

The Case of Gender Empowerment & the Model Law in Combating Violence Against Women

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UN – Millennium Development Goals – 8
Among the 8 goals to be achieved in 2015,
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and
empower women, is the important one
that member states and partner agreed
to achieve.

Gender empowerment, particularly women,
has been taken into action in many
countries, such as Thailand.

Gender Equity is one of the main items that countries take into account by all parties, Government, Parliament, Judicial branches and NGOs

Thailand has included this item in our latest Constitution B.E. 2553 (2007) at least in 10 articles: 30, 40, 52, 80,81, 84, 87, 97, 114 and 152 from total of 309 articles.

Just some examples:

Part 2 Equality

Section 30. All persons are equal before the law and shall enjoy equal protection under the law.

- Men and women shall enjoy equal rights.
- Unjust discrimination against a person on the grounds of the difference in origin, race, language, **sex**, age, disability, physical or health condition, personal status, economic or social standing, religious belief, education or constitutionally political view, shall not be permitted.
- Measures determined by the State in order to eliminate obstacle to or promote persons' ability to exercise their rights and liberties as other persons shall not be deemed as unjust discrimination under paragraph three.

Part 4 Rights in Judicial Process

- **Section 40.** A person shall have the rights in judicial process as follows:
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 - (6) every child, youth, woman or aging or disabled person shall have the right to appropriate protection in judicial process and shall have the right to appropriate treatment in the case related to sexual offences;
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- **Part 9 Rights to Public Health Services and Welfare**

Section 52. Children and youth shall enjoy the right to survive and to receive physical, mental and intellectual development potentially in suitable environment with due regard to their participation.

Children, youth, *women* and family members shall have the right to be **protected by State against violence** and unfair treatment and shall have the right to medical treatment or rehabilitation upon the occurrence thereof.

New Law on Title of Women Name B.E. 2551

- Woman shall have the right to use any title and/or surname of her own or husband after married.

Empowerment of women

- Drafting and implementing the laws
- Launching campaign using white ribbon symbol,
- Organizing seminar, education programs, etc
- Involving many agencies and organization i.e. Governmental agencies, Non-governmental organizations and Civil Society.
- Promoting role models and leaders.

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Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol, daughter of Thailand's Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, who graduated with Ph.D. in Law from Cornell University Accepted the invitation and signed on to UNIFEM's "SAY NO" to Violence against Women campaign at an official ceremony on 5 September to mark her designation as UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador in Thailand.

Model Law in Combating Violence Against Women

- Domestic Violence Victim Protection Act B.E. 2550 (2007) which is effective since 12 November 2007
- The existing Criminal Law

Roles of various concerning parties:

- **Stakeholders include individual, family, community, civil society, governmental agencies and NGOs.**

In particular;

- **Parliamentarians have crucial roles to play in:**
 - Drafting, amending, implementing laws
 - Inspecting, monitoring, and intervening
 - Raising their voice and opinion in the parliament on the concerning issues.
 - Considering and approving the budget to be sufficiently allocated.
 - Making recommendations to governments, particularly the G8/G20 countries to make more contributions.

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**Statement of Commitment Arising from the
Asia-Pacific Parliamentarians' Meeting on Engaging Men
in Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls**

Thank you
ขอบคุณครับ

