

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY

ABSTRACT

With poverty increasing, one may wonder how the low income group people cope with the present situation. With the recent IMF-imposed devaluation, coupled with inflation, vendors have practically invaded almost every public gatherings such as churchyards, school perimeters, markets, etc. In line with the difficulties surrounding the country, the researchers would like to study the vendors, most specifically the "malamig" vendors of Quiapo Church. It has come to the minds of the researchers to look into their coping mechanisms, since it is commonly observed that different people are forced to readjust their life in order to survive drastic changes in life. Using Enriquez's model of "padalaw-dalaw", "patanong-tanong", "pakikipaglagayang loob" (1982), a total of three subjects are interviewed and observed. Results of the study showed that the importance of family and the belief in God serve as the revolving factor in the "malamig" vendor's way of coping. From here one can see that it does not matter how hard life is, for coping can be done in the proper attitude one holds.

