Trust in the Police, Compliance with the Law, and Cooperation with Police among Undergraduate Students

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Abstract

Law enforcement of the Thai police has attracted a lot of attention from the public and tourists because some Thai police officers extort foreign tourists. The problem raises doubts about whether Thais, especially undergraduates, have trust in the police and whether trust in the police will result in compliance with the law and cooperation with the police. The 164 samples in the study consisted of undergraduate students in an educational institution in Suphanburi Province, Thailand. The researchers used questionnaires to collect data and analyzed the data using the structural equation modeling technique to find relationships between the variables in the study. The study found that police trust has a direct influence on law compliance, and cooperation with the police. In addition, it was found that cooperation with the police directly affects compliance with the law. Implications for the Royal Thai Police and future research were discussed in this paper.

IndexTerms: trust in the police, compliance with law, cooperation with the police.

1. Introduction

Police organizations are considered one of the most important mechanisms for maintaining order within a society, playing an important role in solving crime, ensuring the safety of life and property, facilitating justice in litigation, and social services, and facilitating citizens in many ways. The role of the police is usually related to the lifestyle of citizens because the police are the helpers, relying on people in distress. At the same time, the nature of the police's work has a lot to do with the right to freedom of the life of citizens because the police are the guardians of peace, they must take care of law enforcement to ensure order in society. In the past, police work has been criticized both positively and negatively. Studying police work will lead to a greater understanding of police perspectives, which will be useful both to the public and to the police department to learn, develop, improve, and help each other figure out how to treat each other creatively and mutually beneficially in the future.

Trust in the police has long been studied in many countries. In the United States, studies on police trust issues have been conducted since the second half of the 1960s (Benson, 1981). The study on police trust is therefore gaining increased attention from criminologists and sociologists (Flexon et al., 2009; Lai & Zhao, 2010; Skogan, 2009; Taylor & Lawton, 2012). In Australia, there have been several studies on the issue, such as Goldsmith and Harris (2012), Lee and McGovern (2012), Murphy (2013), Murphy and Cherney (2011), and Sargeant et al. (2013).

According to the study by Assumption University of Thailand (ABAC) (2004), about 22.1% had been called upon by the police for bribes, while a majority of those who had been called for bribes, 88.8% would have agreed to pay them to the police. Recently, the survey conducted by the Institution of Future Studies for Development or IFD reported that the Royal Thai Police receives the least confidence compared to other departments in the justice system, such as the Department of Corrections, attorney, and lawyer (Institution of Future Studies for Development, 2017). A study in Thailand by Suwan et al. (2014) found that the people who were distressed and visited the police stations had confidence in the conduct of the investigators in the overall picture of the Royal Thai Police's service delivery accounting for only 71.2%, which is not very high. This finding is consistent with the study conducted by Sahapattana et al. (2015) reflecting that the public has a very low level of confidence in the police accounting for only 70.02%.

Past research related to police trust has focused primarily on measuring the level of public trust in the police while the study of factors affecting police trust focuses primarily on demographic attribute factors. Moreover, recent studies have lacked studies on issues related to the impact of police trust in various areas. As a result, studies on the factors influencing police trust and the impact of police trust on public law compliance and public cooperation with the police in Thailand are quite rare. Hence, the researchers examined the relationship between trust in the police and compliance with the law, and cooperation with the police among undergraduate students in this present study.

2. trust in the police

Trust in the police is associated with police officers performing their duties effectively, understanding the needs of people in the community, and treating people equally with the dignity of the police. Information is provided to the public and the voices of the public are listened to about various important issues arising in the area of responsibility (Jackson et al., 2010). Consequently, they will obtain the trust of the people. Currall and Inkpen (2004) categorized trust into three levels, which are interpersonal levels, intergroup levels, and inter-organization levels. According to Greenberg (2011), individual or organization's ability to be trustworthy depends on three key elements: ability, benevolence, and integrity. Ability refers to a person's knowledge and ability to perform a variety of duties. However, when it comes to matters of trust, it does not only include work knowledge but also management abilities. This implies that a person knows how to work effectively with others. If we consider the trust between the supervisors and the subordinates, It was found that subordinates would lack trust in their superiors if they believed that they were not productive and could not help them achieve their work's goals. Benevolence refers to a person's consideration, showing concern, and helping others, so a person with high benevolence is trusted by another person. Finally, integrity refers to a person who exhibits behaviors that reflect morality and fairness, so people generally trust others who are more honest than those who do not have ethical virtues.

Trust in the police is influenced by many factors. For example, a study by Boateng (2015) found that trust in the police people in Ghana was influenced by   six factors, such as productivity of the police, corruption, fear of crime, problems of turmoil within the community, education level of people in the community, and income of people in the community. A study in Thailand by Sahapattana et al. (2015) examined trust in the police in two aspects; 1) public trust in the police's performance of justice and victims' confidence in investigators, and 2) public trust in police operations regarding the people's participation. They found that demographic factors are essential. These factors include age, education, career, religion, and marital status.

The U.S. Department of Justice (2007) suggested two strategies for building public trust in the police: internal strategy and external strategy. Internal strategies consist of policies to change organizational culture, projects, and training in order to strengthen the creation of core values and ethical principles of the organization by requiring the establishment of performance standards for all activities of the agency. More intensive recruitment and selection plans have been developed. It focuses primarily on recruiting and hiring service-minded individuals, as well as developing training in morality, ethics, integrity, and discretion for all officers throughout the course of their careers. Regular evaluations and reviews of police performance are administered. Furthermore, actions are taken against police officers who behave negatively and reward individuals with positive behavior. External strategies include promoting community-focused police or community policing to create greater community engagement and engagement, developing a citizen's police academy, using journalism to disseminate good projects and stories of police or police departments, organizing workshops on topics of interest to the community, conducting community polls to measure and increase public awareness of police performance as well as taking more proactive actions involving the public.

3. trust in the police and compliance with the law

The concept of legal compliance decisions is a study based on the concept of legal conscience that focuses on the study of the impact of the law on the behavior of people in society. Tyler's findings have brought to light the concept of consent and belief in the more concrete rule of law (Tyler, 1990). According to this concept, society is a lawmaker and has the power to use the law to manage the behavior of members of society, to prevent behavior that will cause damage to society, and to shape the behavior of citizens in a desirable direction. If the public doesn't believe in the law, the legal system and social control by law will not be effective. Therefore, the effectiveness of the legal system depends on the consent to comply with and believe in the laws of the people. At the same time, legislation that restricts or curtails certain acts or behaviors would not be useful if the law did not affect the frequency of such behavior.

The concept of consent and belief in the rule of law gives importance to the reasons why a person believes in or does not believe in the law. This concept is justified only if the people believe that they have the duty to believe in the law. This duty can be categorized into two types: legal duty, and psychological duty. Legal duty means that they have responsibilities to comply with the law. Psychological duty means that people accept the law because the law is justified and fair. Hence, the main reasons why people agree to comply with and believe in the law are two things: 1) morality, which refers to the public's view of morality in relation to illegal activities. This morality has the effect of agreeing to comply with and believing the laws of the people to control behavior, repression, or punishment and 2) legitimacy, legitimacy is related to the public's ability to comply with and believe the law, which is influenced by legality

and legitimacy of enforcement agencies. Consenting to practice and believing the law are divided into various levels. The level of conflict between the official rules and the public's views will result in a motive for consenting and believing the laws of the people. If the public accepts the performance of the legal profession and the legitimacy of the law, it will result in the public becoming more convinced and law-abiding. Trust in the police, who are directly involved in law enforcement, is therefore intertwined with how the public behaves and complies with the law. Some studies found that trust in the police results in compliance with the law of people in a community (Jackson et al., 2010; Murphy et al., 2013). Hence the first hypothesis was:

H_1: *Trust in the police has a positive influence on compliance with the law.*

4. trust in the police and cooperation with the police

Cooperating with the police is critical in ensuring that police can effectively prevent and solve the crime and keep communities safe. Hence, Police must engage citizens or communities in their work to increase that efficiency (Tyler & Fagan, 2008). Murphy and Cherney (2011) explain that the judicial process promotes the legitimacy of police duties. It is an important motivator for people to cooperate with the police, such as assisting the police in the search for suspects, notifying the police when a crime is committed, notifying the police when they encounter an activity, items, or suspected objects that may be dangerous, including a willingness to help the police if requested. Cooperation with the police can be considered by calling the police about crimes committed in their communities and assisting police in locating suspects by providing relevant information, including notifying police of potentially dangerous acts or activities occurring in the community (Bradford & Jackson, 2016). Tyler and Fagan (2008) classify elements of cooperation with the police into two types including crime notification and community assistance in preventing crime. Crime notification involves calling or reporting to the police when a crime is committed and assisting the police in locating criminals and reporting unusual incidents or situations to the police. Community assistance in preventing crime refers to members of the community volunteering to help with police work, joining pedestrian patrols with others in the community and attending community police meetings on crime prevention and resolution.

Viki et al. (2006) found that the quality of liaising with the police was a factor influencing cooperating with the police. Tyler and Fagan [30] explained that the public will increase cooperation with the police not only because they see the police as effective in controlling crime and maintaining order in society, but also because the public sees whether the police are justified in enforcing the law. This will eventually cause the public to obey the police and cooperate with the police. Recent research has also revealed that trust in the police is a factor that makes people more willing to cooperate with the police (Tyler & Fagan, 2008; Ekin, 2016; Moravcová, 2016). Hence, the public's trust in the police will have a direct impact on the relationship, good coordination, and cooperation between the public and the police in maintaining the order of society. On the other hand, if the public lacks confidence or trust, the public also does not want to cooperate or engage in activities with the police (Roberts & Hough, 2005). Hence, the second hypothesis was:

H₂: *Trust in the police has a positive influence on cooperation with the police.*

5. cooperation with the police and compliance with the law

As mentioned earlier that there is research examining the relationship between law

compliance and cooperation with the police. A study of trust in the police by Antensteiner (2019) examined some variables, such as satisfaction with police contact, effectiveness, distributive justice, procedural justice, police legitimacy, the duty of obedience, cooperation, and compliance with the law. According to her model, satisfaction with police contact has an influence on effectiveness, distributive justice, and procedural justice. Then, these three variables will result in police legitimacy, which then influences the duty of obedience, cooperation, and compliance with the law. She also examined the impact of the duty of obedience towards cooperation and compliance with the law. However, she did not examine the relationship between cooperation with the police and compliance with the law. A study by Seo and Lee (2018) examined the effects of cooperation with the police on compliance with the law and found a positive relationship between these two variables. Hence, the third hypothesis was.

H3: Cooperation with the police has a positive influence on compliance with the law.

6. methods

Sample

The data for this study were collected from undergraduate students at a public university located in Suphanburi, Thailand. The researchers used simple random sampling to draw samples. As this study employed a structural equation modeling technique to find the relationship between each variable, 100-150 is considered the minimum sample size for conducting SEM (Tabachnick, & Fidell, 2001) since the model is not complex. Three research assistants were trained to properly administer the questionnaire to the undergraduate students at the university in Suphanburi. The research assistants learned to inform each sample of (1) the research purposes, (2) the study's benefits and anonymity, (3) his/her right to refuse and/or withdraw from participating in the survey, and (4) the time frame for the survey. Each participant also gave consent before completing the questionnaire. After a month of the data collection process (December 2022), 164 students participated in the survey questionnaire. The demographic characteristics of the sample are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. *Characteristics of the samples (N = 164)*

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Gender		
Male	54	32.93
Female	98	59.76
LGBTQIA+	12	7.32
College year		
Freshman	35	21.34
Sophomore	49	29.88
Junior	44	26.83
Senior	36	21.95
Other characteristics	Mean	S.D.
Age	20.79	1.549
Monthly expenses*	5,541.46	3,323.202

*1THB = 0.030278349 USD

Measures

Trust in the police (TIP) was an exogenous variable composed of three items. The respondents were asked to rate their perceived level of trust in the police in each question from

1 to 5, with 1 representing strongly disagree and 5 representing strongly agree. The questions regarding trust in the police were (1) I believed that police officers performed their duties properly; (2) I was satisfied with maintaining the order of the police officers; and (3) I feel that police officers have credibility and trust. The measurement provided an alpha reliability of .938.

Cooperation with the police (CWP) was an endogenous variable composed of four items. The respondents were asked to rate their perceived level of cooperation with the police in each question from 1 to 5, with 1 representing strongly disagree and 5 representing strongly agree. The questions regarding cooperation with the police were (1) if I am involved in a crime, I will immediately call the police; (2) I was willing to assist police officers in finding suspects of crimes; (3) I will notify the police if I see anything unusual or dangerous; and (4) I am willing to cooperate with the police when requested. The measurement provided an alpha reliability of .868.

Compliance with the law (CWL) was an endogenous variable composed of three items. The respondents were asked to rate their perceived level of compliance with the law in each question from 1 to 5, with 1 representing strongly disagree and 5 representing strongly agree. The questions regarding compliance with the law were (1) compliance with the law is appropriate and morally correct; (2) obedience to police officers is a moral duty that should be performed; and (3) overall, I have the will to comply with the law. The measurement provided an alpha reliability of .811.

7. results

The results of the study are divided into four parts: descriptive analysis, normal distribution testing, confirmatory factor analysis, and structural equation modeling (SEM) analysis.

Descriptive Analysis
This part of the paper explains the characteristics of each variable in the study, including trust in the police, cooperation with the police, and compliance with the law.

Trust in the police
The respondents reported that they have a high level of trust in the police (Mean = 3.400, S.D. = .8502). Item 2 "I was satisfied with maintaining the order of the police officers" has the highest mean (Mean = 3.457, S.D. = .8817), followed by Item 1 (Mean = 3.445, S.D. = .8948) and Item 3 (Mean = 3.299, S.D. = .9280) respectively.

Table 2. *Trust in the Police*

Items	Mean	S.D.	Meaning
1. I believed that police officers performed their duties properly.	3.445	.8948	High
2. I was satisfied with maintaining the order of the police officers.	3.457	.8817	High
3. I feel that police officers have credibility and trust.	3.299	.9280	Moderate
Total	3.400	.8502	High

Cooperation with the Police
The respondents reported that they have high level of cooperation with the police (Mean = 4.165, S.D. = .6743). Item 1 "If I am involved in a crime, I will immediately call the police" has the highest mean (Mean = 4.244, S.D. = .7604), followed by Item 4 (Mean = 4.220, S.D. =

.7435), Item 3 (Mean = 4.177, S.D. = .7749), and Item 2 (Mean = 4.073, S.D. = .8549) respectively.

Table 3. *Cooperation with the Police*

Items	Mean	S.D.	Meaning
1. If I am involved in a crime, I will immediately call the police.	4.244	.7604	Very high
2. I was willing to assist police officers in finding suspects of crimes.	4.073	.8549	High
3. I will notify the police if I see anything unusual or dangerous.	4.177	.7749	High
4. I am willing to cooperate with the police when requested.	4.220	.7435	Very high
Total	4.165	.6743	High

Compliance with the law

The respondents reported that they have a high level of compliance with the law (Mean = 4.152, S.D. = .6701). Item 3 "overall, I have the will to comply with the law" has the highest mean (Mean = 4.250, S.D. = .7038), followed by Item 1 (Mean = 4.244, S.D. = .7764) and Item 2 (Mean = 3.963, S.D. = .8714) respectively.

Table 4. *Compliance with the Law*

Items	Mean	S.D.	Meaning
1. Compliance with the law is appropriate and morally correct.	4.244	.7764	Very high
2. obedience to police officers is a moral duty that should be performed.	3.963	.8714	High
3. overall, I have the will to comply with the law.	4.250	.7038	Very high
Total	4.152	.6701	High

Normal Distribution Testing

The SEM analysis requires that the data should be a normal distribution. Hence, the researchers conducted an analysis of the skewness and kurtosis to check if the data is normally distributed. Hair et al. (2010) argued that data is considered to be normal if skewness is between -2 to +2 and kurtosis is between -7 to +7. Table 5 shows the skewness and kurtosis of each variable.

Table 5. *Normality results*

Variable	Mean Statistic	S.D. Statistic	Skewness		Kurtosis	
			Statistic	Std.Error	Statistic	Std.Error
TIP1	3.445	.8948	.037	.190	-.019	.377
TIP2	3.457	.8817	-.168	.190	-.225	.377
TIP3	3.299	.9280	-.118	.190	.143	.377
CWP1	4.244	.7604	-.527	.190	-.805	.377
CWP2	4.073	.8549	-.976	.190	1.531	.377
CWP3	4.177	.7749	-.719	.190	.591	.377
CWP4	4.220	.7435	-.742	.190	.833	.377
CWL1	4.244	.7764	-.614	.190	-.577	.377
CWL2	3.963	.8714	-.436	.190	-.316	.377
CWL3	4.250	.7038	-.501	.190	-.457	.377

According to Table 2, the skewness and kurtosis statistics were not exceeding the cut-off value indicating normal distribution. Hence, the data were suitable for SEM analysis.

Confirmatory Factor Analysis

Prior to conducting SEM analysis, the confirmatory factor analysis was employed to

test how well-measured variables represent a small number of constructs. The number of items representing a construct should be at least three, preferably four. Chi-square goodness-of-fit statistic and degree of freedom, two absolute fit indices (GFI, RMSEA), one incremental fit index (CFI), and one parsimony fit index (AGFI) will be examined whether the model is fitted with the empirical data (Hair et al., 2010).

The results revealed the model chi-square of 58.849 with 29 degrees of freedom. The *p*-value was insignificant. According to Hair et al. (2010), if the number of samples is less than 250, and the observed variables are less than 12, an insignificant *p*-value should be expected. Hence, the chi-square goodness-of-fit statistic indicates that the observed covariance matrix matches the estimated covariance matrix within the sampling variance. The value of GFI and RMSEA, the absolute fit index, were .956 and .077 in that order. This value indicates additional support for model fit. The normed chi-square was 1.960 which falls below 2.00 indicating an acceptable fit for the CFA model. According to the incremental fit indices, the CFI, an incremental fit index, had a value of .976, which exceeds the suggested cut-off values. In addition, the AGFI, a parsimony fit index, had a value of .951, which reflects a good model fit. All information on goodness-of-fit statistics is illustrated in Figure 1.
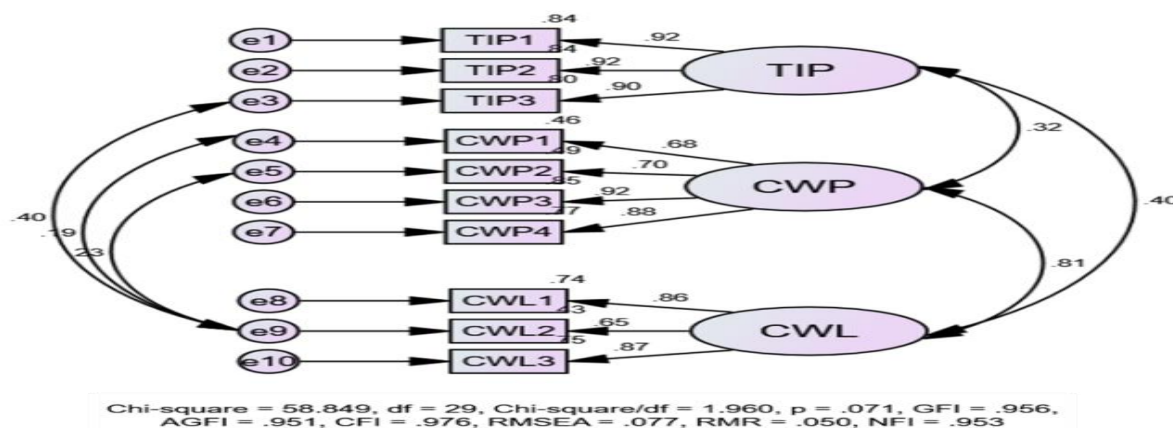

Chi-square = 58.849, df = 29, Chi-square/df = 1.960, p = .071, GFI = .956, AGFI = .951, CFI = .976, RMSEA = .077, RMR = .050, NFI = .953

Figure 1. *CFA analysis*

Table 6. *Standardized factor loadings, average variance extracted, and reliability estimated.*

Dimension/Item	Standardized factor loadings		
	TIP	CWP	CWL
Trust in the police			
TIP1	.92		
TIP2	.92		
TIP3	.90		
Cooperation with the police			
CWP1		.68	
CWP2		.70	
CWP3		.92	
CWP4		.88	
Compliance with the law			
CWL1			.86
CWL2			.65
CWL3			.87
Average variance extracted (AVE)	.8342	.6433	.6397
Construct reliability (CR)	.9907	.9881	.9820

According to Table 6, the lowest loading obtained is .65 compliance with the law (CWL) to CWL2 "obedience to police officers is a moral duty that should be performed." Most factor loadings were greater than the .70 standard. The average variance extracted estimates and the construct reliabilities are shown at the bottom of the table. The AVE estimates range

from 63.97% for compliance with the law (CWL) to 83.42% for trust in the police (TIP). All exceed 50% rule of thumb. The construct reliabilities range from .9820 for compliance with the law (CWL) construct to .9907 for trust in the police (TIP) construct. These exceed the .70 standard which indicates adequate reliability.

Trust in the police (TIP) has three items with the factor loading range from .90-.92. The lowest factor loading obtained is .90 linking TIP to TIP3 ". I feel that police officers have credibility and trust." The other two factor loadings are greater than .70. The results show an average variance extracted (AVE) of .8342 suggesting adequate convergence. According to the CR of .9907 which is greater than .70, it suggests good reliability.

Cooperation with the police (CWP) has four items with the factor loading range from .68-.92. The lowest factor loading obtained is .68 linking CWP to CWP1 If I am involved in a crime, I will immediately call the police." The other three factor loadings are greater than .70. The results show an average variance extracted (AVE) of .6433 suggesting adequate convergence. According to the CR of .9881 which is greater than .70, it suggests good reliability.

Compliance with the law (CWL) has three items with the factor loading range from .65-.87. the lowest loading obtained is .65 compliance with the law (CWL) to CWL2 "obedience to police officers is a moral duty that should be performed." The other two factor loadings are greater than .70. The results show an average variance extracted (AVE) of .6397 suggesting adequate convergence. According to the CR of .9820 which is greater than .70, it suggests good reliability.

The results of confirmatory factor analysis indicate that the measured variables can represent each construct quite well and then SEM analysis can be conducted.

Structural Equation Modeling Analysis

The results reveal the model chi-square of 88.944 with 32 degrees of freedom. The *p*-value is significant ($p < .05$). The values of GFI and RMSEA, the absolute fit index, are 0.900 and 0.104 in that order. These values indicate the model does not fit with the empirical data. The normed chi-square is 2.780 which is over 2.00, indicating unfit for the hypothesized model. According to the incremental fit indices, the CFI, an incremental fit index, has a value of 0.952, which exceeds the suggested cut-off values. In addition, the AGFI, a parsimony fit index, has a value of 0.828, which reflects an unfit model as shown in Figure 2.
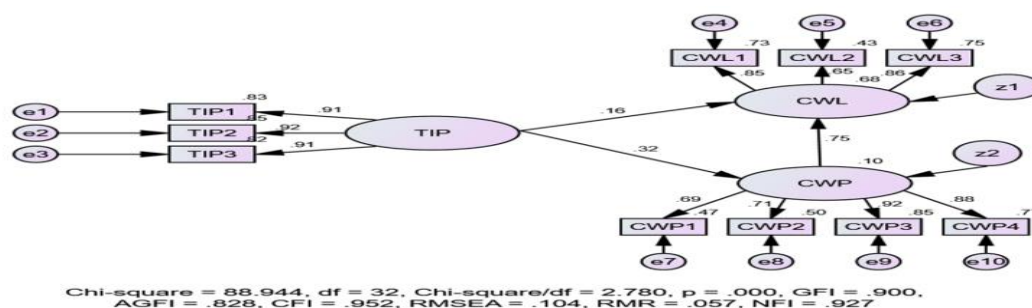

Chi-square = 88.944, df = 32, Chi-square/df = 2.780, p = .000, GFI = .900, AGFI = .828, CFI = .952, RMSEA = .104, RMR = .057, NFI = .927

Figure 2. *Hypothesized SEM model.*

The researchers revised the model in accordance with the modification indices as suggested by the software. The revised model shows the model chi-square of 58.849 with 56 degrees of freedom. The *p*-value is insignificant (p > .05). The values of GFI and RMSEA, the absolute fit index, are 0.956 and 0.077 in that order. These values indicate the model fits with

the empirical data. The present study found that the normed chi-square is 1.960 indicating fit for the hypothesized model. According to the incremental fit indices, the CFI, an incremental fit index, has a value of 0.976, which exceeds the suggested cut-off values. In addition, the AGFI, a parsimony fit index, has a value of 0.951, which reflects a fit model. All information on goodness-of-fit statistics is illustrated in Figure 3 and Table 7.
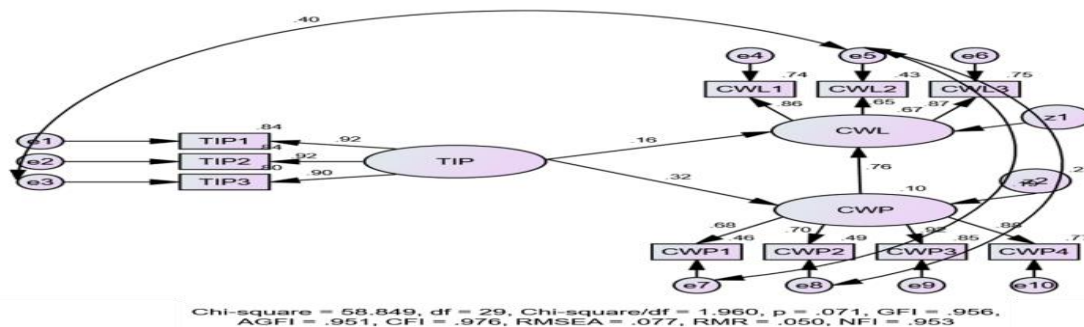

Chi-square = 58.849, df = 29, Chi-square/df = 1.960, p = .071, GFI = .956,
AGFI = .951, CFI = .976, RMSEA = .077, RMR = .050, NFI = .953

Figure 3. *Revised SEM Model*

Table 7. *The Goodness-of-fit statistics for hypothesized model*

Fit statistics	Hypothesized model	Revised model
χ^2	88.944	58.849
df	32	29
p-value	.000	.071
χ^2/df	2.780	1.960
GFI	.900	.956
AGFI	.828	.951
NFI	.927	.953
CFI	.952	.976
RMSEA	.104	.077

The results of structural equation modeling analysis revealed the path coefficients, explained variance, standard error, critical ratio, and *p*-value as illustrated in Table 8.

Table 8. *Path Coeffcients and Explained Variance*

Structural relationship	Std. Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	*p*
CWP <--- TIP	.278	.072	3.842	.000
CWL <--- TIP	.130	.051	2.541	.011
CWL <--- CWP	.706	.069	10.176	.000
TIP1 <--- TIP	1.012	.055	18.467	.000
TIP2 <--- TIP	.998	.054	18.485	.000
TIP3 <--- TIP	1.000	-	-	-
CWL1 <--- CWL	1.000	-	-	-
CWL2 <--- CWL	.865	.092	9.393	.000
CWL3 <--- CWL	.913	.071	12.917	.000
CWP1 <--- CWP	.715	.069	10.320	.000
CWP2 <--- CWP	.826	.077	10.794	.000
CWP3 <--- CWP	1.000	-	-	-
CWP4 <--- CWP	.913	.056	16.234	.000
R^2				
CWP	.099			
CWL	.674			

8. discussion

Previous studies found a positive relationship between trust in the police and cooperation with the police (Tyler & Fagan, 2008; Ekin, 2016; Moravcová, 2016). The above-mentioned studies are studies in a foreign context. Results of this study, which is a study in the context of Thai society that focuses on the Royal Thai Police, obtained the same results, thus confirming that trust in the police has a positive effect on the public's cooperation with the police. The present results also confirmed that trust in the police has a positive influence on compliance with the law among undergraduate students. It supported the findings of Jackson et al. (2010) and Murphy et al. (2014). Cooperation with the police also has a positive relationship with compliance with the law, which is consistent with the findings of research conducted by Seo and Lee (2018). Interestingly, when the respondents were asked "I feel that police officers have credibility and trust," they expressed that the credibility and trustworthiness of the police are not good. These findings are a very important public resonance that the Royal Thai Police should listen to and improve to build greater credibility and trust in the police.

9. Conclusion

This paper is the very first study in Thailand, which examined the relationship between trust in the police, cooperation with the police, and compliance with the law among undergraduate students. The findings from the research are of great benefit to the Royal Thai Police in encouraging people to comply with the law and to cooperate with police officers. At present, the image of police officers in the eyes of the public is negative. Hence, if the Royal Thai Police wants to resurrect its good image, it will be a good idea to put public trust first. The approach to building trust in the police is a topic that needs to be studied in the future. In addition, other variables may be studied further. This study is a study of only the perspectives of the students. Therefore, future research may require further study of other samples in order to confirm the relationship between the variables, which will allow the knowledge of this issue to be studied in greater depth.

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