

งานวิจัย/การสำรวจ/ผลการศึกษา

หัวข้อ	รายละเอียด
ชื่อบทความวิจัย:	Illicit Drug Use and Social Victimization among Thai Sexual and Gender Minority Adolescents
ชื่องานวิจัย:	Thailand Review of Prevalence and Impact of Homophobic and Transphobic Bullying in Thai Educational Institutions
ชื่อผู้วิจัย:	รศ.ดร.โรมัส กวาดามูช
คณะ/สาขาวิชา:	หน่วยความเป็นเลิศด้านการวิจัยเพศภาวะ เพศวิถีและสุขภาพ
ที่มาและความสำคัญ:	<p>Prevalence of illicit drug use among Thai adolescents has nearly tripled over the past decade (Assanangkornchai, Pattanasattayawong, Samangsri, & Mukthong, 2007; Devaney et al., 2007; Pengpid & Peltzer, 2013; Pengpid & Peltzer, 2013; Ruangkanchanasetr, Plitponkarnpim, Hetrakul, & Kongsakon, 2005). This is an urgent public health crisis because illicit drug use during adolescence predicts a range of concurrent and subsequent social vulnerabilities and health burden including depressive disorders, suicidal risk, sexual risk behaviors, and educational and socioeconomic disadvantages (Chesney, Barrett, & Stall, 1998; Degenhardt et al., 2011; Devaney et al., 2007; Flisher, Parry, Evans, Muller, & Lombard, 2003; Hopfer, Tan, & Wylie, 2014; Whiteford, Degenhardt, Murray, Vos, & Lopez, 2014). Recent studies suggest that intervention to reduce illicit drug use targeting school-attending youths would be more effective, when coupled with reduction of peer victimization, particularly on reducing the disparity of drug use among heterosexual and non-heterosexual adolescents (Pengpid & Peltzer, 2013; Rosario et al., 2014; Tharp-Taylor, Haviland, & D'Amico, 2009). However, it is still unclear whether reduction of peer victimization in general, as opposed to reduction of sexual and gender minority (SGM)-based victimization in particular, can reduce the disparity of illicit drug use among SGM adolescents (Goldbach, Tanner-Smith, Bagwell, & Dunlap, 2014).</p> <p>Studies have shown that illicit drug use in youths is substantially higher among SGM groups (Goldbach et al., 2014; Hopfer, Tan, & Wylie, 2014; Marshal, Friedman, Stall, & Thompson, 2009; Marshall & Werb, 2010). The excess prevalence of substance use among SGM youth is associated with elevated exposures to SGM-specific prejudice and victimizing experiences (Goldbach et al., 2014). However, there is scarce evidence to support this early disparity on drug</p>

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	<p>use by SGM populations and its linkage to SGM-specific victimization, particularly in lower- and middle-income countries (Van Griensven et al., 2004; Wei, Guadamuz, Lim, Huang, & Koe, 2012). To our knowledge, among the few studies focused on illicit drug use among younger age groups in Thailand (Assanangkornchai et al., 2007; Pengpid & Peltzer, 2013; Ruangkanchanasetr et al., 2005; Sherman et al., 2009), only one has examined illicit drug use by sexual minority status (Van Griensven et al., 2004). But none has explored the relationship between victimization experience and illicit drug use specifically among SGM youth.</p> <p>In Thailand, there are multiple sexual and gender identities; some are intertwined and complex (Gooren, Sungkaew, Giltay, & Guadamuz, 2015; Guadamuz et al., 2014; Jackson, 2011; Mahidol University, Plan International Thailand, UNESCO, 2014; Ojanen, 2009; Poompruek, Boonmongkon, & Guadamuz, 2014; Sinnott, 2004). For example, the identity tom refers to a butch lesbian, which denotes both a masculine gender identity and same-sex sexual attraction. Similarly, the term dee refers to a feminine lesbian. Our team was among the first to investigate and classify these diverse Thai SGM identities in both adolescent and adult populations (Ojanen, 2009; Mahidol University, Plan International Thailand, UNESCO, 2014).</p> <p>In this article, we aimed to characterize the patterns and correlates of illicit substance use by non-SGM and SGM Thai adolescents. We hypothesized that SGM-based peer victimization is significantly associated with illicit drug use. In addition, there is emerging evidence that gender or sexual identities alone do not capture the full spectrum of SGM individuals (Brewster & Tillman, 2012). Therefore, utilizing a more nuanced measurement on sexual attraction, we hypothesized that Thai youth who are SGM-identified and those with same-sex attraction only would have similar patterns of illicit drug use; but when compared to non-SGM youth, both groups of SGM youth would have higher odds of illicit drug use than non-SGM youth.</p>
ขอบเขตพื้นที่การศึกษา:	<p>We conducted a school-based national survey among students grades 7–12 (aged 13–20 years) from 15 secondary schools (n = 2,070) around Thailand. We classified adolescents with same-sex attraction, sexual or gender non-conforming identities as SGM. Generalized estimating equations were used to estimate the odds of illicit drug use by SGM and non-SGM status.</p>

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วัตถุประสงค์:	We examined the prevalence of lifetime illicit drug use and social victimization, and their association, among sexual and gender minority (SGM) and non-SGM Thai adolescents.
แหล่งทุนสนับสนุน:	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
หน่วยงานที่ร่วมมือ:	15 secondary schools around Thailand
ผู้มีส่วนได้ส่วนเสีย:	-
ระดับความร่วมมือ:	นานาชาติ
ผลลัพธ์ที่นำไปใช้ประโยชน์ต่อ:	<p>The present study, for the first time, utilized a diverse classification of Thai sexual and gender identities, coupled with same-sex attraction, to examine lifetime prevalence of illicit drug use among secondary school-attending Thai adolescents. We found that SGM youths had more than two-fold higher odds of illicit drug use, compared to non-SGM youths. And although SGM-identified youths had twice the odds of SGM-based social victimization, compared with adolescents with same-sex attraction, the two groups did not differ on burden of illicit drug use. Similarly, Brewster and Tillman (2012) found that among adolescent sexual minorities, those who identified as SGM had similar prevalence of substance use than those with same-sex attraction and/or sexual contact only. Collectively, this evidence supports the psychosexual development perspective, which proposed that SGM identity formation follows the development of sexual attraction (Rosario et al., 1996). Future studies should investigate the trajectories of sexual and gender attraction and identity development during adolescence, and explore the contextual and resilient factors that may mitigate the negative social consequences associated with SGM identity formation (Herrick et al., 2011).</p> <p>In addition, we illustrated that risk factors for drug use differed significantly across non-SGM and SGM adolescents. Pengpid and Peltzer (2013) found that school truancy and having had sexual experiences were associated with higher prevalence of illicit drug use. We found similar association between truancy, sexual intercourse experience and illicit drug use among non-SGM adolescents. However, among SGM adolescents, illicit drug use was also associated with adverse mental health outcomes, including depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation. First, this evidence suggests that existing programs focused on addressing risk factors of illicit drug use among heterosexual and gender-conforming adolescents may not benefit non-heterosexual and non-gender-conforming adolescents. Second, it demonstrated the universality of multiple co-occurring psychosocial adversities faced by SGM adolescents referred to as syndemics</p>

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	<p>(Guadamuz et al., 2013; Mustanski, Andrews, Herrick, Stall, & Schnarrs, 2014), and highlighted the urgent need for comprehensive and tailored health services for SGM youths in Thailand (Mayer, Garofalo, & Makadon, 2014). Third, we found that SGM related victimization, but not general victimization, was associated with illicit drug use among SGM adolescents. A meta-analysis found a stronger association between general victimization on substance use than LGBT-based victimization among sexual minority adolescents (Goldbach et al., 2014). Our results therefore provide further support (Rosario et al., 2014) that these reviewed studies using general measures of victimization may not have adequately captured SGM-based victimization.</p> <p>Results of our study should be interpreted in light of the following limitations. Due to the lack of temporal sequence of our cross-sectional design, illicit drug use could have preceded victimization and the development of identity and sexual attraction and other covariates included, however, the majority of cohort studies do not support these reverse pathways (Bogart et al., 2014; Goldbach et al., 2014; Marshal et al., 2008). We acknowledge potential information bias on reporting sensitive information such as SGM attraction and identities, illicit drug use and victimization, however, the use of computer-assisted self-administered survey and multiple reminders of anonymity may have minimized this bias (Ojanen et al., 2014; Van Griensven et al., 2001). The low reporting of illicit drug use among adolescents in this study may limit potential generalizability. Additionally, we used three single-item questions to assess social victimization that have not been validated. We acknowledge that thoroughly validated scales may have higher reliability and validity in the statistical sense than concise scales (like ours). That said, many large-scale studies (e.g., HBSC, EU Kids Online, TIMMS) routinely inquire about bullying, cyberbullying, or aggression experiences using single-item measurements, and data gained from these measurements are reported in the research literature despite the limitations of the measurement strategy. In our case, we conducted a qualitative pilot test of our measurement to ensure that the three single-item measurements were culturally relevant types of social victimization in the Thai context, and easily understood by our pilot testers, who were equivalent in their characteristics to those who completed the actual survey. Finally, our sample was limited to only secondary school-attending Thai adolescents, and therefore, results may not be generalizable to all Thai adolescents, particularly those who were institutionalized, attending vocational</p>

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	<p>schools, dropped out of school or were absent at the day the survey was implemented. For example, students who had high truancy levels, and so may not be included in the study, may potentially contribute to selection bias.</p> <p>Despite these limitations, our study has important implications. Firstly, we found that illicit drug use is indicative of higher burdens of depressive symptomology and suicidal thoughts among SGM adolescents, but not among non-SGM adolescents. Educators and mental health professionals in Thailand should provide timely screening and referral to appropriate services for SGM adolescents. Secondly, we demonstrated the application of a nuanced and culturally sensitive approach in categorizing SGM adolescents in Asia (Brewster & Tillman, 2012; Friedman et al., 2011; Rosario et al., 2014). This implies that existing research and services focused on adolescent's self-identities and particularly those based on western contexts (gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender identities) may not sufficiently identify the full spectrum of SGM adolescents. Further, our study demonstrated that including SGM students under 18 years in surveys is possible when studies are conducted in schools and allow proxy permission by homeroom teachers. Sometimes SGM students under 18 years are reluctant to participate in research studies in which guardian permission is required. By having homeroom teachers provide proxy permission, SGM students are able to participate in SGM-related research studies. We have previously showed through a qualitative study with Thai parents of students under 18 years that guardians are willing to waive permission for their children to participate in research studies if the said studies are conducted on school grounds and with permission by school teachers (Guadamuz, Goldsamt, & Boonmongkon, 2015). Lastly, we confirmed previous findings from other countries that SGM-based social victimization is associated with illicit drug use, further strengthening this evidence, particularly from a middle-income country in Asia. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has been bringing worldwide attention to this issue and has been working to decrease LGBT-based bullying victimization in schools. However, these efforts require responsive and dedicated efforts from local governments such as the ministries of education and ministries of health so that preventive intervention programs are implemented, targeted, culturally sensitive, sustainable and galvanize the dignity of young individuals (Goldbach et al., 2014; Rosario et al., 2014).</p>

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Web link อ้างอิงการดำเนินงาน:	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10826084.2019.1638936
รูปภาพประกอบ:	-
SDG goal ที่เกี่ยวข้อง:	<p>5. บรรลุความเสมอภาคระหว่างเพศและให้อำนาจของผู้หญิงและเด็กหญิงทุกคน (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls)</p> <p>16. ส่งเสริมสังคมที่สงบสุขและครอบคลุม เพื่อการพัฒนาที่ยั่งยืน ให้ทุกคนเข้าถึงความยุติธรรม และสร้างสถาบันที่มีประสิทธิภาพ รับผิดชอบ และครอบคลุมในทุกกระดับ (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels)</p>