

# **THE CONTRIBUTION OF THAI WOMEN ASSISTING THAI WOMEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN EUROPE**

An Abstract of the Thesis By

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The aim of this study is to 1) explore the role of Thai women who assist Thai women in Europe who have experienced intimate-partner violence and to 2) examine how Thai women's participation in organizations that assist Thai women empowers them to exert agency in their experiences of intimate partner violence. Interviews were conducted with four Thai women (translators and social workers) who assist Thai women who have experienced intimate partner violence in Europe. The findings from these interviews indicate that these Thai women, in their roles as interpreters and social workers, fill a unique role in educating Thai women in Europe on their rights, providing a bridge to social services, creating a social support network, and engaging in advocacy. The interviews revealed the necessity of these networks to Thai women in Europe and the need to consider their agency within the framework of these support networks.