

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

CHILDREN LEARNING ABOUT THE
FAMILY FROM TELEVISION

A Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Sixty-three children of the Karilagan International School were interviewed to find out whether the television medium is an effective source of learning about family roles for middle- and upper-class Filipino grade school children. Pearson r correlations, although not significant, show some direct and indirect trends in relationships between content and frequency of family shows children are exposed to, and their perceptions of communication behaviors in real-life families and what they think they learned from television about family life. For example, the males seem to learn more from high conflict shows while the females seem to learn more from high affiliative shows. The younger children seem not to learn as much as the older children do from watching television. Additional information obtained regarding parental control over children's televiewing and guidance showed that younger children received more parental control over televiewing and parental guidance as compared to the older children. Also, parents give more positive comments about television families than negative comments. Information gathered also affirmed that the children think that television families are just like real families.



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