Abstract

This praxis project explores alternative community-led justice mechanisms by creating a digital zine, The Blooming Justice, to document how Burmese women, feminist actors, and LGBTQ+ communities in Thai-Myanmar border respond to sexual harassment in the absence of formal legal systems. Drawing on 14 semi-structured interviews with Burmese women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and activists in Thailand (Chiang Mai and Mae Sot), the project uses creative storytelling to amplify silenced voices and highlight how survivors reclaim justice through transformative practices such as naming, shaming, and collective accountability. The zine incorporates multiple forms of expression—including testimonies, poems, quotes, pod mapping, and open-ended questions—to both record lived experiences and engage readers in imagining sustainable solutions for holding perpetrators accountable.

The findings emphasize three recurring themes within the Myanmar exile context: the role of gendered power dynamics, the impact of silence and retaliation, and the influence of cultural and social norms. By reframing justice beyond state-centered frameworks, this project contributes to feminist and human rights discourses while centering survivor dignity, resilience, and solidarity.

Keywords: Myanmar, Transformative justice, justice in exile, alternative justice, community-led approach, sexual harassment, survivor-centered, community accountability