keep up with the current situation. In the government sectors, there is a lack of a real host to work on this issue seriously and proactively because the media are changing rapidly and can create a social wave. Laws

and policies cannot follow up on the new trends and children who are inexperienced should be proactively protected.

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