

# DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SEX AND ATTITUDES OF DE LA SALLE STUDENTS TOWARDS CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

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Bachelor of Arts

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by

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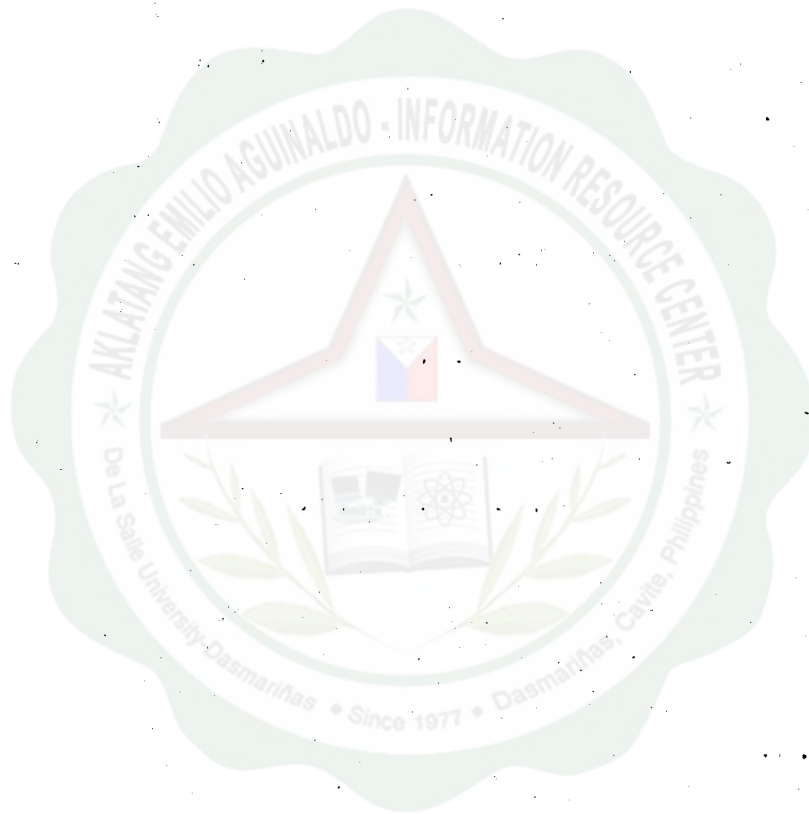
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## Chapter 4

### DISCUSSION

Our study has come up with a result part of which is in consonance and another in contradiction to that which we surmised earlier.

With respect to the attitudes of female and male students towards campus activities expressed in terms of their membership in the different organizations, the result was in consonance to our belief that a significant difference exist between the male and the female. We concluded that the alternative hypothesis that a significant relationship exist between the sex and attitudes of students towards campus activities is the result of the analysis. Most of the female respondents belong to the "very active" category having more than 2 organizations simultaneously as compared to the male most of which belong to the "average" with only 1 organization at a time.

Attitudes of female and male towards campus activities was also expressed in terms of the frequency of their attendance in the different organizations' general meetings. The chi-square of 36.92 (See Table II-C) which was greater than the required chi-square showed us that there exist a significant relationship between sex and the attitudes of students towards campus activities. Similarly, the female



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came out to be the most active of the 2 sexes where most of the female respondents were classified under the "above average" (connoting very active participation) which means that they attend more than 50% of the total number of general meetings held in one quarter.

But the result of the t-test for the opinion statements about campus activities revealed that no difference exist between the male and the female. There is no significant relationship between sex of the same age bracket and the attitudes of students towards campus activities.

The most common reason for withdrawing one's participation in the campus activities among the female is that they lack the time while for the male, they think that being a member of these organizations is "too time-consuming".

However, both the male and the female shared the most common reason why they join campus activities, that is, because of their desire to "make friends" with 92% of the total male respondents answering this and 90% of the female doing the same.

## INTERPRETATION

The study disclosed that the female are more active in their participation in the campus activities than the male in the De La Salle University in terms of membership in





the different school organizations and the degree of attendance. What possible factors may best explain these results?

Referring to the previous studies made which were mentioned in our introduction, the female are more patient than the male (Arnold, 1964, p.26). This theory can be supported further by the article written by Maricor de Villa:

Women encounter more stressful situations than men, Francis Santamaria states. But they can cope better. Women are built to last. Physiologically, they are more capable because of childbirth, which is a stressful situation. Furthermore, women have more outlets than men, like crying. Men do not easily cry. They keep it inside and the tension builds up. Women can take more stress except that men do not show it (Woman's, 1979, p.10).

The female can manage to occupy membership in 3 organizations simultaneously because she is considered to know how to budget her time. At an early age, she is not only taught how to budget the money but also time as well in connection with the society's expectations that she will become the housekeeper of the family (Social Research Laboratory, 1977, p.2).

One possible reason which may have accounted for the active participation of female in campus activities is their natural urge to spend their time and effort to obtain knowledge and to put such knowledge into practice so as to satisfy their psychological needs. Similarly, a seminar paper compiled by Dr. Legaspi (1976) on the status



of women in Thailand disclosed such observation (Legaspi, 1976, p.18). These findings can be tied up with the result of the study we made. The female participate actively in the campus activities because of their desire to have a taste of everything...to try what it is to be with these organizations. They are not contented with one organization at a time.

The female can afford to participate in 3 organizations or more at the same time assuring her organization to attend the meetings devotedly because the female is characterized by her sense of devotion, industriousness and her interest for active participation. This observation can be strengthened by a data gathered from the study made by the Social Research Laboratory which stated that "girls are more industrious and reliable and thus make better students than boys" (Social Research Laboratory, 1977, p.2).

The female is sociable by nature. She enjoys meeting people and making friends. The reason that can possibly explain why the female tend to indulge themselves in so many campus activities is because she wants to meet new circle of friends, meet new faces and be a friend to many. On the contrary, the male is found to be less sociable than the female as revealed by Maccoby's study (Social Research Laboratory, 1977, p.5).

Participating in many different organizations offer



different experiences which the female thinks have value in her future (which is in fact and in practice). Dr. Legaspi (1976) stated that in Thailand, all of the women graduates have worked and have made full use of their education as well as their past experiences in the campus organizations.

In comparison with other Asian countries, Filipino women are said to enjoy privileges that other women have to fight for or more conveniently resign themselves to. In the field of education, Filipino women attain equality if not more in education than men. Women's participation in generally labelled male discipline such as law, medicine and physical sciences is considered as a common event (Legaspi, 1976). As a consequence of this free participation in the society by women, the women can now freely exercise and make full use of their potentials with very little restraints. Here are some proofs to this allegation that the women of today are subject to lesser constraints with regards to their participation in the society.

In the Philippines, the Filipino women was called upon to play a more extensive role not only in the home but also in the community. Since time immemorial, the Filipino women have been the partners of men and have played an active role in their country's development. (Legaspi, 1976, p. 227).

In like manner, nowadays, Thai women are playing an increasing role in the Thai society. It can be stated that Thai female graduates have enjoyed status on equal footing with men. They have encountered little obstacles on their



way to achieve their heart's drive to take part in the national development. Since 1932, Thai women have enjoyed suffrage rights. In addition, there is no sex discrimination in employment except in cases where women are considered unstable for the job (Legaspi, 1976, p. 18).

Most of the female are aware of the facts which we have discussed earlier in this chapter. Their behaviour may somehow be affected by them. That is the reason why one would notice that the female's participation in the campus activities is getting recognition. We are hopeful that participation of women in other areas other than in campus activities be increased.

This noticeable increase in the female participation in the campus activities may have been influenced indirectly by the successes garnered by notable females in our society. These are women who had made great achievements evidenced by high position occupied by them in our society. Examples of these successful women are the educator and civic leader, Helena Benitez, who served as chairman to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, Justice Cecilia Muñoz-Palma of the Supreme Court who is the first woman ever appointed to such position in the Supreme Court, the Programs Ambassador Leticia Ramos Shahani who was the chairman of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, Dr. Estefania Aldaba-Lim who is a member of the UNESCO Board, Mrs. Martha Reyes Horrigan who is the president of the Actuarial Society



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of the Philippines. Above all, the notable accomplishments of our First Lady and Metro Manila Governor Mrs. Imelda Marcos have provided inspiration for many female in the Philippines to participate actively in our society.

From a report made by the President of the Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Barangay, Mrs. Nora Petines, it was observed that women are having active participation in the community projects undertaken throughout the country in the said movement. "Although not substantiated with facts, she also mentioned that women far outnumbered men in regular attendance of 'pulong-pulong' or town meetings" (Magsanoc, Bulletin Today, 1977, pp. I & I4).

The prominent and successful women which we mentioned earlier may have provided inspiration and example to many. However, behind all these successful women are those who remain mute and inactive like the women of Malaysia who would rather want to retain their role as "preservers" and "perpetuators" (Legaspi, 1976, p.27) of traditional roles and values instead of participating actively in the activities of the society. In Thailand, Dr. Legaspi's study (1976) revealed that there are some women who prefer to standback and let men do the job. They do not want to lose their feminine charms and do not want to hurt their men's ego. This also holds true in the Philippines as evidenced by the finding obtained by the Social Research Laboratory



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(1977, p. 19) which states that:

The presence of anticipation of the negative consequences or effects because of the success include being socially rejected, fear of losing friends or one's eligibility as a date or marriage partner (Social Research Laboratory, 1977, p. 19).

Only a few women would go out their way to attain the highest position in our society. This statement is evidenced by the result which was incidental to our study. From the list of officers of the different school organizations (16) in the De La Salle University, only 3 out of the 16 presidents are female. However, there is a very slight difference between the number of male and female assuming the subordinate positions. One observation that can further strengthen the theory that the female tend to shun from assuming the top positions in our society is made in the study of Aleta, Silva and Eleazar (1977, p. 175) where women is observed to have slightly outnumbered the men in the national elections. However, only a small number of women politicians achieve national and local leadership position. "They themselves persist in electing the men as their leaders" (Aleta, Silva & Eleazar, 1977, p. 175).

Females tend to shun back top positions like the president not only due to the fact that the women "do not want to hurt their men's ego" (Legaspi, 1976) but also due



to the image commonly attributed to women of being emotionally unstable or soft-hearted. Positions like the president or chairman usually involve firm and decisive actions.

As for the administrative side, women have less opportunity to become rectors or secretary generals of different ministries. They have not yet had the opportunity to hold the highest public office. So far, none have been seated as prime minister, minister of state, deputy minister or head of the political party. The attitude and belief from time immemorial that women are incapable of ruling over a great number of people because they can neither make a quick and precise decision nor have control over their emotions still exists in Thai society today (Legaspi, 1976, p. 21).

We can also say that the worldwide movement called the Women's Liberation Movement has encouraged many female to participate actively in the activities of the society. This can be tied up with the kind of participation manifested by our female respondents regarding campus activities in our study. According to Leticia Ramos-Shahani:

Women have been capturing the headlines lately due to their "lib movement" which have sprung in several countries of the world. It looks as if society and with it, the men are beginning to sit up and take notice (Manila Chronicle, 1971).

In 1969, Malaysian women obtained equal pay for equal work. In the Philippines, all fields are now open to women. Similarly, Thai women now have full participation in the society (Legaspi, 1976, p. 226).

The female may tend to have greater participation in campus activities than the male because the male's way of



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thinking are preconditioned towards earning a living while still in college or even after college. Amparo Buhain's paper contained data showing that "women dominated the scene of higher education simply because men are fed into the stream of earning a living soon after college education" (Legaspi, 1977, p. 127). The study made by FAPE in 1974 (Aleta, Silva & Eleazar, 1977, p. 108) on the male and female educational aspiration indicated a "more practical, occupational-oriented aspiration for males". According to Arvonne Fraser, "boys are expected to grow up to support themselves attitude" (Today's Woman, 1975, p. 16). These studies may have given the reason why the male in our study confined themselves in only 1 organization at a time. Some of them may be earning a living already or preoccupied with their own businesses.

Generally, women are characterized by a relatively low achievement motivation (Garskof, 1971, p. 127). However our study seem to prove otherwise. An active female participation in campus activities (as a result of our study) may connote a high achievement motivation. Our study is in congruence with Licuanan's findings which concluded that the "female adolescents had higher achievement motivation than male adolescent" (Aleta, Silva & Eleazar, 1977, p. 110) and the study made by Edpitaf in 1974 (Social Research Laboratory, 1977, p.6).





## Chapter 5

### RECOMMENDATIONS

To further acquire validity and solidity to the study made, it is recommended that additional research work be performed. It would be most preferable to study other factors which may have brought about the result of this study.

A related study could be done on the relationship between the year level and attitudes of De La Salle students towards campus activities. It would be interesting to find out whether the year level of the students could have an effect on the attitudes of students towards campus activities measurable by their degree of participation in the campus activities.

Another study that might be of great interest is a study showing whether there can exist a significant relationship between the major of the students and their attitudes towards campus activities. Although research showed that a significant relationship exist between sex and attitudes, there may still be a significant independence existing in this respect.

Lastly, a study that seeks to find out what other factors could influence the students in joining and withdrawing participation in campus activities can be



undertaken.

Aside from these studies mentioned, it would also be helpful if the questionnaire originally formulated by the researchers, be examined and suggestions on how it can be improved be implemented.

