A Study of Mental Health of Warrant Police Officers in Areas of Unrest in Three Southernmost Provinces of Thailand

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Abstract

The aims of this research were 1) to study the mental health of police officers in areas of unrest in the three southernmost provinces of Thailand, and 2) to investigate the associations of determinant factors of the warrant police officers in the three southernmost provinces of Thailand and the mental health of the police. The determinant factors included police station site, age, length of service, rank, salary, adequacy of salary, education, home province, religion, spoken language, marital status, duty and length of duty and the mental health of the police.

The sample used comprised 404 police officers under the police stations in areas of unrest in three southernmost provinces of Thailand. The questionnaire that was used to collect the data of General Health Questionnaire (GHQ-12) and Impact of Event Scale (IES-15). Graphical and statistical methods used are factor analysis, Correlation Coefficients, t-test, one-way analysis of variance, factor analysis and multiple regression. It was found that, the police officers who work at different police stations have statistically different mental health ($p<0.05$). The police officers who work at Su-ngi-padee police station were found to have good mental health ($p=0.013$). The police officers had with different adequacy of salary showed different mental health at 0.01 significant levels. The police officers who had not enough salary had good mental health. The police officers with different home provinces showed different mental health. The police officers in Narathiwat province had better mental health than others those having hometown at Nakorn Srithamarat had most anxiety. In the additions police officers who with different duty showed different mental health. The police officers who worked by traffic most mental health.

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