

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Reasons for selecting the title

There are several considerations that drive interest of writer to choose a thesis entitled “International Networking of EMPOWER Foundation in alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand”, namely; the writer wants to know phenomena of AIDS in Thailand and the international networking of EMPOWER Foundation in alleviating the HIV/ AIDS. EMPOWER Foundation here as NGO which concern in HIV/AIDS & sex workers.

B. Research Purposes

The purpose of this study is first, to know about the effort carried out by EMPOWER Foundation as local actors, who was able to make International Networking in alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand beyond optimist positions on international advocacy. And second, to complement the main graduate degree requirements (S1) of International Relations Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Muhammadiyah University of Yogyakarta.

C. Background

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a serious infectious disease of the immune system which caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Like all viruses of this type, HIV slowly attacks and destroys the immune system, the body’s defence against infection, leaving an individual exposed to a

variety of other infections. AIDS is the final phase of HIV infection, which brings deadly impact. HIV is transmitted by the direct transfer of liquid from body, such as blood and blood products, semen and other genital secretions, or breast milk, from an infected person to an uninfected person. The virus can enter the body through the lining of the vagina, penis, rectum, or mouth.

AIDS is sustainable health problem. It keeps developing to find the solution in prevention and eradication of the disease. There are many technology in health provision to combat the disease, although there is still no answer in totally cure the recipient, there is only way to prevent the spread of AIDS. There is still another hope for recipients to get long living through antiretroviral drugs. Efforts at prevention have focused primarily on changes in sexual behaviour by promoting abstinence and increasing the availability and use of condoms. Attempts to reduce intravenous drug use and to discourage needle reuse have also led to a reduction in infection rates in some areas.

The problem of AIDS is not only happening in one certain country. Every state in the world certainly has a problem with HIV/AIDS. But, it is become more worldwide together along with modern behaviour of society nowadays, which is enabling spreading the disease. The factor can be seen from human trafficking in term of sex worker, drug user, trafficking, and free sex (accordance to modern society). It becomes serious problem and challenge for all of countries, because the impact become more globally, no matter it is upper, middle, or lower countries. There should be coalition and cooperation among states to tackle the problem of HIV/AIDS.

The impact in demographic is more than 60 million people throughout the world have been infected with HIV since the beginning of the epidemic in almost 20 years ago. In 2001 alone, the HIV/ AIDS epidemic claimed an estimated 3 million lives. Approximately, there will be more million people will die due to AIDS. In many countries, AIDS is erasing decades of progress in human development by drastically reducing life expectancy (UNAIDS 2002).

In economic sector, the impact will be seen from micro level. People, who live with HIV/AIDS, lost their legal status as social and political workers. It gives big burden for them who already have a family and should become breadwinners. It means they will lose their poverty and chance to get income for keeping their life, while the number of infected people is huge and it keeps increasing. It will weaken the economic activity by disposing them, while temporary staff in company needs to be requited and trained. And for macroeconomic context, AIDS has a deep impact on growth, income and poverty. For countries with HIV/ AIDS prevalence rates of 20% or more, the GDP growth has been estimated to drop by an average of 2.6% annually (UNAIDS 2002).

The factors listed above are common to the impact of HIV/ AIDS globally (UNAIDS 2002). On the one hand, they trigger solidarity to combat government, community and individual denial, and offer support and care to people living with HIV and AIDS. On the other hand, individuals suffering from HIV/ AIDS are stigmatised and ostracised by their loved ones, their family and their communities, and discriminated against individually as well as institutionally.

In the other hand, HIV/AIDS related with stigma and discrimination. The society tends to play in social inequalities, especially in term of gender, sexuality, and race. HIV/AIDS status becomes one of discrimination in public. Then, the category falls into Human Right. Some policy made for HIV/AIDS recipient concerning in Human Right. They get some privilege in status of non-discrimination. To overcome the stigma and non-discrimination status, some organizations and countries make a policy.¹ As recent UN Commission on Human Right have clearly assured that “the term ‘or other status’ in non-discrimination provisions in international human rights texts should be interpreted to cover health status, including HIV/ AIDS”, and has confirmed that “discrimination on the basis of HIV/ AIDS status, actual or presumed, is prohibited by existing human rights standards” (UNAIDS 2002).

The story about this disease, which slowly attacks the human defence, was first reported in 1981 by investigators in New York and California. In the beginning, most of U.S. AIDS cases were diagnosed around homosexual men, who contracted the virus especially through sexual contact, or intravenous drug users who became infected by sharing contaminated hypodermic needles.²

The first case of AIDS in Thailand was reported in 1984, during the six-year rule of General Prem Tinsulanonda, a former army commander who was appointed premier in 1982. Victim are generally covered the group of gay men, sex workers, injecting drug users and tourists. The government took

¹ See, ACORD (Agency for Co-operation and Research in Development) and ACTIONAID. *Gender and HIV/AIDS: Guidelines for integrating a gender focus into NGO work on HIV/AIDS*. 1997

² Source: <http://www.avert.org/origin-aids-hiv.htm>.

some basic actions to deal with the issue, but an epidemic was not yet clear. These actions were mostly implemented to the high-risk groups, as the government assumed that it was not enough reason to carry out the campaigns of HIV/AIDS prevention among the society.³ This period brought the high awareness from public toward the HIV/AIDS.

Then, HIV/AIDS wildly be spoken in public after the case of a factory worker, Cha-on Suesom, which infected by HIV through blood transfusion. It was widely show through the media in Thailand such as TV shows and national newspapers, after he decided to allow his story and identity to be publicized in 1987. He was letting the society realize the impact of this epidemic. He and his wife were been fired from their jobs because of his HIV-positive status, and the discrimination of this condition helped to increase public sympathy for people who living with HIV.⁴

In 1988 until 1989, the HIV occurred among Injection Drug Users (IDUs) increased radically from nearly zero to 40%. They consume the drugs such as methamphetamines, opium and cocaine through injection and HIV is usually spread among IDUs who share same needles or syringes. In 2003, IDUs become more rampant, because they have been working underground. Thai's government felt hard and difficult to deal for reducing the infections among IDUs. Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra declared the prevention and suppression toward drug users since 2001. In February 2003, after the increasing case of IDUs, Thaksin

³ See, Porapakkham, Y., Pramarnpol, S. & Athibhodhi, S. The Evolution of HIV/AIDS Policy in Thailand: 1984–1994. 1996.

⁴ Ibid.

government instructed the police to seriously dealing with drug case through severe manner.⁵

The problem emerges among sex workers also increased. The rising level of infection among sex workers was give bad impact toward male customers of sex workers which will spread the epidemic toward his wives and partners, and also their children. Sex work is prohibited in Thailand, but there are still thousands of Commercial Sex Establishments (CSEs) were operated, such as hotel, massages places, karaoke bars and saunas. It is difficult to monitor the free lance sex workers (part time sex workers who ask for sex in public places or restaurants and bars), so that HIV occurrence is increasing in this group and among male sex workers.

Some argued that this disease was come from foreigner. So that, some members of Thailand's parliament planned that all foreigners should be compulsory to pass an HIV test before coming to the country. In 1988, government spent few budget on HIV anticipation, as their assumed that the threat was limited.

Several efforts were done by government in tackling the disease. In 1991, AIDS policy was drawn into the orbit of the Office of the Prime Minister, with the National AIDS Prevention and Control Committee chaired by the Prime Minister himself. Thailand is one of the very first countries to have achieved the sixth Millennium Development goal. This success of Thailand must first and foremost be attributed to courageous and visionary top-level leadership displayed at a

⁵ Source: <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/type.COUNTRYREP,HRW,THA,412efec42,0.html>.

relatively early stage of the epidemic. This strong commitment created the political and institutional environment necessary for a broad-based response. Public health agencies, government ministries, the military, non-governmental organizations, communities and the media all joined together in the campaign to confront the growing epidemic.

Thai government was tried to doing some actions in combating the HIV and it seems to be success until 1998. At that time, Thailand faces the Asian Financial Crisis which impacted toward the finance of AIDS prevention and control. Government felt hard to funding the medical services such as antiretroviral drugs and treatment for infections patient. Serious illness such HIV/AIDS typically imposes extraordinary financial demands on government budget. The programmed to support for condom supply and distribution was also reduced.⁶ As regard, geographic and economic become determining factors to access the latest medical treatments for AIDS. Developing countries often lack in income and funding to support the advanced treatments available in industrialized countries.

Besides that, the awareness of prevention was also declined. It brings big risk towards the society. The news told that the using of condom was decreased and the level of sex disease transmission was high.⁷ Without new prevention campaigns, there was a risk which safe sex messages would be lost and young

⁶ Source: http://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:-RLXi9bspIJ:data.unaids.org/Publications/IRC-pub01/jc109-fundingpriorities_en.pdf+Funding+priorities+for+HIV/AIDS+crisis+in+Thailand&hl=id&gl=id&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEEShi4uSNJIbpNxLZZe06BhPZcSqKCIIRRGdYpRk1YrzNHpE_NQCJoZxorOK98ok2ZLzcQ-L2uCeETohIm2Ih1ZXX2ZQjvCNmlEwuGpdfhcPwnEr2DdANvvIY8RTaKh6Sz-pltH3ip&sig=AHIEtbQHTtxvMGsOw4rzcZHgb9ligzx2gA.

⁷ Source: http://www.nationmultimedia.com/2006/05/24/national/national_30004762.php

generation would grow up unaware of the risks they face.⁸ Most teenagers and young adults already forget about HIV/AIDS prevention campaigns that carried out during the 1990s and therefore they will be unaware with the risk of unsafe sexual behaviour. The behavioural of premarital sex becomes common thing within teenager, with only 20-30% of them using condoms.⁹

Gay or Men who have sex with Men (MSM) are also currently become major risk group in Thailand. For example, in Bangkok (Thailand's capital and largest city), HIV popularity among MSM increased from 17% to 28% between 2003 and 2005 and has since fall to 24.7% in 2009. HIV occurrence is highest in the large tourist cities like Bangkok, Phuket and Chiang Mai and even in isolated provinces, MSM have an extreme higher rate of HIV infection compared to the general population.

Besides the problem was occurred from MSM, the problem also emerges in migrant worker. Around 2.5 million migrant workers are living in Thailand, although only around 1.5 million are listed by labour authorities. All of these workers come from neighbouring countries such as Myanmar (Burma) and Cambodia. There are some difficulties from them in accessing the information about Healthcare, social service and the important thing is HIV and AIDS. The difficulties are about the language. The information about HIV and AIDS among this group is extremely poor. Migrants have behaviour to rent the sex workers and always changing their partner which emerge the risk of infected and it will spread infection to out of country.

⁸ Source: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/44083.php>.

⁹ See National AIDS Prevention and Alleviation Committee. *UNGASS Country Progress Report Thailand*. 2010.

It is hard to ensure the rates of HIV infection within migrant workers. They have various level on infected in every area. Report have state that the emergence of HIV in pregnant migrant workers are higher than pregnant Thai women. Usually Female migrant workers are work as sex worker and mostly affected by the epidemic.

From the explanation above, the victim of HIV/AIDS in Thailand reach mainly part of society. By the late-1990s, large numbers of people infected during the earlier phases of Thailand's epidemic were becoming ill and dying of AIDS. In 2003, the disease claimed an estimated 53,000 lives. Over 90 percent of AIDS deaths in Thailand are occurring among the most productive sector of the workforce, those aged between 20 and 49 years. The annual number of new HIV infections has fallen to about 19,000 which making Thailand one of a handful of countries to have reversed a serious HIV/AIDS epidemic. Finally, AIDS has become one of the leading causes of death in Thailand.

As the epidemic of HIV/ AIDS continues to expand to all corners of the globe and state of Thailand, it is clear that every sector of society must respond. AIDS is no longer a concern just of health authorities. The potential impact of AIDS makes it a challenge in economic, political, social and religious spheres as well. Among organisations responding to the crisis, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are emerging as a powerful force in the effort to contain the epidemic. Diverse groups at risk of HIV infection have been reached by NGOs in a wide variety of innovative programmes (Mercer, et al. 1991).

Almost all HIV anticipation messages for sex workers are carried by NGO. It is little contribution from Thai's government, such as AIDS policy and a national prevention program. Thailand's success in responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic would not have been possible without the emergence of firm and focused political commitment, the active roles adopted by top political leaders, the high public spending, the mobilization of sectors and partners well beyond the health ministry, and the active involvement of NGOs and communities.

NGO as EMPOWER Foundation help shaped policy formation and response in many ways. This organization was established in 1985, a year after first case of HIV in Thailand, and officially registered in 1994. It was marked the enthusiasm of EMPOWER in response toward the HIV case, since it was directly respond after the first case of HIV. EMPOWER Foundation have purpose to combat HIV/AIDS and treat the sex workers without any discrimination by keeping their right. And also to support the documentation of the human rights abuses faced by sex workers in Thailand and support to deal with these abuses. This NGO was work independently which is not too attached with the government. At the national level, NGOs effectively used the mass media to check and balance the draft government resolutions and laws. EMPOWER join with Thai government programs such as National Aids Program and Women's Congress, which is regularly consulted about health and prostitution law, and increase the transparency in decision making process related to HIV, AIDS, and prostitution.

Moreover, in 2009, government of Thailand cut the budget for EMPOWER Foundation by some reasons.¹⁰ Government of Thailand felt need to rearrange the planning of budget toward some other areas such as politic, scholarship, and many others, although it is not close the possibility to aid some project of HIV/AIDS in national. Government see EMPOWER as the independent one and believe that EMPOWER can keep stand by their own without any aids from government.¹¹

In short, it is very interesting for the writer to explore the efforts of EMPOWER Foundation in the midst of government crisis in alleviating the HIV/AIDS which become globally by getting sympathy from International Networking.

D. Research Question

By considering the background of problem above, the writer will formulate the research question as follows: *“What are the efforts EMPOWER Foundation to get International Networking in alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand?”*

E. Theoretical Framework

In conducting a scientific study, it requires a concept as the basic foundation. Concept should be relevant to the research which undertaken by writer.

- Concept of Transnational Advocacy Network

Transnational Advocacy Network (TAN) formulation is sufficiently representative of the literature as a whole as a basis for principle theoretical

¹⁰ Personal communication with Thanjira Preamsirijongwattana, Manager of Empower Foundation in Soi Patpong 1, Bangkok.

¹¹ Ibid.

concepts. Transnational advocacy theories tend to focus principally on the activist campaign context. The concept of Transnational Advocacy Network or TAN, was adopted from Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink (1997) in their book *Activists Beyond Borders*. TAN will be use by writer in explaining the term of Transnational Advocacy Network concept under Keck and Sikkink's approach. In this term, the authors refer to any network, or movable and dynamic relationship, of activists who tied primarily to international arenas in order to convince national government to follow activist demand through international norms and democratic principle. The actor of TAN includes: National and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) or advocacy organizations, Local social movements, Foundations, media, Religious organizations, trade union, consumer organizations, Intellectuals and scholars, Agencies within international and regional intergovernmental organizations, and parts of executive or parliamentary branches of governments. But, international or domestic nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) are a major role in this network. The term of network was adapted from sociology concept and applying it transnational.

The concept survey the interactions of network actors revealed a number of meaningful patterns, the most successful and common of which they called as "boomerang." In this particular pattern, domestic activists are unable to access or influence their national government, because government refused to recognize rights. Then the actors attempt to use their various forms of leverage as far as possible through seek out an international ally who is able and willing to transmit

their message to the international community. It purposes to request the national government in addressing complaints of domestic activists.

Actors need a further cooperation in international level analysis to investigate the implication of transnational advocacy campaign outcome. Advocacy network significantly work transnational by building new links among actors, civil societies, states, and international organizations. The actor works internationally in uphold the issues, who are bound together by shared values, common discourse, and exchange information and services.¹² The actors seek for the familiar issue with their International ally to get support and sympathy. The issues are around human right, environmental, and even women issues. However, the actors use their resource strategically to affect a world of states and international organizations. Network activist can operate strategically in more stable universe of shared understandings while at the same time they try to reshape certain contested meanings.

Transnational Advocacy Network seeks influence in many other ways, because remembering their not too powerful, they must use power of their information, ideas, and strategies. There are four strategies used by the actor to socialization and getting the network. According to Keck and Sikkink, the first strategy is *information politics*. In this strategy, mobilizations of information, both formal and informal are much needed. They share values and exchange the

¹² See, J. Clyde Mitchell, 'Networks, Norms, and Institutions,' in *Network Analysis*, I. Jeremy Boissevain and J. Clyde Mitchell (The Hague: Mouton, 1973), p. 23. A "common discourse" was suggested by Stewart Lawrence in "The Role of International 'Issue Networks' in Refugee Repatriation: The Case of El Salvador" (Columbia University, imeo).

information and services among groups. The information not only contain of facts but also some of testimonies or stories from the people who have been affected.

Most of information exchange was done through telephone calls, E-mail, fax communication, circulation of newsletter, pamphlets, and bulletins. Most of nongovernmental organization cannot afford to maintain their members which are located in other countries. In some condition, they send their staff or member to other countries. But, through new informational technology make the actors easier to sharing the information and getting the network. Media is best partner of actor to expand their network and reach broader audience.

Network member actively seek ways to uphold the information toward the public through framing the issue. The most important is the matter of issue framing and resonance. Framing, or conceptual presentation, is most likely to succeed when it is presents the problem in terms of right or wrong side which public can choose, giving blame for its event, and there are number of innocent victims. The frame must be concept bravely, timely, and dramatically in order to get high issue resonance. The part of drama seems to be exaggerating, but it is the component of a strategy aimed at getting the attention. They frame the issue to make them comprehensible to target audiences, to attract attention, encourage action, and to fit with favourable institutional venues.¹³ Then the public will express their sympathy and desire to join. The activist learnt one sentence that

¹³ See, Frank Baurngartner and Bryan Jones, "Agenda Dynamics and Policy Subsystems," *Journal of Politics* 53:4 (1991): 1044-74.

becomes their guideline “human right methodology” which means promoting change by reporting facts.¹⁴

Campaign is also part of information politics where campaign is a process of issue construction constrained by action context which carried out by activist to identify a problem, specific cause, and suggest the solution. In a campaign, core networks actors mobilize the task within their groups. For domestic campaign, they connect the groups each other, seek out the resources, prepare activities, and conduct public relations. In international campaigns, they focused in one of selected topic. The focused of campaign emphasize on establishing and maintaining relationship among network actors, activists, allies, and also their opponent. The campaign will not only raise the awareness of national public, but it also getting public international concern.

The second strategy is *symbolic politics*. Activist is framing the issue through powerful symbolic events. Symbolic events tend to create big awareness and expand their network.

The third strategy is *leverage politics*. In this part, activist put concerned on political effectiveness. The effectiveness was measured by policy change from target actors. Activists choose the target which is usually coming from governments, international financial institution (World Bank), or private actors (transnational corporation). Pressuring the target is more likely success if target give the respond. Democratic state will be most applicable for TAN because it

¹⁴ Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing.

persuades the openness. But, it is not easy for the activist to get policy change as their suggested. Therefore, they seek for leverage through their International ally. Actors join in several programs in International organization as they see they shared common values. Power from international ally is far beyond their ability in influencing the state. Leverage politics was dividing into two identifications. First is material leverage, which mostly has function to getting financial aids. And second is moral leverage, which is called as “mobilization of shame.” The actors can use their target and demonstrate that target violating international obligations, especially in term of human right.

And for the last strategy is *accountability politics*. The network was collected to persuade the government or other target in order to change policy. Actors record the commitment of government as the promising opportunities to get their policy. Activist fulfil their demands by convince national governments with international norms and democratic principles.

In short, TAN mobilize the information through creating new issues and gain leverage through International network. Transnational Advocacy Network was match concept to analyze the actions of this complex actor, who not only participate in new areas of politics but also shape them. Those variables of strategy focus on the network and its campaign which clearly indicates by the author. The fourth variable concerns the target’s vulnerability to international-level actors that are allied with the TAN. It does not consider that international actors might work to oppose TAN goals or to protect the target from TAN pressures. The theoretical perspectives allow that individuals can act as the “motor

of change” and enjoy a notable degree of influence on the national and international levels.

The character of network still remains as the important one since only a network can facilitate constructivist exchanges and only under certain conditions. The other things, as the additional point is the character of the state. Democracy allows for influence from within, while the absence of democracy can lead the efforts to influence state preferences from without (from outside).

While, theories of transnational network advocacy purpose that horizontal contact is established between actors regardless of their position within a vertical political and societal ordering. Contact and interaction frequently occur as a result of already existing complementary values. Networks facilitate communication between actors. The communication constructs the speed of similar values development.

Based on this case, Transnational Advocacy Network, which put focus on campaign context, shown by campaign or programmes of EMPOWER Foundation. EMPOWER uphold the national issue of HIV/AIDS by using international norms and democratic principle. Alleviating HIV/AIDS was become grand theme of EMPOWER Foundation in requesting policies change in Thailand. But, the effort to shape the policy was not easy to do. EMPOWER must getting International aids from their networks. To analyze the strategy of EMPOWER in getting International network, writer use four strategy variable from TAN concept.

Firstly, EMPOWER gather and rising relevant information, sources, and education of HIV/AIDS. EMPOWER also do some campaign and prevention project in several region in Thailand in order to increase public awareness. The campaign can be seen from their activity in documenting local realities such as policy commitment, community health observer, declaration of health providing, and ensuring to tell the story of people who are infected and living with HIV/AIDS, which all done by grass roots. This is the way to advocate for political and social change through communicate the issue. For the realities in society, EMPOWER tried to change public mindset toward infected people as their project to decreasing discrimination, because human being have right to get same life based on human right principle. They collect the people to discuss about the problem of HIV, AIDS, and development skill for people who infected. The other way to inform the issue is through their activity to role in theatrical event in term of HIV/AIDS stories.

Secondly, EMPOWER doing symbolic politics by promoting the wearing of a round of red ribbon to indicate their concern. Red ribbon become as the international symbol of AIDS. One of the famous symbolic event from EMPOWER is Kumjing doll, which representing sex workers.

Thirdly, EMPOWER leverage their activity. It happen because EMPOWER want to convince the Thailand's government, as their target, through some activity such as campaign and prevention project. Activist groups lobby governments to fund education, research, and treatment and more importantly change the status of policies. In order to succeed their lobby, they seek for

International aids. EMPOWER Foundation promote partnership and networking at local, provincial, national level, and International level. EMPOWER doing joint project with International Organization based on similar issue of HIV/AIDS. They are together campaign the programme to alleviate HIV/AIDS in Thailand, as their origin role as the campaigner. This far, EMPOWER is successfully getting sympathy and support from International ally through joining some programme which held by their ally.

EMPOWER join conference in international scale for AIDS since 1987 and initiate network for NGO in Asia Pacific, namely The Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW) in 1995. EMPOWER also cooperate with United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in tackling the problem of HIV and AIDS, and get some achievement and awards for their prevention programme of HIV/AIDS in Thailand.

Fourthly, EMPOWER can ask for the accountability of government toward their commitment. In policy commitment, EMPOWER join with Thai government programs such as National Aids Program and Women's Congress, which is regularly consulted about health and prostitution law. Through joining government program, EMPOWER can increase the transparency in decision making process related to HIV, AIDS, and prostitution.

As regard from the concept, everyone can be motor of change and enjoy the influence in national and International. EMPOWER bring the opportunity for

everyone, especially people who living on HIV/AIDS to jump in the activity of campaign and advocate in order to voice up the issue. The communication between horizontal lines (between actors) is much needed. EMPOWER give skill and education toward recipient and always update the data about their recent program. EMPOWER bring the transparency toward the public in order to maintain good relation with the public. According to EMPOWER, public is their biggest support and they must give trust toward the public.¹⁵

This concept helps the writer to explore the strategy in gaining the power from International aids, through leverage politics or networking. For the last strategy of accountability politics, it is reward for the EMPOWER after they can get power from International networking. Therefore, this undergraduate thesis will present little explanation in accountability politics and emphasizing analysis in getting the network through inform the issue, symbolizing the issue, and leverage. Later, the effort of EMPOWER will be explain by overall of TAN strategy.

F. Hypothesis

Based on the description of background and relation to theoretical framework, the writer took the pre-assumption that the effort of EMPOWER NGO to get International Networking in alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand, are based on:

1. EMPOWER Foundation gather and uphold relevant the information about HIV/AIDS and prostitution among member & society in Thailand through campaign, seminars, forum, etc.

¹⁵ Ibid.

2. EMPOWER Foundation promoting the issue of HIV/AIDS through wearing round of red ribbon (as International symbol of AIDS) as symbolic events in national and international.
3. EMPOWER Foundation built networking in International arena through cooperation, coalition, and many others to get support and shape national policy through joining several programs in term of alleviating HIV/AIDS.
4. And last EMPOWER getting accountability from Thailand government by shaping the policy in term of human right, prostitution, & entertainment law.

G. Writing Method

This research is a form of literature study, by using qualitative methods where the data for this writing is obtained from literature books, newspapers, scientific papers, magazines, Internet sites, direct interview with EMPOWER Foundation, and other sources that are relevant to the issues raised. Therefore, the entirely data were data which obtained by a researcher directly from its object and other sources both oral and written.

H. Scope of Research

After deciding the research question, the next step is bounding the scope and gives clear information about research question itself. For the writer, confirmation about the scope/range of research will be a guideline for the thesis itself. The confirmation has function to avoid the possibility of confusion in research and fuzziness of scope of problem. Therefore, the data will be limit only

on the effort of EMPOWER Foundation to get International Networking in term of Alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand.

I. Systematic Writing

CHAPTER I : Introduction, contain of reasons for selecting the title, research purposes, background, research question, theoretical framework, hypothesis, writing method, systematic writing.

CHAPTER II : The Development of HIV in Thailand, this chapter will explain more about development of HIV/AIDS case in Thailand.

CHAPTER III : International Networking of EMPOWER Foundation, this chapter will explain about EMPOWER Foundation, their programs, and their International Networking, such as UNAIDS, UNDP, and many others.

CHAPTER IV : The Efforts of EMPOWER Foundation to Get International Networking in Alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand, This chapter will explain and mention about several action which done by EMPOWER Foundation in order to get International Networking in alleviating HIV/AIDS in Thailand.

CHAPTER V : Conclusion. This chapter will discuss the conclusions of an overall discussion on the previous chapters.