

Research Title: A Buddhist Method of youth behavior modification : A case study of youth camping the joint project of Ubonratchathani Juvenile court and Community.

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ABSTRACT

The objectives of the study of the process and result of the Buddhist therapy camp were to 1) study the activities and the Buddhist doctrines used to examine the youth's behavior of abusing the substance 2) to know the result of the activities conducted 3) to realize the impact on the family and society 4) to know the problems and obstacles in organizing the camp.

The population and subjects were the officials of the delinquent court, academic personnel and community leaders concerned. These were responsible to complete the questionnaires on the youth's behavior after the activity. 220 youths completed the questionnaires before and during the activity camp.

The research results were as follows; the substance most abused by the youths was cigarettes (42.7), followed by alcohol (24.1), speed pills (9.5), glue (8.2), marijuana (12.7), heroin (0.9) and others (1.8). It was also found that 75.9 % of the subjects had quitted, 24.1 had not quitted.

84.0 of the youths were different from the first day of undergoing the therapy activity. 12% of them were remarkably different. They were confident not to use the substance again. Social surrounding and community positively contributed to the youths returning to the normal condition (34.0 and 62.0 respectively). 76.0 % of the youths who attended the activity camp had

an improved behavior. Buddhist teachings, moral, poem, sayings and moral-related songs contributed to their changed behavior (64.0).

The observation conducted on the camp enabled the researcher to follow up the behavior of the subjects. During the training session, they had a better behavior. However, they were not confident whether or not their behavior would remain stable.