

ABSTRACT

Title of the Research: **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS' PERCEPTION ON THE ROLE OF THE PARISH AND THE PARISH PRIEST IN THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS OF THE DIOCESE OF IMUS: BASIS FOR POLICY FORMULATION**

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This study is a description of the school administrators' perception on the role of the Parish and the Parish Priest in the Parochial School in order to come up with recommendations for policy formulation that will aid the Diocese to attain its Vision. The data gathered was analyzed using the See-Judge-Act vis-à-vis strength and weakness framework concerning the management of the different Parochial Schools in the Diocese of Imus. Also, part of the study was based on the documentary analysis of several Church's documents.

The main sources of data of this study were the Parish Priests, School Directors, and the Principals of all the Parochial Schools under the Diocese of Imus based on their answers to the open-ended questionnaires, interview schedule and focus group discussion in order to detail more their responses

in the open-ended questionnaires given to them regarding their perceptions and experiences on his/her role in the Parochial School in terms of administration, finance, policy-making and curriculum development.

Findings of the study show that the problems encountered by the respondents in the different areas of concern dealt with the leadership styles of the administrators, the organizational structure or nature of the parochial schools and the approach or strategy in their operations.

The study concludes that since the respondents (Parish Priests and the Principals) viewed the Parish and the Parochial Schools as separate entities the parish should have its hands off in the aspect of administration, finance, policy making and curriculum design. But the separate entities were only in terms of day-to-day management and operation only but not in responding to the call of God to the education mission of the church.

This present study thereby recommends the following: the Diocese must encourage some of its priests to take up courses in educational management and other related disciplines; the Diocese should exert an extra effort in giving formation to the school leaders on the value of partnership in education for the missionary undertaking of the church; the integration of the DPP-E vision and mission in the curriculum, programs and activities of the school must be maximized; and the Diocese must come up with a manual that contains policies and guidelines concerning the operation of the Diocesan Parochial Schools.