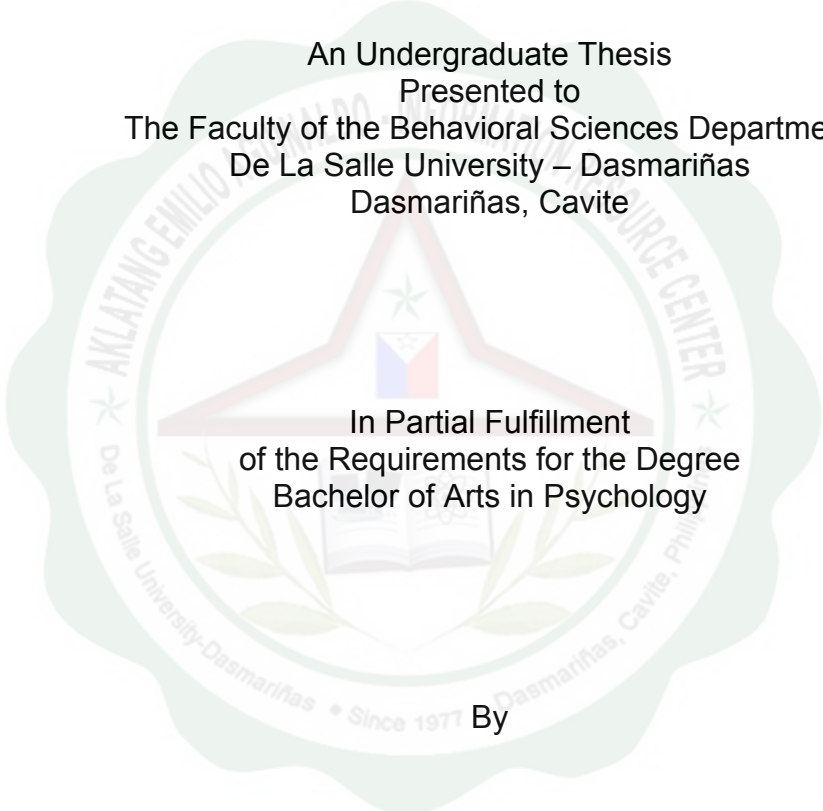


**Teenage Mothers' Problems and Coping Mechanisms:
Implications for Guidance Program Development**

An Undergraduate Thesis
Presented to
The Faculty of the Behavioral Sciences Department
De La Salle University – Dasmariñas
Dasmariñas, Cavite

The seal of De La Salle University - Dasmariñas is a circular emblem with a scalloped border. It features a central shield with a blue and red field, a white cross, and a green star. The shield is flanked by green laurel branches and sits atop an open book. The text "AKLATANG EMILIO" is on the left and "RESOURCE CENTER" is on the right. At the bottom, it reads "De La Salle University - Dasmariñas • Since 1977 • Dasmariñas, Cavite, Philippines".

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

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ABSTRACT

The general objective of this study is to know the problems and coping mechanisms of unmarried single teenage mothers studying at De La Salle University- Dasmariñas with age ranging from 18 to 21. It is hoped that the results of this study could become a basis for Guidance Program Development Proposal.

The study used a descriptive research method. The respondents were chosen through Purposive Sampling/ Chain Referral technique and were chosen based on a recommendation by sources that are familiar with their experiences on being a teenage mother. An interview guide for this case study was used by the researchers. Data were gathered through an in- depth interview with the respondents. A content analysis technique was used wherein the researchers used a profile and a table for the summary of the information gathered.

It was revealed that being a teenage mother is a hard job. They are facing many problems especially on personal, social, educational and financial aspects. They need to face different responsibilities. As adolescents, they cannot play their role as teenagers because of the responsibilities of being a mother and they tend to be more matured at their early age. Since teenage mothers are still studying, they cope up with their problems and the demands of school life through proper time management,

maintaining high level of motivation and high educational goals. The strong support from their family also gives them the best way to cope up to their situation. Based on the needs and concerns of teenage mothers, a guidance program will be proposed for them.

