

**Emotional Profile of Selected Male and Female DLSU-D Students with Mothers Working
Abroad**

A Research Paper

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ABSTRACT

Working abroad is a new phenomenon and development of individual's effort to improve their lives and the lives of their families, to learn new skills, to gain new experiences, to find a job or to flee from insecurity, disaster or famine. It is also an economic, social and political process that affects those who move, those who stay behind, and the places where overseas workers go. People are crossing borders to search for better job opportunities and to provide a better future for their families. Along with this development is the plight of more children being left behind by either one or both parents, leaving them to the care of extended family members or friends (Reyes, 2008).

The aim of the study is to know the emotional profile of the selected male and female students of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas with mothers working abroad. It also aims to know the significant difference in the emotional profile of these selected male and female DLSU-D students with mothers working abroad. These overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) have proven to be a boon on a macro and micro level, uplifting the Philippines' economy and at the same time improving the lives of the families they left behind. Unfortunately, there are social costs associated with the migration of labor including depression, abuse and stress. The families left behind are affected as well. It is ironic that while care is the largest export product of the Philippines (Parreas, 2005), caring for one's own family is sacrificed. The Filipino family is believed to be the foundation of the nation and by 'family', emphasis is put on the nuclear family of two heterosexual, married parents and children. The continuity of the family is vital in Philippine society, placing high value on both marriage and children (Chant & McIlwaine, 1995). Emotional nurturing, value-formation, and care for physical well-being are responsibilities attributed to mothering. Traditional mothering involves being physically present to feed, clothe, and provide emotional support to children. While migrant mothers are able to

provide their children and families with financial wealth and economic stability, the price for women has been separation and alienation for children and a sense of loss and the guilt of not being a 'good' mother (Tioco, 2004). Parents who stay abroad for a longer period than anticipated cling to the tenacious myth that once their children join them, the family will become as was before and all difficulties and troubles would disappear.

The quantitative research design is utilized in this study through the use of survey method. To know the significant difference in the emotional profile of selected male and female DLSU-D students with mothers working abroad. The researchers used a standardized test entitled Emotions Profile Index (EPI) by R. Plutchik and H. Kellerman (1974). It purports to measure the emotional profile of the selected male and female students while their mother is working abroad.

The respondents are gathered through the use of purposive sampling. These students are one hundred (100) respondents; fifty (50) males and fifty (50) females, with age of eighteen (18) to twenty-two (22) years old, should be the youngest in the family, and will come from 3rd year and 4th year or 5th year of the said group students. To determine the emotional profile of the selected male and female students, the researchers will interpret the results using eight (8) basic emotion dimensions from the scores of each selected male and female students. The eight (8) basic emotion dimensions are Trustful, Dyscontrolled, Timid, Depressed, Distrustful, Controlled, Aggressive and Gregarious.

All the emotion dimensions computed discretely, first the computed of Trustful Dimension in T-Stat was 3.47 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Second, the computed of Dyscontrolled Dimension in T-Stat was 5.95 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Third, the computed of Timid Dimension in T-Stat was 1.94 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Fourth, the computed of Depressed Dimension in T-

Stat was 1.0 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Fifth, the computed of Distrustful Dimension in T-Stat was 2.67 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Sixth, the computed of Controlled Dimension in T-Stat was -1.81 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Seventh, the computed of Aggressive Dimension in T-Stat was -0.82 and the T-Crit was 1.98. Lastly, the computed of Gregarious Dimension in T-Stat was -3.86 and the T-Crit was 1.98. The result of the study supported its hypotheses, showing that out of eight dimensions there are three dimensions that there is a significant difference and five dimensions that there is no significant difference between the emotional profiles of selected male and female De La Salle University - Dasmariñas students with mothers working abroad. The results suggest that males and females are equal in some dimensions. However, they may vary an emotion in terms of Trustful Dimension, Dyscontrolled Dimension and Distrustful Dimension.

