



De La Salle University – Dasmariñas

**PERSONALITY PROFILE OF SELECTED FEMALE
SEX WORKERS AND ITS IMPLICATION
TO THEIR LIFE SATISFACTION**

An Undergraduate Thesis

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The Behavioral Sciences Department

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Of Bachelor of Arts Major in Psychology

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ABSTRACT

NAME OF INSTITUTION: De La Salle University-Dasmariñas

ADDRESS: Bagong Bayan, Dasmariñas, Cavite

TITLE: Personality Profile Of Selected Female Sex Workers And Its Implication To Their Life Satisfaction

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A. Objectives of the Study:

To be able to know the personality profile of selected female prostitutes and its implication to their life satisfaction.

B. Specific objectives:

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the demographic profile of the sex workers according to?
 - a. Age
 - b. Religion
 - c. Family of Origin
 - d. Socio-emotional Status



- e. Educational background
2. What is the personality profile of the sex workers as revealed by their psychological tests?
3. What is the level of life satisfaction of sex workers associated with their purpose and goals in life?
4. What is the implication of the sex workers' personality profile to their life satisfaction level?

METHODOLOGY:

The researchers used a descriptive case study to gather qualitative information needed for the research. An in-depth study involves careful investigation of facts based on different data gathering procedures such as observation, interview, and conversations. Thus, the researchers tried as much as possible to conduct a thorough research and observation to achieve awareness and broad understanding of the chosen study.

The researchers used purposive sampling method in choosing the respondents. The researchers selected 9 female sex workers from selected nightclubs and beerhouses in areas of Cavite like Naic, Tanza, General Trias, and Cavite City. Their ages ranged from 18 to 24. The researchers chose this age span because of a greater number of women with this kind job within the bracket.

**MAJOR FINDINGS:**

1. Table 1.a. shows the different ages of the respondents. One respondent (11.11%) was aged 24, three respondents (33.33%) 21 years old, two respondents (22.22%) were aged 20 years old, one respondent (11.11%) was 19 years old and two respondents (22.22%) were 18 years of age. These ages are the most in demand ages of sex workers according to some people who have sufficient knowledge on sex trade, which the researchers were able to talk to. Table 1.b. shows the types of religion of the respondents. Seven (77.77%) of them were Roman Catholics and the other two (22.23%) are followers of Iglesia Ni Cristo. Despite the strict morality being observed by the Catholic Church, the respondents did not mind the eyes of society. They said that if they will not work, nobody would help them. They also commented that they do not listen to what society may say because its criticisms cannot feed their empty stomachs. For them, it is not a matter of religion but a matter of survival. Table 1.c. shows the family of origin where the respondents belonged. Six (66.66%) belonged to a dysfunctional type. The parents were not separated and the family had complete family members but were unable to provide sufficient necessities and proper care and attention to the members. Three (33.34%) belonged to a broken family. Mostly in this case, the parents are separated or there is absence of other members of the family. Table 1.d. shows the socio-emotional status of the respondents. Three respondents (33.33%) were on the average as to their



De La Salle University – Dasmariñas

emotions. They were not too emotional nor too rigid. Two of the respondents (22.22%) were emotional, characterized by the presence of anxiety in their lives. Majority of the respondents (44.45%) were highly emotional. These were the tearjerker types, who easily cried and got hurt by untoward events.

Table 1.e. shows the educational attainment of the respondents. Two of the respondents (22.22%) finished high school, two (22.22%) were high school undergraduates, three (33.33%) finished elementary, and the last two (22.24%) were unable to finish elementary education. None of the respondents were able to study in college. This information shows that illiteracy is a denominator among the sex workers.

2. Based on the gathered information, there is a clear connection between a person's personality profile and his or her life satisfaction. According to the respondents, they are all striving to improve their present lives and to change the way things are going with them. As to their personality profile, most of them have common aspects in their personality that is, the type of family they belonged to and their socio-emotional status.
3. With respect to the data gathered, being sex workers made the respondents weak, anti-social, withdrawn, sexually disoriented, and have low self-esteem. Because of their being poor and illiterate, they decided to engage in such type of work.



Conclusions

1. The study shows that the female sex workers have problems with the type of family they belong to. Their families are either broken, dysfunctional, and not closely intact with their family members, which resulted to weak intra-family communication. These problems caused the respondents to have inadequate knowledge about their sexuality, a hard time with heterosexual relationships, increased level of aggressiveness, low socio-emotional level, and low cognitive development despite their ages. They also long for attention, love, and care, which their families are not able to give them. Their life satisfaction level is low which urge them to strive for acceptance from people and to have a better life.
2. With respect to the data gathered, being sex workers made the respondents weak, anti-social, withdrawn, sexually disoriented, and have low self-esteem. Because of their being poor and illiterate, they decided to engage in such type of work. Their views, outlooks, and feelings towards their job are further shaped by the use of the projective tests, paper and pencil tests, emotional tests, interview, and the use of the life satisfaction checklist.