A CASE STUDY ON THE COMMUNICATION PATTERNS USED BY SELECTED SINGLE FATHERS IN COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR DAUGHTER IN CAVITE

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Abstract

Single fathers who ended raising their respective child alone also play the role of the mother. They are known as the "modern day fathers" who come in various – either single, separated, gay, adoptive or widower. As "modern day fathers," the communication styles and communication patterns used by the single fathers with their respective daughter vary when it comes to her physical changes, studies, and relationship with peers and opposite sex, and even in handling their interpersonal relationship that may result in misunderstandings. The researchers aimed to answer the question, "How do single fathers communicate with their respective daughter?" Six single fathers in Cavite were interviewed to determine their frequency of interaction; degree of openness; communication styles and communication patterns used in addressing the daughter's physical changes, studies, and relationship with peers and opposite sex and in handling interpersonal relationship that may result in misunderstandings. Data gathered was then analyzed through the use of two supporting theories: Social Penetration Theory and Relational Dialectics, ascertained that single fathers in Cavite used different communication patterns in handling these issues. Most single fathers used Unbalanced Split pattern in deciding matters of their respective daughter's concern with her physical changes; most single fathers used Equality in deciding matters of their daughter's concern with her studies; most single fathers used Unbalanced Split and Equality in deciding matters of their daughter's concerns with her peers; most single fathers used Monopoly in deciding matters of their daughter's concerns with her relationship with the opposite sex; and most single fathers used Equality in deciding when they have a misunderstanding with their daughter.

Key Words: Single father, daughter, communication style, communication pattern

Table of Contents

Title Page	1
Approval Sheet	ii
Certification	iii
Acknowledgements	V
Abstract	vii
Table of Contents	viii
List of Tables	X
Introduction	1
Methodology	17
Results	21
Discussion	42
Conclusion	58
Recommendation	59
References	60

SINGLE FATHER-DAUGHTER COMMUNICATION

Appendices		63
	Interview Guide	63
	Transcription of Interviews	70
	Per Case Study Data Presentation	199
	Curriculum Vitae	259



List of Tables

Table 1 Profile of the Single Fathers and their Daughter	17
	1,
Table 2 Frequency of Interaction of the Single Fathers and their Daughter	21
Table 3	
Topics about the daughter's physical changes that are being discussed by the single fathers with their daughter	23
Table 3.1	
Topics about the daughter's studies that are being discussed by the single fathers with their daughter	24
Table 3.2	
Topics about the daughter's relationship with peers that are being discussed by the single fathers with their daughter	26
Table 3.3	
Topics about the daughter's relationship with the opposite sex that are being discussed by the single father with their daughter	27
Table 4	
Degree of openness of the daughter to her father	29
Table 5	
Communication styles adopted by the single fathers with their daughter about her physical changes, studies and relationship	
with peers and opposite sex	33
Table 6	
Communication patterns adopted by the single fathers with their daughter about her physical changes, studies and relationship	
with peers and opposite sex	36
Table 7	
Communication styles adopted by the single father in handling misunderstandings	39
Table 8	
Communication patterns adopted by the single father in handling	4.0
misunderstandings	40