

CHAPTER 18

Sociocultural Context of Health among Kathoey (Transwomen) and Female Sex Workers in Bangkok, Thailand

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SUMMARY

Although prostitution is illegal in Thailand, a number of *kathoey* (male-to-female transgender women) and women engage in sex work mainly for economic reasons. Both *kathoey* sex workers (KSW) and female sex workers (FSWs) face health risks, such as sexually transmitted infections (STIs), substance abuse, and violence; however, risk behaviors and surrounding environmental and sociocultural contexts significantly differ.

KEY TERMS

female sex worker; *kathoey*; sex work; Thailand; transwomen

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