THEMATIC TITLE LEGAL PROBLEMS OF LIBERTY OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

**KEYWORD** SEXUAL HARASSMENT / STALKING / INTIMIDATION

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## **ABSTRACT**

Provisions of Penal Code relating to sexual liability criminalize only direct actions against survivor's body; however, the acts of sexual harassment also appear in other courses of conduct. There is not explicit definition for comprehending extent of sexual harassment by law, although an amendment to Section 397 of Penal Code covers the acts of sexual harassment to be an offense. Where an act of intimidation involved therein elements of offense against liberty is not completed, but it is merely a petty offense under Penal Code. As a result, its penalty is not relevant to deter such acts and social prevention. In addition, in some cases, there is still lack of other proper legal measures to prevent any prospective detriment; therefore, law enforcement is inefficient such as to impose upon the perpetrator a mandatory participation in mental health assessment.

The study finds foreign law contains definite definition of the acts of sexual harassment. Its penalty is imposed on an offense to the acts of sexual harassment that includes an act of intimidation, as provided specifically in foreign law as the stalking offense in appropriate and proportionate manner in connection with detriment likely arisen by such act. Besides, other legal measures are inclusive. These bring about efficient law enforcement and can be guided to improve Thai law which deserves additional revision in line with current nature of problems.

The researcher suggests certain solutions in case of sexual harassment by stalking, causing distress or annoyance and intimidation, by revision of Thai law that should provide a definite

definition of the acts of sexual harassment in benefit of law enforcement covering every form of the acts. Moreover, for social prevention, penalty should be imposed upon such detrimental acts that include an act of intimidation to survivor in order to be appropriate with their nature and dangerous result. In addition, means for safety or other legal measure should be added and implemented for more appropriate and efficient enforcement.