

# DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

A CASE STUDY OF AGING PROSTITUTES

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A Thesis  
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by

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## ABSTRACT

This is an exploratory study aimed at providing basic information on the aging prostitutes' material and social adjustments, material and psychological preparations, and self-image.

The research conducted a case study of five aging prostitutes in Chinatown selected through purposive sampling. Data were obtained through an in-depth interview of each of the subject which were recorded and then analyzed.

It was determined that four of the five subjects adapt some forms of material adjustment to augment their income such as performing more sexual services, and calling or inviting male passersby outside their places of work.

With regard to their social adjustments, three of the five subjects take drugs or liquor to temporarily relieve them of their problems. Two subjects shy away from people while one contemplates on herself as a way of coping with her problem.

Only two of the five subjects indicated savings as a preparation for the future while one was only able to reach college (1 year). Four had high school or elementary education. Three subjects had experience in selling while two had skills in cosmetology and sewing.

With regard to psychological preparations, all subjects intend to save money as capital for selling in the future. Only one subject showed extremely optimistic attitude toward the future. One was fairly optimistic while the rest were pessimistic.

All but one of the subjects have negative self-images. All subjects, however, perceived themselves as having a low status in society.

The conclusions generally indicate that age is an important factor that affects every aspect taken up in this study.

