

ABSTRACT

The continuous rise of the number of AIDS/HIV victims and Unwanted Pregnancies in the Philippines among adolescents gave the researchers enough reason to pursue a topic that will be of benefit to the society especially the youth. The researchers considered the need for a wider dissemination of the need for parent-adolescent communication. The researchers believe that having an open communication between the mother and the adolescent will help prevent these issues to prevail among the youth these days.

The theoretical framework of the study is grounded on two communication theories; namely, Rommetveit and Balakar Communication Model which states that the communication process is an interaction between two parties, with each having the ability to influence the other. Relational Dialectics Theory adds that there is a contradiction between the desire to share feelings and ideas and the desire to maintain privacy while Coordinated Management of Meanings defines and interprets how humans interact while constructing the meaning of their conversation.

In this study, the researchers used survey questionnaires that were distributed to 235 adolescents aged 12-18 from Christ the King School College of Cavite Foundation and Infant Jesus Montessori Center.

Filipino adolescents and Filipino mothers communicate with each other though it is difficult for adolescents to open up with their mothers about sensitive topics like sexual and reproductive health. They are usually on their guard about such matter. Communication is only minimal. The information about Sexual and Reproductive Health being shared by mothers to their adolescents are: Virginity, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), Abortion, Safe Sex, Pre-Marital Sex, HIV, and Contraceptives. Moreover, majority of the adolescents experience a feeling of fear, discomfort, and embarrassment when communication pertaining to sexual and reproductive health happens between them and their mothers; but despite the fear and discomfort that they experience, adolescents also distinguish a better understanding and a feeling of trust with their mothers after the said communication, primarily due to the nature of mothers being more open-minded and understanding. They perceive the act of communication with their mothers positively and believe that they get a positive point of view.

Keywords: adolescents mothers reproductive health
communication sexuality