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A STUDY OF THE FACTORS THAT
INFLUENCE DOMESTIC SERVICE AMONG
METRO MANILA HOUSEHOLDS

18810

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by

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ABSTRACT

Domestic service is a type of occupation which involves the rendering of household services. Although most of the persons engaged in domestic service live with their respective employers, this study was designed to uncover the factors that may affect the duration of stay of female domestic helps (who may or may not live with their present employers) found in middle class and upper class homes in Metro Manila.

The variables studied were the following: Independent -- the salary, attitude towards the number of persons being served, extra benefits, others' assistance, length of stay in Metro Manila and helps' perception of the helping behavior of the employer. While the dependent variables were the eventual acceptance of the work and the number of employers served.

The data obtained indicated that there were no significant differences between upper class and middle class helps in terms of socio-demographic characteristics. It was found that majority of the female domestic helps received an average monthly income of P 134.00 and has been in Metro Manila for the past seven years. Likewise, results showed that there is a comparatively high concentration of respondents coming from the rural areas (specifically from the E. Visayas region) and that a great majority finished/reached upto the intermediate level only.

However, differences were observed between upper class and middle class helps in terms of working (and/or living) conditions and employer-employee(help) relationship. For example, in upper class homes, a majority of the respondents had 3-5 more co-helps whereas in middle class households, the number did not go beyond two. As for salary increases, most of those employed in upper class homes received pay increases after 6 months. Whereas, in middle class homes, only after a period of one year's service, did the employer give pay increases to the helps. Likewise marked differences were observed in the manner in which helps addressed their employers, the frequency of meals per day and whether or not the helps receive extra benefits (bonuses, gifts, and/or increase in pay).

A significant relationship existed between salary received, length of stay in Metro Manila and helps' perception of helping behavior of employers and the number of employers served.

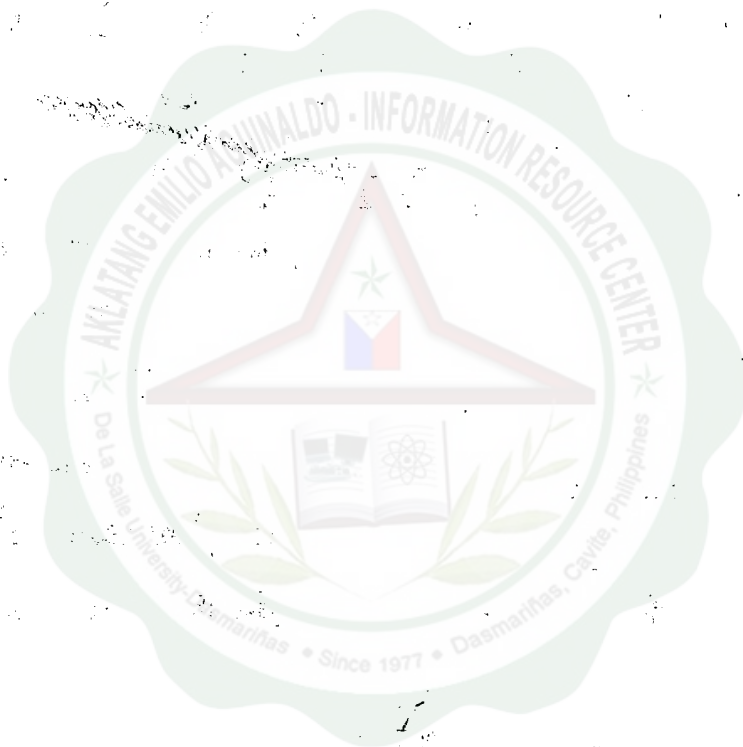
On the other hand, there was no significant relationship existing between salary, others' assistance and extra benefits with the eventual acceptance of work. Also, no significant relationship existed between the attitude towards the number of persons being served and



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the number of persons or employers served.

The implications of such results are further discussed in the study.



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