

A TREND STUDY ON DROPOUTS

A Thesis

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ABSTRACT

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OBJECTIVES OF THIS STUDY:

General:

To determine the trend of pupil dropouts in Barrios Sto. Domingo and Canlalay which were being served by Doña Aurora Elementary School (recently renamed Biñan Elementary School) and Barrios San Antonio and Malaban which were being served by Pagkakaisa Elementary School from school year 1992-1993 to school year 1996-1997.

Specific:

1. To determine the profile of the respondents in terms of gender, age, and type of family per school year.
2. To determine the trend of pupil dropouts of 230 elementary school pupils from school year 1992-1993 to school year 1996-1997.
3. To determine if there is a difference between the rate of dropouts of males and females; and young and old respondents.
4. To determine the specific causes of pupils' early withdrawal from school during the five year period of the study in terms of type of family as family factors, teaching style and students' competencies as school factors, peer group influences and community conditions as environmental factors, illness and disabilities as health factors.
5. To determine the remedies the schools should undertake to increase their holding power as suggested by the teachers, parents, and pupils.

SCOPE AND COVERAGE:

This study analyzes the factors that determine the trend of dropouts among elementary pupils of selected schools from school year 1992-1993 to school year 1996-1997. This therefore, limits its sample to 230 pupils who were previously enrolled at Biñan Elementary School and Pagkakaisa Elementary School.

METHODOLOGY:

The descriptive method was used to conduct this study. This study involves a sample size of 230 pupils, which represents the whole population of 3217 pupils officially enrolled in the above mentioned schools. The researcher used a validated self-made checklist to gather data from pupil dropouts to find out the factors that determined the trend of dropping out. The same checklist was distributed to the 230 parents of these dropout children.

MAJOR FINDINGS:

It was found out that there were more male dropouts than female, more older pupil dropouts than young and more dropouts from intact families than broken families.

The trend of pupil dropouts of 230 elementary pupils showed that there were more dropouts in school year 1996-1997 compared to the past four years, but the enrolment was bigger in this school year so the rate of dropouts remained stable as that of the preceding year.

There is a difference between the rate of dropouts of males and females, that is, the male had higher dropout rate, and there is a difference between the rate of dropouts of young and old pupils, that is, the old pupils had higher dropout rate.

As perceived by 230 elementary school pupils, the factors that caused the incidence of dropping out were family factor followed by the school factor, then the environmental factor, and the last was health factor. And as perceived by 230 parents whose children left school, the factors that determined the incidence of dropping out were school factor, followed by family factor then the environmental factor and the last was the health factor.

There are many steps the school can do to increase its holding power. The most important steps as suggested by concerned persons are: by the teachers, the

school administrators must supplement teaching strategies by allowing field trips, tours, and excursions which have been proven to arouse and excite the interest of the pupils; by the parents, the teachers must encourage the pupils to develop love for their subjects, classmates, and teachers; and by the pupils, the teachers must use different kinds of techniques to make lessons attractive and interesting.

CONCLUSIONS:

The researcher discovered from this study that: The trend of pupil dropouts has remained high at 8% and 7% throughout the five year period due to financial problems at home. The economic situation plays an important role in the dropout problem. People need more jobs in order to meet life's basic needs including proper education of the youth.

As perceived by dropout pupils, the major factors that determined the incidence of dropping out was the family factor, next was school factor, then the environmental factor and the last was health factor.

As perceived by parents whose children were school leavers, the major factors that determined the incidence

of dropping out was school factor, next was the family factor then the environmental factor and the last was health factor.

To lessen or minimize dropouts, the government officials, the school administrators, and the teachers need to seriously pay special attention and increase their efforts to help schools improve their holding power.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based on the findings and conclusions, the researcher offers the following recommendations.

The government must do all their efforts to solve the economic problems. Economic stability means more jobs, which follows that the working conditions of the parents will be stable and they can send their children to school, and at the same time, they can fully support their studies.

The government, the school administrators and the teachers concerned must enrich learning areas with modern materials to win the interest of the pupils to minimize dropouts.

The teachers must use their time properly by providing more interesting, more challenging, and more relevant activities.

The parents must work hard in order to send their children to school because education is a life-treasure that they can give to their children. The pupils must bear in mind that anything they learn in school can help them live a full life.

For those parents who are separated, they must not let their children suffer that might lead to their early withdrawal from the school. They must do all their best to send their children to school until they graduate.

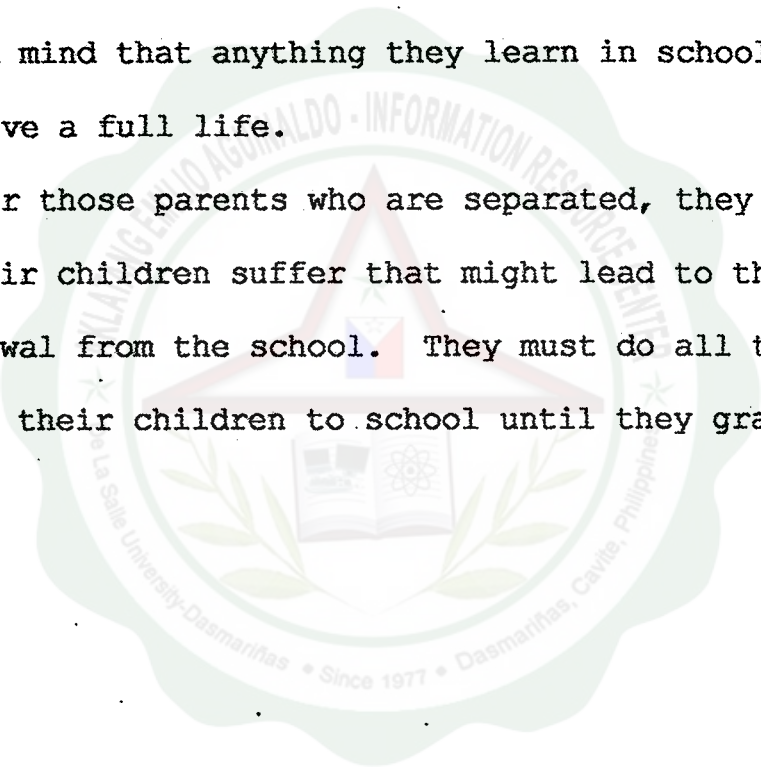


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