

ABSTRACT

Name of Institution: De La Salle University –Dasmariñas

Address: Dasmariñas, Cavite

Title: Buhay Institusyon: A phenomenological Inquiry into the Experiences of the Institutionalized Adolescents Left Behind by their Houseparents

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Funding Source: Parents

Cost: Php 10,000

Date Started: June 2007

Date Completed: February 2008

Objectives of the Study

General

The purpose of this study is to know the separation experience of the Institutionalized adolescents left behind by their houseparent

Specific

1. To be able to know the level of attachment of the Institutionalized adolescents to their Houseparent.
2. To know how do the institutionalized adolescents perceive and feel the experience of being abandoned.
3. For the Institution and it's houseparent, to know the implication of the separation experience of the Institutionalized children and adolescents

Scope and Limitation

The study determines the experiences of the institutionalized adolescents who were left behind by their houseparent after a long time of relationship.

The respondents of the study are the institutionalized adolescent's ages ten to 17 years old who stayed in the Institution for a span of time and developed a certain attachment to their houseparent. The experiences of the adolescents obtained from interviews with them and by knowing their feelings about their houseparent and their decision for leaving the orphanage. Also the researchers try to know how the selected institutionalized adolescents cope with the situation. The respondents were gathered from the selected Institution here in Cavite. Because this is a phenomenological study, four (4) respondents were deemed enough for the needed data.

The focuses of the study are the institutionalized adolescents who experienced being left by their houseparent during their childhood days. In interviewing them, some might prevent themselves from talking to us: so the researchers stayed the institution often to made with and get the sympathy of the participants. The researchers only based their information on what the institutionalized adolescents have said. The communication of the researchers and the participants must be one on one and because there is 4:3 ratio, patience in time must be present. The number of responses is possible to be lessen when the participant continuously refuse to talk.

Methodology

All the information gathered were dependent on the remembered experiences of the participants (Institutionalized adolescents) during the time when they were in the care of their previous houseparents who had left them after years of being together. The stories were directly taken out from the participants with the aid of the video recorder during the interview; the researcher also prepared a written document about the interview.

The researchers divided the answers to the statements of the problem into themes and eidetic insights. The number one statement of the problem was answered through the background profile of the participants. The second and third problems were combined and reduced into themes while the last statement was reduced into eidetic insights. All the themes and eidetic

insights were explained based on the experiences of the participants, supported by the reviewed literatures.

Major Findings

1. The demographic profile such as the age and the years of stay of the participants affects the relationship they build with their houseparent.
2. Separation experience does not affect all the children and adolescents in the Institution, level of attachment developed with their houseparent affects how they felt and reacted in the said experience.
3. The affected children and adolescents cannot easily adjust to the separation experience; they shift their sadness to the different activities in the Institution.

Conclusion

1. The institutionalized children and adolescents are affected whenever their house parents leave them.
2. Attachment of the Institutionalized adolescents depends on the situation and the times they have shared with their houseparent if they were close and felt the bonding.

3. The researchers also concluded that because of the feelings of abandonment felt by them with their real parents, they treasure every moment and memory they experience with their houseparent.
4. Letting go is very hard especially for the children who had been attached to their houseparent when they were young and experienced separation at the stage of adolescence.

Recommendation

To the Future Researchers. They will be conscious in choosing a topic as this one. And that the end of this study will serve only the establishment of a continuing attachment with children, being abandoned by their houseparent. And they will develop the study more carefully and will find more ways and solutions to the experience of the institutionalized children and adolescents when the houseparent leave them.

To the Houseparents. That they will continue to be more aware of the feelings of the institutionalized children and adolescents. They will give more love and attention to the children that they needed it most. And they will be more aware and knowledgeable on how the institutionalized children and adolescents are being affected whenever they leave them. Therefore, there should be long-lasting attachment of the houseparent to the child to avoid separation.

To the Institutionalized Adolescents. That they will continue to learn from their experiences of being abandoned. They can easily cope up and adjust to their situation and overcome their weaknesses. They should also understand that their house parents will not be there for them forever.

To the Personnel of the Institution. They continue to support the needs of the institutionalized children. They will be conscious of the feelings of the child whenever the houseparents leave them. They will also give a brief orientation to the houseparents and institutionalized children to avoid the feelings of being abandoned.

