

Supplementary Materials: Data Collection Instruments and Archival Search Terms

This document provides the data-collection instruments and archival search terms underpinning the study Cold War Legacies and the Intergenerational Transmission of Female Poverty in Mainland Southeast Asia. These materials enable verification of the methodological framework and the historical analysis presented in the article.

1. Interview and Focus Group Topic Guides

1.1 Topic Guide for In-Depth Interviews with Female Sex Workers (Sadao, Thailand, 2007)

Note: This guide structured the fluid oral history method described in Section 3.2 (Thailand case) and the analysis in Section 4.1.

Family History: Mother's and grandmother's employment sectors, migration history, family economic background.

Migration Trajectory: Age at first migration, key locations (home province, Bangkok, Hat Yai, Sadao), drivers of relocation (economic necessity, network ties).

Occupational Entry: Pathways into entertainment and sex work, role of family members or community networks in facilitating entry.

Work Conditions and Mobility: Duration in current location, patterns of return migration, income management.

Intergenerational Aspirations: Plans for children's education and employment, perceived barriers to intergenerational mobility.

1.2 Question Domains for Structured Survey (Savannakhet, Laos, 2010s)

Note: Drawn from the mixed-methods study by Phrasisombath et al. (2012; PhD dissertation, Karolinska Institutet), described in Section 3.2 (Laos case) and analysis in Section 4.2.

Socio-demographics: Age, ethnicity, education level, province of origin, marital status, number of children.

Economic Drivers: Primary motivation for current work (pre-coded options included: “family duty,” “support parents,” “fund sibling’s education,” “own survival”), income levels, debt.

Healthcare Access: Time from symptom onset to first treatment-seeking, types of providers consulted, perceived barriers (cost, stigma, distance), self-reported reproductive health outcomes.

Work Environment: Location type, duration in sector, prior occupation, contact with outreach services.

1.3 Topic Guide for In-Depth Interviews (Savannakhet, Laos, 2010s)

Perceptions of Health and Illness: Definitions of “serious” symptoms, decision-making process for seeking care.

Stigma and Coping: Experiences of discrimination, strategies for concealment or management of identity.

Family Obligation: Detailed financial relationships with family of origin, narratives of sacrifice, future economic plans.

1.4 Focus Group Topic Guide (Savannakhet, Laos, 2010s)

Work Environment Risk Perceptions: Collective views on occupational health risks.

Barriers to Services: Shared experiences navigating the healthcare system.

Coping Strategies: Community-level networks of support.

2. Archival Search Terms for Historical Documentary Analysis

The following search terms and repository-specific strategies were employed to identify documents establishing the temporal priority of Cold War interventions, as detailed in Section 3.3.

ProQuest History Vault (US State Department Central Files, Asia, 1960–1969)

Search terms: “Thailand” AND “entertainment establishments”; “women” AND “military bases”; “Udon Thani” AND “social conditions”; “rest and recreation” AND “Bangkok”; “northern provinces” AND “employment.”

Target files: “Thailand: Internal Affairs, 1960–1969,” Folder: “Social Conditions.”

Arizona State University, William W. Sage Collection on Laos

Search terms: “Muong Phieng” AND “women”; “Xieng Khouang” AND “Pathet Lao” AND “women”; “female literacy” AND “Laos”; “agricultural cooperatives” AND “women”; “handicraft” AND “Laos.”

Target boxes: Box 12 (Development and Aid), Box 15 (Pathet Lao Programs).

Texas Tech University, Vietnam Center and Sam Johnson Vietnam Archive

Search terms: “Vietnam Women’s Union” AND “mobilization”; “IVth Congress” AND “Vietnamese Women”; “doi moi” AND “women”; “renovation” AND “gender.”

Target collection: Vietnam Women’s Union Collection, Box 1.

Alexander Street Press (Linda Fink Personal Collection)

Search terms: “Linda Fink” AND “Laos”; “International Voluntary Services” AND “Song Hong”; “handicraft” AND “women” AND “Vientiane.”

Target document: Document ID: 1008463841.

3. Variable Details for VHLSS Analysis

As stated in Section 4.3, the Vietnam Household Living Standards Survey (VHLSS) data were used to track outcomes across generations of state-owned enterprise (SOE) workers. We analyzed the following indicators:

Primary outcome variables: Years of schooling completed (children and grandchildren); stunting rates (height-for-age z-scores for grandchildren under 5); household poverty status.

Primary predictor variables: Maternal SOE employment status (binary: worker vs. non-worker); sex of SOE worker (female vs. male); household headship type (female-headed vs. male-headed).

Data transformations: Intergenerational matching was performed by linking household rosters across 1990s–2010s survey waves to create three-generation panels. Wage discrimination estimates (30% gap) were derived by comparing mean earnings by sex within equivalent occupational grades in the SOE sector, controlling for tenure and education level.

4. Data Availability Summary for Individual Studies

Khoo (2007): *Life as the River Flows*. Published oral history; full text available from Merlin Press. The specific chapter “Suria, Born in 1951” is the source of cited testimony.

Ireson-Doolittle & Moreno-Black (2004): *The Lao: Gender, Power, and Livelihood*. Ethnographic monograph; full text available from Westview Press. Analysis is drawn from Chapters 3–5.

Hudgins (2006) & Supaphan Kanchai (2002): Underlying data from these studies conducted in Sadao, Songkhla Province, informed the sampling frame, though the 2007 qualitative interviews reported here were collected separately.

Phrasisombath et al. (2012): BMC Public Health article; the questionnaire instrument is available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request. The full PhD dissertation (Karolinska Institutet) contains the complete survey instrument as appendices.