

**Health protecting of non-smokers: A case study of non-smoking and smoking areas in Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University**

Satid Jumrearn  
Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University  
Email: satidjum@gmail.com

— *Review of* —  
**Integrative  
Business &  
Economics**  
— *Research* —

**ABSTRACT**

This research aims to explore non-smoking and smoking areas in Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University and to investigate the Law of health protection of non-smokers in the scope of smoking areas of 32 buildings around the Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University. The researcher collected data of non-smoking areas from 32 buildings around the university by surveying. This research also included studying the Law of health protection of non-smokers which related to designation of non-smoking and smoking areas from both the Act that announcing by Ministry of Public Health and the university's announcement.

The results showed that Building 9<sup>th</sup> has the most non-smoking symbol which found 41 symbols from 15-storey building. According to the university's announcement of health protection of non-smokers and designation non-smoking areas, there aren't any signs of the 4 smoking areas. In addition, from investigating of Law of health protection of non-smokers and designation of non-smoking areas revealed that there are 9 relevant laws. The master is the Health Protection Act 1992 of Ministry of Public Health and subordinate law is the announcement of Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University about health protection of non-smokers and the designation of smoking area.

This study would be beneficial to the university in terms of policy determination to enforce the laws of health protection of non-smokers and to create awareness of students and staff to respect the rights of non-smokers. Furthermore, it would help in placing symbols of no smoking and smoking in appropriate places for campaigning to have smoking in provided places only. Also, the penalty imposed for the violation should be taking an action seriously. Finally, non-smokers should be educated to understand in their own rights of health protection of non-smokers by including in teaching and learning process, training, seminar, and public relations via several media in the university.

Keywords: Health protecting of non-smokers, non-smoking areas, smoking areas, Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University

**INTRODUCTION**

Non-smokers health protection Act B.E.2535, this act give precedence to protect citizen's health form the damage of smoking in public area, because of the fact that, smoking is harmful for both of smokers and non-smokers. There are many diseases from smoking such as lung cancer and coronary heart disease. Moreover, smoking also increase symptom of asthma and allergic. The Act specify the area for prohibit or allow to smoke for protect non-smokers health in public area. In addition, it also provide the conditions, nature and standard of non-smoking areas and smoking areas. Rules and procedures to show the symbol of the smoking areas and non-smoking areas and determining the penalty for people who avoid to obey the law are also provided by this law. Ministry of Public Health No.19, B.E.2553 allows the university, as a public place, designated any non-smoking areas in buildings but smoking areas can be placed outside the building.

Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University has announced: Announcement of Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University about health protection of non-smokers and the designation of smoking area, June 7, 2011. The University requires that all areas are non-smoking, except for the four areas designated as smoking. Any violation will be punished as student discipline, official disciplinary and the implementation of the law strictly.

Although there are non-smokers Health Protection Act of 2535, and the Ministry of Health, Announcement including Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University, but the problem of smoking in non-smoking areas (inside buildings), problem to smoking in designated smoking and non respect the rights of non-smokers. Researchers conducted a survey and find legal measures related to non-smoking areas and smoking areas. The results obtained to analyze problems and propose solutions to protect the health of non-smokers to be more effective.

### OBJECTIVE

1. To explore non-smoking areas and smoking areas in Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University
2. To investigate the law of health protection of non-smokers about non-smoking areas and smoking areas in Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University.

### METHODS

The researcher collected data of non-smoking areas from 32 buildings and smoking areas around the university by surveying. Using check list to show whether signs there are any non-smoking or smoking sign or not. This research also study the Law of health protection of non-smokers which related to designation of non-smoking and smoking areas from both to the Act that announcing by Ministry of Public Health and the university's announcement, that the laws are provide the seven issues or not. The results were analyzed by descriptive analysis.

### RESULT

The result of the survey shows the non-smoking symbol in building. There are 5 building with the most a lot of symbols, as follows building No.9, 5, 15, 29 and 33 which there are 41, 20, 18, 15 and 13 symbols respectively. The building No.3, 19, 20, 26 and food technology building don't show the non-smoking symbol. The result shows that there aren't smoking symbols in 4 provided smoking areas.

In addition, from investigating of Law of health protection of non-smokers and designation of non-smoking areas revealed that there are 9 relevant laws, from both the Act that announcing by Ministry of Public Health and the university's announcement as follows:

1. Non-smokers health protection Act B.E.2535
2. Ministry of Public Health No.8, B.E.2540
3. Ministry of Public Health No.9, B.E.2540
4. Ministry of Public Health No.19, B.E.2553
5. Ministry of Public Health B.E.2550: conditions and characteristics of the non-smoking area with non-smokers health protection Act B.E.2535
6. Ministry of Public Health No.11, B.E.2546
7. Ministry of Public Health: appoint competent for execution with non-smokers health protection Act B.E.2535
8. Ministry of Public Health: rules and procedures for the symbol show of the smoking areas and non-smoking areas B.E.2551
9. Announcement of Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University about health protection of non-smokers and the designation of smoking area, June 7, 2011

The survey legal issues investigate the Law of health protection of non-smokers about non-smoking areas and smoking areas, there are 7 issues, as follows: 1) Determine the name or type of a public place for health protection of non-smokers 2) smoking area 3) non-smoking area 4) conditions, characteristics and standard of the smoking area and non-smoking area about smoke and air ventilation 5) rules and procedures to show the symbol show of the smoking areas and non-smoking areas 6) Defining the powers and duties of the authorities 7) legal punishment, The result shows that Non-smokers health protection Act B.E.2535 have 7 issues because the Act is principle law. The Ministry of Public Health has variety issues according to the purpose of law because it is secondary legislation. Announcement of Nakhon Ratchasima

Rajabhat University about health protection of non-smokers and the designation of smoking area have 4 issues as follows 1) Determine the name or type of a public place for health protection of non-smokers 2) smoking area 3) non-smoking area 4) legal punishment, moreover it is specific legislation and enforced the university.

### DISCUSSION

Form result of the research title “Health protecting of non-smokers: A case study of non-smoking and smoking areas in Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University” can discuss the following. The result showed that 9<sup>th</sup> building where there are 15 storey, is found the most non-smoking symbol, 41 symbols, between each that means there are only 2-3 symbols in each floor. No.2, building 5 has 20 symbols for 5-storey building, which English Program is stayed, but the symbols are very old and not standard. No.3, building 15 has 18 symbols because this building is hotel. No.4, building 29 has 15 symbols for 8-storey building which Faculty of Industrial Technology is stayed. No.5, building 33 has 13 symbols because this building is Student Affairs and Cafeteria. Other buildings have fewer symbols, some there is only one. The building 3, 19, 20 don't show the non-smoking symbol because these are one-storey building. The building 26 and 40 don't show the non-smoking symbol because this building is Art Building. The food technology building don't shows the non-smoking symbol because this is Laboratory Building have a controlling clean and safety.

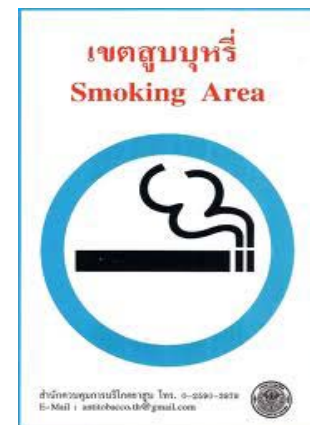
The university has a duty and have to label a greater number, to create awareness of students and staff to respect the rights of non-smokers and should campaign to smoke in provided places only. Furthermore, the university in terms of policy determination have to enforce the laws of health protection of non-smokers. Consistent with research Aim-orn Putipisitchet (1999) “Perception and behaviors Thai people toward smoking in the public place” found smokers extinguish cigarettes before entering the non-smoking area, before smoking then have to notice the non-smoking symbol and don't smoke the place that there are a lot of people because smokers to respect the rights of non-smokers.

The result of the survey shows that there are not any smoking symbols in 4 smoking areas. Ministry of Public Health No.8, B.E.2540, requires the university have to show the smoking symbol as presents in figure 1. Symbol has to be shown clearly at the smoking area or ingress, should be seat for smokers and shown direction signs.

From investigating of law of health protection of non-smokers and designation of non-smoking areas revealed that there are 9 relevant laws. The master is the Health Protection Act 1992 of Ministry of Public Health and subordinate law is the announcement of Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University about health protection of non-smokers and the designation of smoking area. The relationship between laws, the subordinate law is contrary or inconsistent with principle law. Even though there are many differ law, people, without knowledge of law, law enforcement is not fruitful. There are consistent with research of Jutarat Taimek, (1998) “Smoking behavior and opinions of Sirindhorn College of Public Health students Concerning Enforcements of non-smokers health protection Act, B.E. 2535” found the opinion of student about the causes of law enforcement's problem. The ignorance and lacking in knowledge of law are the causes of this problem. Non-smokers should be educated and realized in the rights of health protection of non-smokers by assembling in teaching and learning process, training, seminar and publicize in media.

For the studying in the law of health protection of non-smokers about non-smoking and smoking areas can be analyzing the legal problems as follows:

1. The university requires that all areas are non-smoking, except for the areas designated as smoking. Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University is public place, type 2 as



Ministry of Public Health No.19, B.E.2553, can determine the name or type of a public place for health protection of non-smokers.

2. The university have to show the sign of non-smoking and smoking by legitimate and enough. In order that it would be like campaign and preventing the smokers for go against. However, after surveying found the fact that, there are 4 smoking areas which without the sign and the sign of non-smoking area is not legitimate and enough. There are consistent with the research of Montah Khengkarnpanich, Lukana Termsirikulchai and Taraton Khengkarnpanich, (2005) "A situation of performance and opinions on Non-smokers health Protection Act, B.E.2535" The attitude of administrator and head of office with lawfulness, found, the units are non-smoking, but Management also incorrectly. Head of office assent the only non-smoking and smoking some particular, rather than provide a 100% non-smoking. Most personnel get to know about the Act and agreed with the Act. Also we want to the office is 100% non-smoking and the media is used to manage as decorate smoking area, set exhibition awareness, treatment courses and smoking cessation clinic. The university, in terms of policy determination, enforce the laws of health protection of non-smokers, development plan, make a manual, campaign and public relations via several media in the university.

3. The imposition and enforcement of penalties for the violation of the university. Article 3 that, any person who violates this announcement, we are punishment is student discipline, official disciplinary and the implementation of the law strictly. The punishment is nonviolent and not criminal penalties. The university will fix penalties and forcing penalty seriously. Are as follows, knowledge relating to the penalty, awareness in the practice of law, the teachers to practices as example and give the suggestion.

#### Suggestion

1. Policy: The university, in terms of policy determination, enforces the laws of health protection of non-smokers.

#### 2. Practical:

2.1 The university should provide some office to create awareness of students and staff to respect the rights of non-smokers. Furthermore, it would help in placing symbols of non-smoking and smoking in appropriate places for campaigning to have smoking in provided places only. Also, the penalty imposed for the violation should be taking an action seriously.

2.2 Non-smokers should be educated to understand in their own rights of health protection of non-smokers by including in teaching and learning process, training, seminar, and public relations via several media in the university.

#### 3. for next research as follows:

3.1 The research about attitude of administrator and head of office toward non-smoking area and smoking area in university.

3.2 The research about smoking behavior in office and opinions for non-smoking area and smoking area in university.

3.3 The research about smoking behavior of student and opinions for non-smoking area and smoking area in university.

3.4 The study to compare health protection of non-smokers in university around Nakhon Ratchasima province.

3.5 The study to make a manual and guidelines for non-smoking university. (White University)

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research was funded by Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nakhon Ratchasima Rajabhat University

### REFERENCES

- [1] Charmonman, Srisakdi. (2005). research result "Smoking behavior and Attitude towards non smoking school measure" . (Online). Available :

- <http://dental.anamai.moph.go.th/oralhealth/buree/newsupdate/news34.html> (4 November 2012).
- [2] Harapoom, Walittada. (2011). Smoking zone this areas should be reserve. (Online). Available : <http://www.thaihealth.or.th/healthcontent/article/22564> (1 November 2012).
- [3] Khengkarnpanich, Montah ; Termsirikulchai, Lukana and Khengkarnpanich, Taraton.(2005). A situation of performance and opinions on Non-smokers health Protection Act, B.E.2535. Bangkok : Thai Health Promotion Foundation.
- [4] Loyha, Yupin. (1995). Factors related to the attitude toward cigarette smoking and the 1992 Non-smoker's health protection Act, of Public Health and Police Officer in Ubonratchathani Province. Bangkok : National Institute of Development Administration.
- [5] Na Pompetch, Budsaya. (1996). A Study of Factors Concerning Smoking Behavior of Male Certificate Level Students in Vocational Colleges Underthe Jurisdiction of the Department of Vocational Education, Bangkok Metropolis. Master. Education (Audio-Visual Education), ChulalongkornUniversity, Bangkok : Graduate School.
- [6] National Statistical Office. (2012). Surveying on smoking behavior and alcoholconsumption of people A.D.2011. Bangkok : Text and general publicationco.ltd.
- [7] Preechawong, Sunida. (1992). Measure of law for guard the non-smoker's rights in attitude of medical, law and communication arts student. Bangkok : Mahidol University.
- [8] Prohmno, Aree. (2000). Behavior, opinions and beliefs to smoking of Thai adolescents. Bangkok : Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University.
- [9] Punsiri, Wattawadee. (1994). Factors that relate to smoking of Police in Muang,samutprakan Province.(Online). Available : <http://library.pi.ac.th/dublinfull.php?f=all&ID=11482> (18 December 2012).
- [10] Putipisitchet, Aim-orn. (1999). Perception and behaviors Thai people toward smoking in the public place. Bangkok : Thammasat University.
- [11] Suteephasert, Thanin. (2000). Factors that relate to smoking of Suphanburi Technical College student. Suphanburi : Suphanburi Public Health Office.
- [12] Taimek, Jutarat. (1998). Smoking behavior and opinions of Sirindhorn College of Public Health students Concerning Enforcements of non-smokers health protection Act, B.E. 2535, Master. Science (Medical Law and Public Health), Mahidol University. Bangkok : Graduate School.
- [13] Thai Health Promotion Foundation. (2010). Secondhand smoke, danger from non-smoking. (Online). Available : <http://www.thaihealth.or.th/node/4303> (12 November 2012).
- [14] Tobacco Control Research and Knowledge management Centre. (2011). The minuteof academic meeting The 10th nation smoking and health "FCTC of nonsmoking in Thai society" between 25th -26th August, 2012, Miracle Grand Convention Hotel. Bangkok : Jaroenmungkundee Press.
- [15] Tumpoo, Nat. (2009). Smoking damage health. (Online). Available : [http://www.thaihealth.or.th/healthcontent/special\\_report/11803](http://www.thaihealth.or.th/healthcontent/special_report/11803)(11 November 2012)