EFFECTS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ON THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF SELECTED CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF IMUS: BASIS FOR RENEWED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A Dissertation
Presented to
the Faculty of the
College of Education Graduate Studies
De La Salle University – Dasmariñas
Dasmariñas, Cavite

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Doctor of Education
Major in Educational Management

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November 2007

ABSTRACT

Title: Effects of Religious Education on the High

School Students of Selected Catholic Schools in

the Diocese of Imus: Basis for Renewed

Religious Education

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Degree: **Doctor of Education**

Major: Educational Management

Date Completed: November 2007

This study was conducted to find out the effects of religious education on the high school students of selected Catholic schools in the Diocese of Imus and to come up with a proposed renewed religious education program. This will serve as the basis of the Catholic schools for revising their curriculum and to find out if this renewed religious education program is aligned to the vision-mission of the Catholic schools.

The conceptual framework evolved from Stufflebeam's model, the Context, Input, Process and Product (CIPP) approach.

The focus was on how the religious education would bring a better person in terms of doctrine, moral and worship dimensions to the selected Catholic high school students in the Diocese of Imus.

The setting of the study was limited to fifteen (15) selected Catholic schools in the Diocese of Imus. A total of 1,518 high school students from first year to fourth year level, school year 2006 – 2007 were identified as respondents employing random sampling.

The researcher utilized the descriptive-survey method with the questionnaire as the major instrument in gathering the data. The present state of religious education in selected Catholic schools in the Diocese of Imus was assessed by determining the level of knowledge of the respondents in terms of doctrine, moral and worship dimensions, and how religious education affects their character formation.

Findings show that there are significant differences in the effects of religious education on the behavior of the respondents when they are classified according to gender, age and year level. There are significant differences also in the effects of religious education and activities participated in by the respondents in terms of doctrine, moral and worship dimensions. On the other hand, the respondents level of knowledge in terms of moral and worship is very satisfactory, and in terms of the doctrine dimension the respondents' level of knowledge is satisfactory. The study further reveals that lecture and question-and-answer teaching strategies were employed in handling religious education. In regard to parish and school activities, the respondents participated mostly in the Holy Mass, recollection and praying of the angelus.

The study concludes that there are significant differences in the effects of religious education on the respondents when they are grouped according to gender, age and year level. However, when they are grouped in terms of gender, the effect of religious education on female respondents yields a highly significant difference from that of the male.

This study hereby recommends that Catholic schools should intensify their religious education program in order to ensure congruence between knowledge and attitudes of the high school students in the Diocese of Imus. It is further recommended that religious education should be accompanied with pastoral work or active involvement in their respective parishes or communities, so that the students will experience and learn to live actively their faith and love for God. Religious education teachers should use varied teaching strategies in order to transmit the gospel message more effectively to the students.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CCC - Catechism of the Catholic Church

CBCP - Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines

CFC - Catechism for Filipino Catholics

CEAP - Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines

CT - Catechesi Tradendae

GE - Gravissimum Educationis

EN - Evangelii Nuntiandi

NELS - National Education Longitudinal Survey

NNCDP - New National Catechetical Directory of the Philippines

PCP II- Second Plenary Council of the Philippines

PP - Populorum Progressio

Sacred Scriptures

I Cor. - First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Jn. - John

Mt. - Matthew

Lk. - Luke

Mk. - Mark

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