

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT

This study compares the prevailing attitudes of the people in a rural and an urban community concerning perpetual singleness as a mode of life for women. Self-administered questionnaires containing a set of 24 Likert-type attitude statements and other questions measuring related variables were used. 129 rural residents and 131 urban residents were incidentally and randomly selected from five barrios around Lipa, Batangas and five barangays in Manila, respectively.

In general, there were no significant differences between the attitudes of the rural and urban respondents. Such variables as occupation and presence of both parents showed strong influence on the attitude of the Manileños. The variable, experience of past boyfriend/girlfriend relationship, was significant only with the Batangeneños. All the respondents were affected by the variables sex and marital status. Male and married respondents had more unfavorable attitude towards the idea of perpetual singleness of women than the women and single respondents. All in all, results indicate an unfavorable attitude towards the issue, implying that the Filipinos still believe in the traditional role of women as wives, mothers and homemakers.

