



**REGULATIONS ON PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION OF  
DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY-DASMARIÑAS:  
A PROPOSAL**

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De La Salle University - Dasmariñas  
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of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Arts in Education  
Major in Guidance and Counseling

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**ABSTRACT**

Name of Institution : De La Salle University-Dasmariñas  
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Title : **Regulations on Public Display of Affection of  
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A Proposal**

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**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

The study attempted to determine the opinion of the administrators, faculty and students on Public Display of Affection (PDA) and the proposed regulations to PDA at De La Salle University-Dasmariñas during the SY 1999-2000.

1. What is the profile of the administrators and faculty of DLSU-D in terms of gender, age, educational attainment and years of administrative and teaching experience?



2. What is the profile of the students of DLSU-D SY 1999-2000 in terms of gender, age, residence course, family income and school graduated?

3. What are the opinions of the administrators, faculty and students on each act of public display of affection in the school campus?

4. Are there differences in the level of opinions on public display of affection when the administrators and faculty are grouped according to gender, age, educational attainment and years of experience?

5. Are there differences in the level of opinions on public display of affection when the students are grouped according to gender, age, residence, course, family income and school graduated?

6. What are the opinions of the administrators, faculty and students on the proposed sanction on public display of affection.

7. Are there differences in the opinions on the proposed sanctions when the administrators and faculty are grouped according to gender, age, educational attainment and years of teaching experience?

8. Are there differences in opinion on the proposed sanction when the students are grouped according to gender, age, residence course, family income, and school graduated?



**METHODOLOGY:**

This study made use of the descriptive method of research employing a normative survey and correlational design. The population was composed of the 1609 students, 231 faculty and 47 administrators of DLSU-D in Dasmariñas, Cavite for a total of 1887 direct respondents. The researcher used a self-made questionnaire, validated by guidance counselors of the university. Data were processed and treated statistically using percentage, mean, t-test, F-test and Chi-square.

**FINDINGS:**

1. Profile of administrator/teacher respondents

**1.1 Gender:**

Out of 278 respondents, 118 or 42.45 per cent were male and 160 or 57.55 per cent were female.

**1.2 Age:**

Out of the 278 respondents 116 or 41.73 per cent of the administrators and faculty members belonged to age bracket 21 to 30 years old, 91 or 32.73 per cent belonging to 31 to 40 years old, 47 or 16.91 per cent belonged to 41-50 years old, 23 or 8.30 per cent belonged to 50 years old and above and 1 or .36 per cent did not indicate the bracket.



### **1.3 Educational attainment:**

Out of the 278 respondents 66 or 23.74 per cent were Bachelors Degree holders, 4 or 1.44 per cent were with MA units, 159 or 57.19 percent were MA degree holders, 8 or 2.88 per cent were with Doctoral units and 5 or 1.80 per cent of the respondents did not indicate their educational attainment.

### **1.4 Years of administrative or teaching experience.**

Out of the 278 respondents, 89 or 32.01 per cent of the administrators and faculty had 5 years and below of administrative and teaching experience, 87 or 31.29 per cent with 6 to 10 years, 100 or 35.97 per cent with 11 years and above administrative and teaching experience while 2 or 0.72 per cent did not indicate the number of years of teaching experience.

## **2. Profile of Student-Respondents**

### **2.1 Gender.**

Only 1593 student-respondents out of 1609 indicated their gender: 480 or 30.13 per cent of the respondents were male and 1113 or 69.87 per cent of the respondents were female.



### 2.2 Age.

Majority of the student-respondents or 1434 which is 89.12 per cent were below 20 years old. One hundred seventy-five respondents or 10.88 per cent of the respondents did not indicate their age.

### 2.3 Residence.

Majority of the respondents or 1083 or 67.31 per cent and 432 or 26.85 per cent reside outside Cavite and 94 respondents or 5.84 per cent did not indicate their place of residence.

### 2.4 School Graduated.

Majority of the student respondents or 789 or 48.95 per cent were graduates of private religious schools; 242 students or 18.73 per cent graduated from public high schools and 302 students or 18.73 per cent from private non-religious high schools and 279 or 17.31 per cent did not indicate the schools they graduated from.

## 3. Opinions of respondents on PDA

The three groups of respondents had the following opinions regarding the items on PDA. 189 administrators or 67.98 per cent claimed holding hands as among the highest frequency, 128 faculty members or 46.00 per cent had the opinion that hands on shoulder and hands around the waist could be permitted. For the students, prominent among the 20



PDA items were: holding hands and hands placed around the shoulder while walking could be permitted with a frequency of 1251 students or 78.59 per cent. The PDA that student-respondents believed could not be permitted were PDA number 14 to 20 kissing lips to lips, torrid kissing, caressing, necking, petting, oral sex and actual sex acts, having frequencies of 769 students or 47.80 per cent to 1560 students or 97.00 per cent. For students these are serious acts that students should not engage in as Public Display of Affection.

**4. The test of significant difference in the opinions of administrators and teachers** on PDA items 1 to 20 proved with significant differences only on item 7 lying on lap of either boy or girl, item 8 talking and sitting closely together in dark places; item 9 one or both legs on the lap of another; item 12 embracing each other while sitting or standing; item 16 caressing, having  $X^2$  values of 0.049, 0.014, 0.042, 0.019 and 0.17, respectively proved significant at 0.01 level of significance. Thus, male and female administrators and faculty differed as to whether these PDA acts are to be permitted or not.

**5. The test of significant difference in the opinions of students on PDA items 1 to 20 showed the following.**



### 5.1 Gender.

Findings proved no significant difference only on item 2, hands placed around the shoulder while walking with a  $X^2$  value of 0.486. The female students whose opinion is could be permitted is similar to the males who share the same opinion. The rest of the items were highly significant in terms of differences in opinions. The female student-respondents are greater than the number of male respondents who favored minor acts to be permitted in school campus.

### 5.2 Age.

No significant differences were found on the opinions of the student respondents when grouped according to age. Younger or older students alike were similar in their opinions on holding hands and other PDA acts should be permitted.

### 5.3 Residence.

Findings revealed that students residing inside and outside Cavite shared similar opinion regarding the PDA acts which should be permitted and which should not be permitted. Items 1, 2, 3,6,7,8,9,12 and 13 with  $X^2$  values ranging from 6.22 to 16.60 with probabilities 0.000 to 0.044 show significant and highly significant differences in terms of opinions. Greater number of students residing in Cavite favored that they should be permitted





acts. On PDA 4, 5, 10, 17, 16, 18 and 19 the student-respondents regardless of place and residence indicated that these items mentioned could not be permitted acts on campus.

#### 5.4 School Graduated.

The computed  $X^2$  values of 15.13 and 10.81 with probabilities of 0.004 and 0.028 respectively showed highly significant and significant differences in the opinions of student-respondents when grouped according to school graduated.

Student-respondents who graduated from private religious high schools favored holding hands while walking and sitting could be permitted for PDA item number 1. Student-respondents from public high schools and private non religious high schools were similar with the graduates of private religious high school in their opinion on this item and also on item number 12.

For items that could be permitted which are PDA items 3 to 11 and items 13 to 20 with  $X^2$  values from 17 to 8.69 with probabilities of 0.069 and 0.996 showed no significant differences in the opinions among these respondents.

6. Student opinions on proposed sanctions which are acceptable to the three groups of respondents.



For PDA items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 the three groups of respondents agreed that the proposed sanctions on items like: holding hands, holding around the shoulder while walking and others, the students will be advised to refrain from doing these acts by persons in authority. However, for PDA items 6, 7, 8 and 9, the sanction will be an advise to refrain from doing said acts by persons in authority which may not be enough considering the gravity or seriousness of the acts. Thus, expulsion from the university may be suggested.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

1. Most of the administrators and faculty respondents were females. They belonged to the age bracket of 21 to 30 years old. Majority of them were holders of master's degrees and had 11 years and above of administrative and teaching experience.

2. Student respondents in this study were mostly female. Majority of them were below 20 years old; resided within Cavite; and finished their studies in private religious schools and a few of them graduated from public and non religious high schools.

3. There were PDA acts which they considered minor and major acts. Holding hands, hands placed around the shoulder while walking are



considered by them as minor acts, and major acts are actual sexual acts and torrid kissing.

4. There were PDA acts of that could be permitted on school campus and there are those that should not be permitted.

5. There were similarities and differences in the opinions of administrators and faculty on acts of PDA as to whether they should be permitted or should not be permitted in school campus.

6. There were proposed sanctions for specific PDA either minor or major acts.

7. The student-respondents had differences in terms of their opinion to the proposed sanctions to specific PDA acts.

8. The administrators and faculty had differences in terms of their opinions on the proposed sanctions to specific PDA acts.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Based on the significant findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations are suggested:

1. Young administrators should be provided seminars, trainings, specifically on value orientation without prejudice to their neo-existential concept of freedom of expression.



2. Faculty members should be encouraged to pursue graduate studies for higher level of learning and social and moral maturity.

3. Administrators and faculty members should further develop and enrich their own sense of commitment to the university toward safeguarding the dignity and integrity of the school as a religious institution reflective of student's actions/behaviors.

4. Show casing the salient lecture of the university particularly on the transformation of values among college students should be part of the campaign propaganda of the university through the admissions office.

5. The academic community through the Students Affairs Office should formulate regulatory measures on public display of affection considered as minor acts.

6. The Students Affairs Office through the discipline office should implement corrective sanctions on public display of affection considered as major acts which is a research-based opinion/finding, for example, actual sexual intercourse in school campus with a sanction of expulsion from the school being a serious offense against the good name/reputation of the school and therefore a PDA act that should not be permitted.



7. The university should be firm/consistent in the implementation of the sanctions to PDA acts be they minor or major or can be permitted or should be permitted without special favor on anyone.

8. The proposed sanctions to specific PDA either minor or major acts must be considered by the administration for possible inclusions in the revision of the student handbook.

9. The entire academic community should be aware and clarified on the specific sanctions of the PDA so that each one can act, as a discipline officer the way a diligent concerned parent should to their children.

10. The Student Affairs Office should spell out PDA particularly during student orientation, that the school is on guard twenty-four hours a day, in 27 hectare school environment with 10,000 or more students moving in every corner and around the campus. Hence greater emphasis should be stressed on PDA that adolescents are affectionately aggressive.

11. The researcher is proposed sanctions to specific PDA classified as major and minor acts should be considered.

12. The Students Affairs Office is therefore the concerned office that may utilize the output of this research for enforcement.



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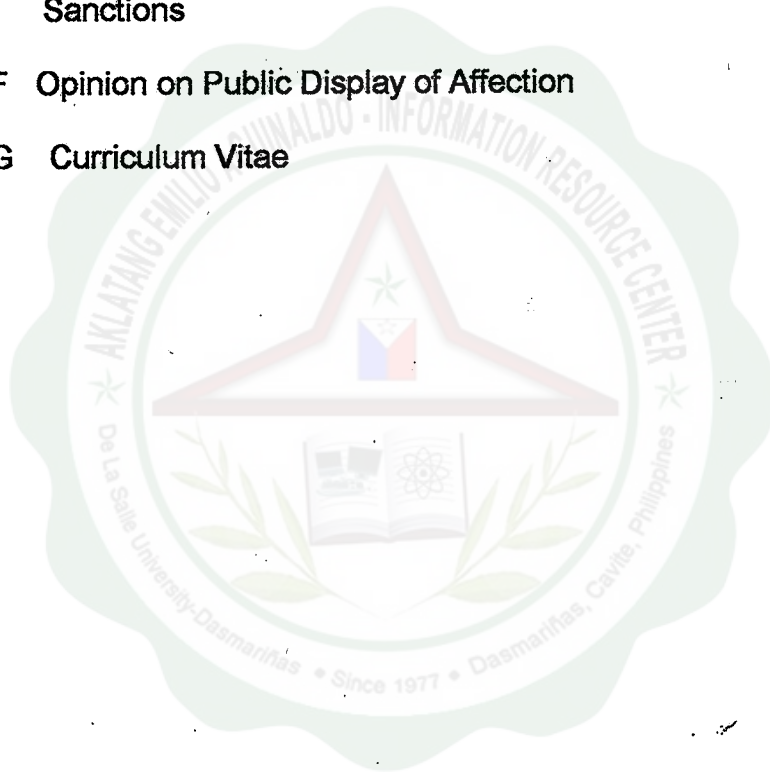
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