

## CONSCIENCE DEVELOPMENT, EMOTIONAL STABILITY AND CAREGIVING PRACTICES AT BAHAY AMPUNAN NILA JESUS, MARIA, AT JOSE, CANLALAY, BIÑAN, LAGUNA

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### ABSTRACT

The study aimed to identify if proper caregiving led to the development of the conscience and maintenance of the emotional stability of the orphans once they leave the orphanage. Descriptive correlational research design was used in this study. The study revealed that that conscience development of the orphans was high with an average weighted mean of 2.95, the level of emotional stability of the orphans was high with an average weighted mean of 3.06, the caregiving practices as perceived by the orphans was positive and they agreed that the caretakers advise them to avoid drinking alcohol with an average weighted mean of 3.06. Correlations indicated that there was a significant relationship between Conscience Development and Emotional Stability as well as Conscience Development and Caregiving Practices. The results also showed that there was a significant relationship between Emotional Stability and Caregiving Practices. The orphans who developed their moral development adjust well in terms of their affect. And the caregivers in the orphanage are responsible and provided the orphans the much needed psychological support for their total development.

**Keywords:** Descriptive correlational study, Conscience Development, Quantitative Research, Emotional Stability, Caregiving Practices.

### INTRODUCTION

A person can be considered an orphan if his own biological parents have died, unknown, or have permanently abandoned him. Nowadays, there are various definitions in identifying orphans. In United States, there is an existing one legal definition stating that orphans may have "separation or loss from, abandonment or desertion by, or death or disappearance of both parents". Therefore, orphans have no present surviving mother and/or father to care for him. They may experience serious violations of many of their rights such as child labour, education, health care, nutrition, and shelter. The latter do not have any means of providing his physical, mental, social, and psychological needs [1]. Orphan-hood brings an enormous gathering of enthusiastic well-being weaknesses. At the point when an orphan is compelled to live in orphan home, he experiences numerous issues, for example, absence of support, emotional problems, economical issues and chronic weakness. Along with all these issues the most serious issue orphans endure is social stigma. They are segregated against different people, this disgrace has a huge effect on their mental state. This issue prompts numerous mental issues. Orphans who live in orphanage are more inclined to create melancholy, nervousness and social issues when contrasted with other people [2]. According to the research study of Senefeld and Perrin, holistic approach programmes concerning to the challenges of orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) are more expectedly to attain sustainable results. But due to realities on the ground, OVC programme staff can be overwhelmed in terms of formulating holistic approaches. Most of the time, adopting parents and schools may not provide the sufficient

emotional support these orphaned children often need [3]. As stated by the United Nations Children's Fund, estimated of over 132 million children worldwide experienced the one or both parents' death estimated of over 132 million children worldwide experienced the one or both parents' death. With over 55 million in sub-Sahara, Africa, majority of orphans usually occupies in low- and middle-income countries [4]. The study delved on conscience development, emotional stability and caregiving practices at bahay ampunan nila jesus, maria, at jose. Furthermore, the study focuses on the morality development and emotional stability of the orphans inside the orphanage.

The results of the study may guide the orphans and the workers of the orphanage to develop the morality and improve their emotional state in order to cope up their problems. Conscience, an aptitude, faculty, intuition or judgment, helps in differentiating right from wrong act. Our societal values and norms may derive moral judgment, a guilt feeling a person have when something bad is happening or a part of the mind that communicates on what is morally right or wrong. Psychologically speaking, conscience is often characterized as triggering factor to remorse feelings whenever people commits an act that disregards his own moral value and to integrity or rectitude feelings when a certain act adapt to such norms [5]. Based in the study of Upreti and Sharma, it showed that the orphans are emotionally immature because they have no parents nor guardians to guide them and help them to cope up with their problems [6]. The studies made by Smith, Groenendyk & Volling, and Konchanska, et al. states that the conscience begins in early childhood and must be given a proper parenting style by the guardian [7-9]. And the orphans tend to have a low level of emotional stability because they are not taken care of their real parents according to the studies made by Matyash & Volodina, Bhat, and Tripathy [10-12]. However, according to the study of Thurman, the orphans well taken care of by the caregivers inside the orphanage even at their worst [13].

## **METHODS**

The study used descriptive-correlational research design since it determined the Conscience Development, Emotional Stability and Caregiving Practices At Bahay Ampunan Nila Jesus, Maria, At Jose Canlalay, Biñan, Laguna. Likewise, it identified possible patterns of relationships that exist among variables and it measured the strength of such correlation. Data used in the investigation came from 55 orphans in bahay ampunan nila jesus, maria, at jose. Of which, all 55 respondents were able to accomplish and return the completed survey questionnaires, representing 100 percent retrieval rate.

The researcher used three sets of survey questionnaire. The first set included statements about the conscience development which was measured using the Likert-Type Scale (Highly Conscientious-4, Moderately Conscientious-3, Less Conscientious-2, Least Conscientious-1). The second set of the survey questionnaire elicited the Emotional Stability which was also measured using the Likert-Type Scale. It was encoded using the following scale: Highly Emotional Stable (3.51-4.00), Moderately Emotional Stable (2.51-3.50), Less Moderately Stable (1.51-2.50), and Least Emotional Stable (1.00-1.50). The third set of survey questionnaire which was composed of indicators that determined the caregiving practices. It was measured using the four-point Likert Type scale: Very Positive (3.51-4.00), Positive (2.51-3.50), Negative (1.51-2.50), and Very Negative (1.00- 1.50), which was taken from the Bahay Ampunan Nila Jesus, Maria, at Jose in Canlalay, Binan, Laguna. The first step used was to ask permission to conduct the survey. After gaining permission, the researcher introduced himself and explained to the orphans the purpose of the study. The questionnaire was distributed to the respondents after securing the permit. Copies of the approved questionnaire were distributed

in order to gather the relevant data. The instruments were retrieved after the respondent finished answering them. To make sure that the data gathered were precisely treated; weighted mean was used to determine the conscience development, emotional stability and caregiving practices to the orphans. Pearson Product Moment of Correlation or Pearson-r was used to ascertain if there is relationship between the respondents' conscience development and their emotional stability, relationship between the respondents' conscience development and the caregiving practices, and relationship between the respondents' emotional stability and the caregiving practices.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Discussion of the conscience development, emotional stability and caregiving practices is presented in the succeeding tables and textual presentations.

**Table 1. Degree of Conscience Development of the respondents inside the orphanage**

INDICATORS	WEIGHTED MEAN	VERBAL INTERPRETATION	RANK
1. I am clear about my personal values	3.13	Moderately Conscientious	1
2. I can follow my caretakers.	3.09	Moderately Conscientious	2.5
3. I can follow the house rules of the orphanage.	3.09	Moderately Conscientious	2.5
4. I will be honest in every aspect.	3.04	Moderately Conscientious	4
5. I can finish chores before I go to sleep.	2.89	Moderately Conscientious	6
6. I'm afraid to commit a crime.	2.87	Moderately Conscientious	7.5
7. I'll ask permission first to my friend before using their belongings.	2.87	Moderately Conscientious	7.5
8. I will not fight my fellow orphans.	2.78	Moderately Conscientious	9.5
9. I will study first before doing what I want.	2.78	Moderately Conscientious	9.5
10. I'm afraid to say something that can hurt the feelings of my fellow orphans.	2.98	Moderately Conscientious	5
Overall Weighted Mean	2.95	Moderately Conscientious	

Legend: Highly Conscientious (3.51-4.00), Moderately Conscientious (2.51-3.50), Less Conscientious (1.51-2.50), Least Conscientious (1.00-1.50)

Table 1 shows the respondents' degree of conscience development with its weighted mean, verbal interpretation and ranking.

As showed in the table, the respondents' agreed that "I am aware about my personal values" which garnered weighted mean of 3.13 verbally interpreted as "Moderately Conscientious" and ranked as 1, "I can follow my caretakers" and "I can follow the house rules of the orphanage"

which garnered weighted means of 3.09 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked as 2.5; “I will be honest in every aspect” which garnered weighted mean of 3.04 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked 4; “I am afraid to say something that can hurt the feelings of my fellow orphans” which garnered weighted mean of 2.98 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked 5; “I can finish chores before I go to sleep” which garnered weighted mean of 2.89 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked 6; “I am afraid to commit a crime” and “I will ask permission first to my friend before using their belongings” which both garnered weighted mean of 2.87 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked 7.5<sup>th</sup>; “I will not fight my fellow orphans” and “I will study first before doing what I want” which both garnered weighted mean of 2.78 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Conscientious” and ranked 9.5.

To sum up, the respondents’ degree of conscience development was high with an average weighted mean of 2.95. This means that the respondents agreed that they are aware of their personal values. They were taught in the orphanage values in life that helped them to become morally upright individuals. Therefore, when they will go out in the orphanage, they will become good and responsible citizens of the society. The findings as supported by the study conducted by Coskun & Kara as an early indicator of internalization because the orphan’s eagerness to comply with paternal requests suggests they are internally motivated to do so [14].

**Table 2. Respondents’ Level of Emotional Stability**

Indicators	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. I can cope up with my problems.	2.93	Moderately Emotional Stable	9
2. I usually express my problems rather than keep it.	2.95	Moderately Emotional Stable	8
3. I feel proud of myself after every difficult accomplishment of each day.	2.87	Moderately Emotional Stable	10
4. I can guide myself during my pressure times.	3.00	Moderately Emotional Stable	6
5. I prefer to think about my problems first before expressing it.	3.02	Moderately Emotional Stable	5
6. I should express my emotions rationally.	2.96	Moderately Emotional Stable	7
7. I am capable in managing my anger.	3.20	Moderately Emotional Stable	3
8. I can make myself calm even when I am in pressure.	3.11	Moderately Emotional Stable	4
9. I am comfortable with my fellow orphans.	3.24	Moderately Emotional Stable	1
10. As soon as I see a problem or challenge, I start looking for possible solutions.	3.33	Moderately Emotional Stable	2
Overall Weighted Mean	3.06	Moderately Emotional Stable	

Legend: Highly Emotional Stable (3.51-4.00), Moderately Emotional Stable (2.51-3.50), Less Emotional Stable (1.51-2.50), Least Emotional Stable (1.00-1.50)

Table 2 shows the respondents’ level of emotional stability with its weighted mean, verbal interpretation and ranking. As reflected in the above table, the respondents’ assessed “As soon

as I see a problem or challenge, I start looking for possible solutions” which obtained weighted mean of 3.33 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked 1; “I am comfortable with my fellow orphans” which obtained weighted mean of 3.24 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 2; “I am capable in managing my anger” which obtained weighted mean of 3.20 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 3; “I can make myself calm even when I am in pressure” which obtained weighted mean of 3.11 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 4; “I prefer to think about my problems first before expressing it” which obtained weighted mean of 3.02 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 5; “I can guide myself during my pressure times” which obtained weighted mean of 3.00 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 6; “I should express my emotions rationally” which obtained weighted mean of 2.96 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 7; “I usually express my problems rather than keep it” which obtained weighted mean of 2.96 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 8; “I can cope up with my problems” which obtained weighted mean of 2.95 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 9; and “I feel proud of myself after every difficult accomplishment of each day” which obtained weighted mean of 2.87 verbally interpreted as “Moderately Emotional Stable” and ranked as 10.

To sum up, the respondents’ level of emotional stability was high with an average weighted mean of 3.06. This means that the respondents agreed that as soon as they see a problem or challenge, they start looking for possible solutions. The findings as supported by the study conducted by Smita, et. al that the orphans’ emotional stability level were in the average level [15].

**Table 3. The Caregiving Practices of the Caretakers to the Respondents**

Indicators	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. My caretakers influence me to help my fellow orphans.	2.98	Positive	8
2. The caretakers taught me to have a good manners towards other people.	2.91	Positive	9.5
3. I am confident to be taken care by my caretakers.	2.91	Positive	9.5
4. The caretakers are good influence to me.	3.02	Positive	7
5. The caretakers never taught me to steal or do something wrong in my life.	3.11	Positive	5
6. The caretakers taught me to be vices-free in cigarettes.	3.13	Positive	3.5
7. The caretakers advise me to avoid drinking alcohol.	3.20	Positive	1
8. My caretakers influence me to study hard.	3.09	Positive	6
9. The caretakers taught me to take care of my fellow orphans.	3.16	Positive	2
10. The caretakers taught me to be aware of my surroundings.	3.13	Positive	3.5
Overall Weighted Mean	3.06	Positive	

Legend: Very Positive (3.51-4.00), Positive (2.51-3.50), Negative (1.51-2.50), Very Negative (1.00-1.50)

Table 3 depicts the caregiving practices of the caretakers to the respondents.

As depicted in the above table, the respondents' agreed that that they "The caretakers advise me to avoid drinking alcohol" which garnered weighted mean of 3.20 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 1<sup>st</sup> rank; "The caretakers taught me to take care of my fellow orphans" which garnered weighted mean of 3.16 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 2; "The caretakers taught me to be aware of my surroundings" and "The caretakers taught me to be vices-free in cigarettes" which garnered weighted means of 3.13 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 3.5;" "The caretakers never taught me to steal or do something wrong in my life" which garnered weighted mean of 3.11 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 5; "My caretakers influence me to study hard" which garnered weighted mean of 3.09 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 6; "The caretakers are good influence to me" which garnered weighted mean of 3.02 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 7; "My caretakers influence me to help my fellow orphans" which garnered weighted mean of 2.98 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 8; "The caretakers taught me to have a good manners towards other people" and "I am confident to be taken care by my caretakers" which garnered weighted means of 2.91 verbally interpreted as "Positive" and ranked as 9.5.

To sum up, an average weighted mean of 3.06 showed that the respondents' caregiving practices was positive. This means that the respondents agreed that, the caretakers advise them to avoid drinking alcohol. The above findings as supported by the study conducted by Dorsey & Forehand that positive parenting affects the behavior of the orphans [16].

**Table 4. Relationship between the Respondents' Degree of Conscience Development and their Level of Emotional Stability**

Variables	Statistical Treatment	p-value	Decision	Interpretation
Conscience Development and Emotional Stability	Pearson r  .712 (High correlation)	.000	Reject Null Hypothesis	Significant
Significant @ 0.01				

For the relationship between the respondents' conscience development and level of emotional stability, a pearson r value of 0.712 and a p-value of 0.000 were obtained. The probability value was lower than the test of significance at 0.01 leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. This showed that there is a significantly high relationship between the respondents' degree conscience development and level of emotional stability. This means that the better is the respondents conscience development, the higher is the level of their emotional stability. The above findings are supported by the study conducted by Andreev & Darvish which states that the orphans' morality affects their emotional stability [17].

**Table 5. Relationship between the Respondents' Degree of Conscience Development and Caregiving Practices Received**

Variables	Statistical Treatment	p-value	Decision	Interpretation
Conscience Development and Caregiving Practices Received	Pearson r 0.806 (High correlation)	.000	Reject Null Hypothesis	Significant
Significant @ 0.01				

For the relationship between the respondents' conscience development and caregiving practices received, a pearson r value of 0.806 and a p-value of 0.000 were obtained. The probability value was lower than the test of significance at 0.01 leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. This shows that there was a significantly high relationship between the respondents' conscience development and caregiving practices received. This means that the better is the respondents degree of conscience development, the better is the caregiving practices they receive from the orphanage. The above findings are supported by the study conducted by Chung & Steinberg that the parenting to the orphans affects their morality [18].

**Table 6. Relationship between the Respondents' Level of Emotional Stability and Caregiving Practices Received**

Variables	Statistical Treatment	p-value	Decision	Interpretation
Emotional Stability and Caregiving Practices Received	Pearson r 0.765 (High correlation)	.000	Reject Null Hypothesis	Significant
Significant @ 0.01				

For the relationship between the respondents' Level of Emotional Stability and caregiving practices received, a pearson r value of 0.765 and a p-value of 0.000 were obtained. The probability value was lower than the test of significance at 0.01 leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. This shows that there was a significantly high relationship between the respondents' level of emotional stability and caregiving practices received. This means that the higher the level of the respondents' level emotional stability, the better is the caregiving practices they receive from the orphanage. The above findings are supported by the studies conducted by Weir and Nshimyimana which states that the treatment to the orphans will affect their emotions [19-20].

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn: The orphans in the orphanage are morally conscience and mindful of their duties and obligations. The orphans possess stability in their affect as they live and taken care of by their caregivers who played surrogate in their life. The caregivers in the orphanage are responsible and provided the orphans the much needed psychological support for their total development. The orphans who

developed their moral development adjust well in terms of their affect. The orphans are nurtured and taken care of by their caregivers, thus, they become emotionally stable who are ready to face life's challenge. The orphans emotional stability is closely linked with their moral aspect in life. Which they become ready to live the world outside of the orphanage. The following are the recommendations: Orphans who will be placed in any orphanage may be provided with the holistic development plan. An enhancement plan may be developed to include services the orphanage may offer to the children in such place. Other personnel may be considered who are willing and able to provide nurturance to the orphans who are in dire need to protected at their young age. Personality development program may be devised to include but not limited cognitive and psychomotor development of the orphans. A program to "Adopt an Orphan" may be implemented to provide orphan a family home with complete parental figures for his/her total development. Social environment of the orphans may be improved to ensure the intrapersonal and interpersonal adjustments. Future research may be conduct relative to the orphans in the orphanage. For the Future researchers, may use the result as reference when making a study similar to this one. A wider scope of variable may be included that the present researcher missed in this study.

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