



មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលខេមរសិក្សា
The Center for Khmer Studies

បឋកថាដំបូង ជាសាធារណៈ
Lecture Series Phnom Penh

**Trafficking and Protection: Two Reintegrative Pathways
for Sexualized Cambodian Young Women**

Summary:

- Our conceptions of reintegration can distract us from local context/realities.
- Dually constructed of procedural and substantive elements
- It is critical to understand how integration occurs substantively.

Two recognitional pathways

- Traditional integration is related to the performance of social role and the attainment of recognition in the form of love and honour.
- Modern integration is related to the realization of individual identity and the attainment of recognition in the forms of love, respect and esteem as necessary for of self-confidence, self-respect and self-esteem, and the maintenance of personal autonomy. Modern integration was aided by rights & reflexivity.

Overview

- Context
- Research question
- Methodology & Theory
- Ethics, sampling, & safety
- Findings
- Implications

Reintegration

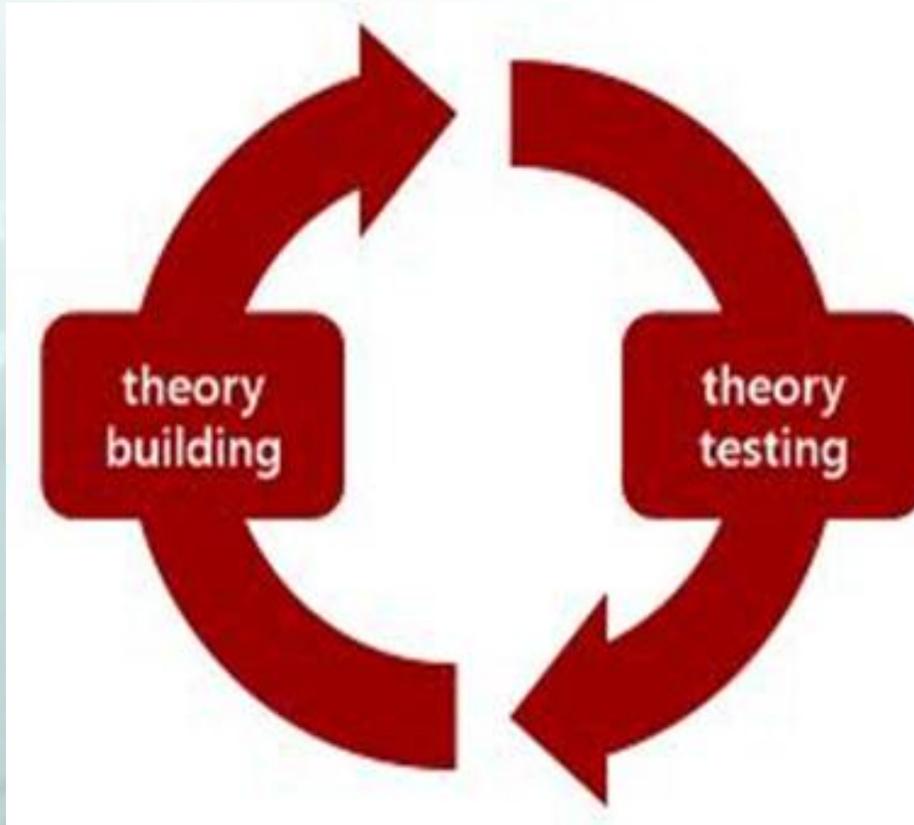
“Reintegration: The process of inclusion and rebuilding of relationships within a community in the country of origin at four levels: physical, socio-economic, socio-political, and cultural;

Reintegration Assistance: The provision of comprehensive programmes designed to re-integrate victims of trafficking into society, including through actively preventing stigmatization, job training, legal assistance and health care and by making measures to co-operate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims” (TAF, 2005, 6).

How do Khmer young women...

- (a) construct ideas related to successful reintegration; and,
- (b) who/what are the people, processes, and mechanisms important to achieving this success (and conversely what are the primary constraints); and,
- (c) amongst these people, and related groups and institutions identified as important, how are conceptions of 'successful reintegration' constructed and practiced?

Grounded Theory Methodology



Ethics

- Deakin University Higher Research Ethics Committee
- Cambodian National Ethics Committee for Health Research
- Secretary of State and Chair of the National Committee Secretariat for Suppression of Human Trafficking, Smuggling, Labor and Sexual exploitation (National Committee);
- Ministry of Women's Affairs;
- National Program of Mental Health.
- Child Affairs and Protection Working Group (National Committee sub group) identified eight 'best providers' of reintegration assistance.

Sampling, safety and sensitivity

- Four undisclosed NGOs provided a sample of 200 young women ‘successfully reintegrated’ and others important to their reintegration.
- NGO invitation to participate, followed up by translator and researcher.
- Introduction & invitation to consent. Generic plain language statement provided containing real phone number for counseling support if required. A fuller description provided to non-client participants.
- A focus upon perceptions of success with opportunity to reflect and volunteer one’s experiences that lead to the shelter and constraints to reintegration.
- **Role of the female translator**

Limitations

- The focus is upon ‘successfully reintegrated’ young women; it was undertaken with relatively well funded NGOs undertaking best practice work.
- The model developed would benefit from exposure to structured forms of consultation, with recipients and practitioners of assistance. The benchmarks might be used to guide the development and testing of specific tools suitable for the monitoring and evaluation of assistance.

Qualitative Interviews

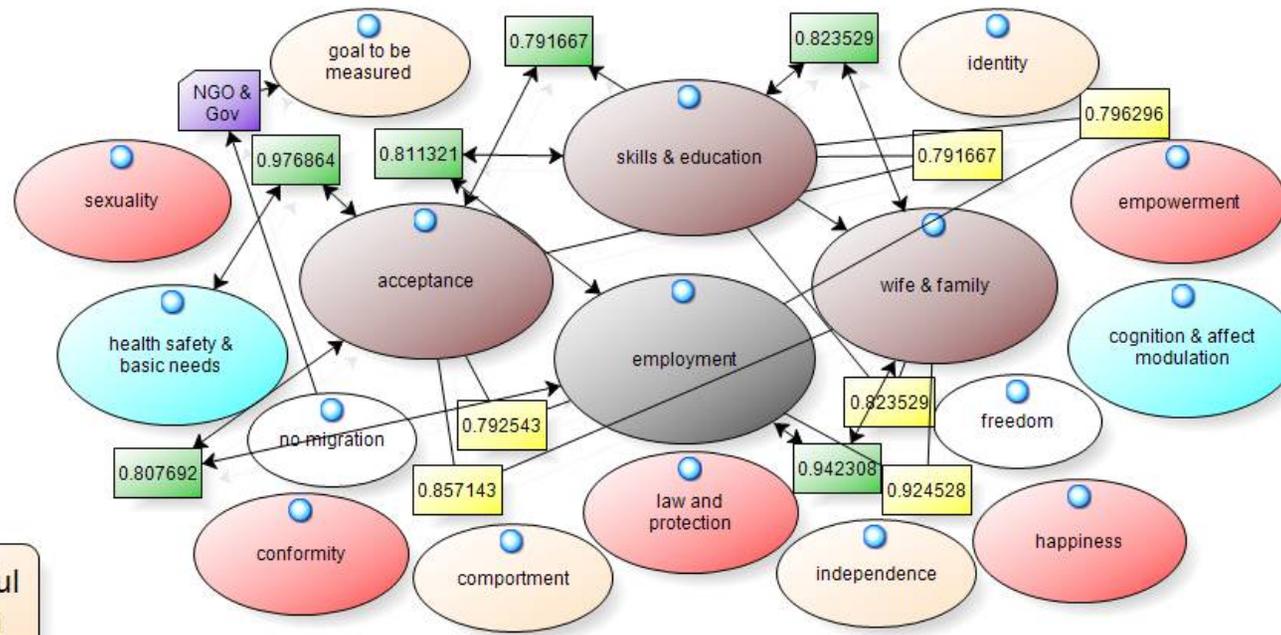
- Twenty-five interviews with young women
 - (1) of Khmer ethnicity and aged 18 – 25 years of age;
 - (2) sexually abused or sexually exploited as children or youth through rape or trafficking;
 - (3) having spent time in residential care services;
 - (4) and identified as ‘successfully reintegrated’

- Twenty-eight interviews with others from the field including family members (n=7) NGO staff (n=16), social enterprise managers (n = 2) and government authorities (n=3).

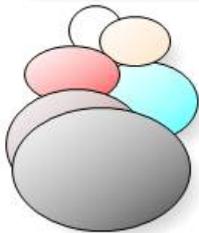
Sample Characteristics: Young Khmer Women Successfully Reintegrated

<i>Average length of interviews</i>	<i>85mins</i>	<i>(n = 25)</i>
<i>Identified as victim of rape / sexual abuse (r)</i>	<i>13</i>	
<i>Identified as victim of sex trafficking (t)</i>	<i>12</i>	
<i>Age</i>	<i>21yrs</i>	<i>(n = 25)</i>
<i>Age at rape / sexual abuse</i>	<i>14.8yrs</i>	<i>(n = 11)</i>
<i>Age at trafficking / sexual exploitation</i>	<i>15.3yrs</i>	<i>(n = 11)</i>
<i>Married</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>(r=4, t=3)</i>
<i>Separated</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>(r=2, t=1)</i>
<i>Children</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>(r=8, t=2)</i>
<i>Estimated months in shelter care (n=22)</i>	<i>21.78</i>	<i>(r=20.7, t=23)</i>
<i>Average no. months reintegrated (n=22)</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>(r=45, t=25)</i>
<i>Reintegrated to former home or community</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>(r=7, t=4)</i>
<i>Integrated to a new home or community</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>(r=6, t=8)</i>
<i>Urban reintegration</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>(r=7, t=9)</i>
<i>Rural reintegration</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>(r=6, t=3)</i>
<i>Stable employment (x3@school, x1 housewife by choice, x2 unemployed)</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>(r=9, t=9)</i>
<i>Presently have stable accommodation</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>(r=13, t=10)</i>

Conceptions of success



Key: Successful Reintegration



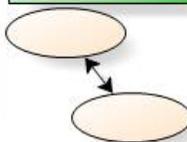
Depth of colour & size of sphere indicative of number of respondents
 Darkest / Grande < 50 sources
 Dark / Larger < 40 sources
 Aqua / Large < 30 sources
 Red / Medium < 20 sources
 Bisque / Small < 10 sources
 White / Smallest < 5 sources

Jaccard's coefficient



Top six nodal associations generated by coding similarity

Pearson correlation coefficient



Top six nodal associations generated by word similarity

NGO & Gov

Nodes developed from responses exclusive to NGO & Gov participants

Nodes Clustered by Word similarity



Reintegrative success





Traditional reintegration

Honour

Traditional role

Love

Comportment

Sexuality

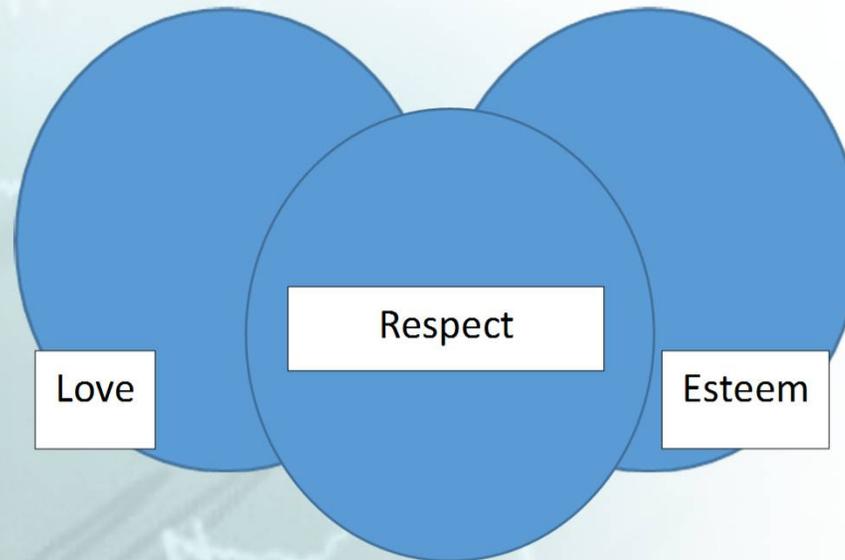
Industrious





Modern reintegration

Individual identity



Rights



Reflexivity

Findings and Implications:

- Social exclusion is the primary problem
- Reintegration is both Procedural and Substantive.
- The Procedural delivery of assistance was led by Western legal VS traditional Khmer approaches
- A third therapeutic approach, produced dramatic effects: freed from their traditional roles, the recipients were reborn as individuals.

Two reintegrative pathways

Thank you

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