GRAFFITI AS A WINDOW TO THE INNER EXPERIENCES OF DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY-DASMARIÑAS STUDENTS

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GLESSIE A. ANADILLA

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ABSTRACT

Title:GRAFFITI AS A WINDOW TO THEINNER EXPERIENCES OF DE LA SALLEUNIVERSITY-DASMARIÑAS STUDENTSAuthor:Glessie A. AnadillaDegree:Master of Arts in EducationMajor:Guidance and Counseling

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This is a qualitative study that made use of the graffiti written by the students of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas in the selected comfort rooms of each college specifically in the ground floor from March to December 2003. The researcher was limited to the identification of the graffiti as a window to the inner experiences of the students which underlie the organization of a proposed guidance program. This study used the qualitative content analysis method. This design determined the presence of certain words or concepts within texts or sets of texts. The data were statistically treated using frequency count, percentage, rank, and z-test for comparing two proportions.

The findings reveal that the common themes of graffiti written by the students were messages, general insult, romantic, sex and censorable, sequential, gang and organization, and grievances. The medium of expressions normally used by the students was written language. It was observed that persuasive communication was present in the graffiti written by both male and female students in DLSU-D. Graffitists wrote different things every month based on their experiences. Yet, there is also an observed tendency for their graffiti to be dependent upon significant events or occurrences. There are differences as to the graffiti expressed by the students when they are grouped according to gender using z-test for comparing two samples. A proposed guidance program had been formulated based from the findings of the study.

This present study thereby recommends that administrators of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas develop permanent schemes to express the thoughts and feelings of students constructively and come up with a year round continuing program. While, there is a need to channel young people's creativity more positively through public art features that can generate a sense of ownership by participating in the mural painting contest and joining Performing Arts Group, Interests Clubs, and Co-curricular organizations. Furthermore, the school should launch a "Get the Message" project through making a space available for young people like freedom board inside comfort rooms and other strategic location in the campus. Equally important, the University Student Council in cooperation with the administration, faculty, and Guidance and Counseling Office should organize a forum on self-expression that not just dwell on what is "socially-acceptable" but for a liberating experience of expressing oneself, in one's language to address the needs of the students in terms of expressiveness. Longitudinal and global scale study of graffiti is also recommended to further analyze, observe the patterns and trends of graffiti written by the students. Moreover, facilitators and those directly involved in the implementation of intervention should undergo training and workshop. Henceforth, the implementation of the proposed guidance intervention for the students as formulated in this study is highly recommended.

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