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ANTH 302-02 Gender and Culture

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Poster Summary

LGBTQ Culture in Thailand

**Introduction**

Thailand is The most popular tour around the world to visit, and the one popular reason that attracting people's inquisitively is Ladyboys or Kathoey, refers to transgender women, usually in Thailand but the term is also used in the Philippines, and to a lesser extent in other parts of Southeast Asia such as Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. The term is rarely employed outside Asia, though it is also used to refer to transgender Asian women in Western countries. Phuket province is the south of Thailand which is a favorite destination of many tourists who are all looking for the tropical offered by Thailand as they escape the cold weather in their countries.

**Ladyboy Cabaret show**

The show is a tourism product which plays an important role in inducing tourists to visit Phuket province. Most Thai population believe in Buddhist culture, which places a high value on tolerance. They believe that being a ladyboy is the result of transgressions in past lives. There has a lot of tourism activities like beach activities at Patong Beach and Phang Nga Bay, sightseeing in Sino-Portuguese splendor shops, or enjoying the nightlife with the Ladyboy Cabaret Show. So Ladyboy Cabaret Show is a tourism product which plays an important role in inducing tourists to visit Phuket province and should be arranged and managed appropriately. In terms of tourism, the Ladyboy Cabaret Show market is widely well-known and prominent and has the potential for a tourism market in Phuket province. It seems that the entertainment industry plays an important role in enhancing tourism in this province. On the other hand, Ladyboy Cabaret Show seems to be a tourism product filled with colorful performances, skillful dancers, and others. Tourists formulate images of alternative destinations, so image also emerges as a critical element in the destination choice process. This is consistent with the notion that information sources and the attributes of the different destinations form the basis for different image and experience expectations.

**Beautiful Boxer**

The true story of trans-athletes, a trans-woman fight-boxer, the need for the improvement in the perceptions of the society towards her to be able to recognize their identity. Parinya Charoenpho, he bought by his way to attaining success in Thai Boxing, even he's questioned about their competitiveness. Beautiful Boxer film comes from his life true story is very successful and stunning. A film, Beautiful Boxer has been taken up for the study which

intends to analyze the above-stated issues in a very detailed manner through the life of Parinya Charoenphol, a trans-woman fight-boxer. The research thereby showcases male-centric societies and the adversities of these trans-athletes that the research becomes useful to portray the lives of the trans-athletes and the need for the improvement in the perceptions of the society towards the trans-athletes to be able to recognize their identity as one amongst them. The extraordinary struggles to actualize female selfhood and de-masculinize any sport are the core issue of focus as seen in the movie. Muai Thai, a fight-boxing sport is seen as a masculine sport and the challenge by some feminine fighters makes it more interesting. The participation of transgender individuals in sports events requires confinement either to the female or the male category indicating no gender category of their own as portrayed by Asanee Suwan in the movie, Beautiful Boxer resulting in the loss of queer identity as a dominant gender identity.

**The Iron Ladies**

One of the successful gay films in Thailand and internationally. It depicts the various homosexual factions in Thai culture, particularly of the Kathoey film. The film is based on real events in 1996 the male team that won the Thai national championship of volleyball was almost completely integrated by gays, transvestites, and transsexuals. The film also reflects another problem facing transsexuals: Thai legislation officially bans the sex change, in the birth certificate and the passport, for that reason a big number of kathoeys go abroad to acquire a passport in which their sex change is recorded. Another common gay problem in Thailand is that homosexual men, for fear of social criticism and rejection or due to family pressure, marry women with whom they maintain a normal life while hiding their homosexuality. It happens to the Chinese member of the team in the film. some of these films help the audience think or understand the different issues related to gender or homoeroticism; and, at the same time, gay viewers can see some positive images of homosexuals in contrast with the negative images they have to suffer daily, due to the institutionalization of certain stereotypes in Thai society.

**Conclusion**

The significant point of this post is sharing some LGBTQ Culture in Thailand to more and more people familiar with them, especially “Kathoey”, the Ladyboys who have important social relevance in Thai society. the group of homosexuality by looking for a different way through religion, Thai society, and Thai comedy films. However, both pre-operative and post-operative Ladyboys can work in girl bars with other women or as independent freelancers on the street. This creates a great deal of anxiety among male sex tourists who are repulsed by the idea of having sex with another “man.” Such men will often pass on tips to other foreigners for signs of someone being a ladyboy.

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