

**HOMOPHOBIA AMONG FILIPINO
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS**

LOUELA REYES LACSAMANA



Submitted In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Master of Arts In Education
(Guidance)

in the Division of Educational Leadership and Professional Services
College of Education
University of the Philippines
Diliman, Quezon City
April 2010

ABSTRACT

This is a descriptive study which explored the extent of homophobia among the 100 Filipino guidance counselors employed in the colleges and universities in Metro Manila.

A researcher-made instrument consisting of two parts was utilized to gather the needed information. The first part of the instrument was used to measure the perception of Filipino guidance counselors towards gays and lesbians. The second part of the researcher-made instrument was used to measure the counselors' homophobia along the nine (9) homophobic attitudes namely Acceptance, Tolerance, Pity, Repulsion, Antilocution, Avoidance, Discrimination, Physical Attack, and Extermination. Purposive sampling was employed in this study. The data gathered were statistically treated using frequency count, percentage, rank, and mean. Mann-Whitney U and Kruskal-Wallis were used to compare the non-parametric data as it examined whether any relationships exist among variables.

Based from the findings, majority of the Filipino guidance counselors have viewed gays and lesbians positively along the area of social, emotional, mental, spiritual, attitudinal, and physical dimensions of personhood. However, gays were perceived more positively as compared to their lesbian counterpart.

This study also revealed that Filipino guidance counselors have displayed traces of homophobic attitudes in the nine (9) categories and levels of homophobia. The most common homophobic attitudes which were often manifested by the Filipino guidance counselors were expressed through the attitude of Acceptance, which looked at

homosexuals as somebody to be accepted since they inevitably exist in the society. Acceptance is the mildest level and form of homophobia.

Generally, findings showed that the more severe the homophobia is described, the lesser homophobic attitudes guidance counselors have expressed. While the milder the form of homophobia, the higher the homophobic attitudes guidance counselors have manifested.

Findings also revealed that there were no significant relationships between counselors' characteristics and homophobia. However, there were significant relationships found between counselors' sex and an attitude of Antilocution; counselors' years in the counseling profession and an attitude of Acceptance; and counselors' type of school (whether sectarian or non-sectarian) and an attitude of Acceptance.

This study also suggested that male guidance counselors tend to agree more compared with the female counselors that it is okay to joke around or insult, give foul and negative words towards homosexuals. Guidance counselors who had been in the profession for 18 to 23 years and those who belong to the sectarian schools regarded most homosexuals as somebody to be accepted because they exist in the society.

²Based from the findings, there were traces of homophobic attitudes manifested by the Filipino guidance counselors. However, further research studies on this particular topic are recommended to strengthen, broaden and substantiate the findings.²

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

	Page
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
DEDICATION	vi
ABSTRACT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
Background of the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	4
Significance of the Study	5
Scope and Delimitation of the Study	6
CHAPTER 2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	7
Etymology of Homophobia	9
Homophobia as Fear	13
Homophobia as Psychiatric Pathology	15
Theories of Homosexuality	18
The Gay and Lesbian Identities	21
Dimensions of Personhood	25
Theories of Homophobia	29
Homophobia as rooted from Prejudice	31
Allport's Scale of Homophobia	35
Riddle's Homophobia Scale.....	36
Four Basic Levels of Homophobia	38
Classification of Homophobia	39
Homophobia in the School Setting	41
Homophobia among Counselors.....	46
Homophobia in the Philippines.....	51
Synthesis	54
Conceptual Framework	56
Research Hypothesis	57
Definition of Terms	58

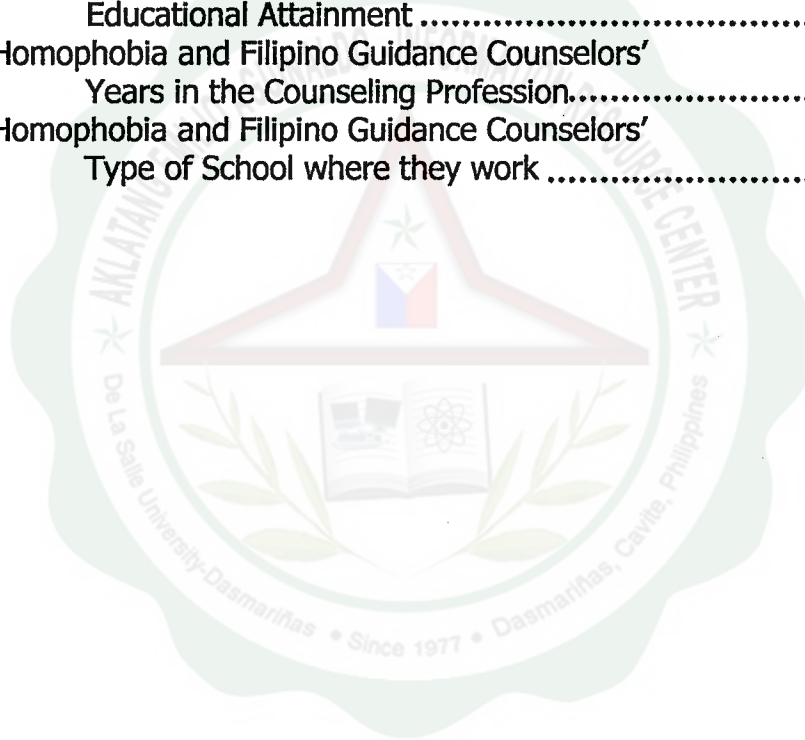
CHAPTER 3	METHODOLOGY.....	62
	Research Design	62
	Sampling Design	62
	Respondents of the Study	63
	Research Instrument	67
	Data Gathering Procedure	71
	Data Analyses	72
CHAPTER 4	PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION & DATA ANALYSIS	74
	Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians	74
	Common Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Homosexuals	92
	Extent of Homophobia among Filipino Guidance Counselors.....	99
	Relationship between Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors Characteristics.....	120
CHAPTER 5	SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS	136
REFERENCES	147
APPENDICES	158
A	Survey Questionnaire	159
B	Sample Letter to Guidance Directors.....	165
C	Wright, Adams, & Bernat Homophobia Scale	166
D	The Riddle Scale	168
E	Items to Classify for the Validators	170
F	Result of Evaluators' Classification of Statements	173
G	Summary Result of the Classified Items.....	175
H	Validators' Ranked Items of the Homophobic Attitudes	176
I	Survey for Item Pooling	178

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	PAGE
1 Distribution of Respondents according to Sex	63
2 Distribution of Respondents according to Age	64
3 Distribution of Respondents according to Civil Status.....	65
4 Distribution of Respondents according to Educational Attainment	65
5 Distribution of Respondents according to Years in the Counseling Profession	66
6 Mean Range and Verbal Interpretation	70
7 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Social Dimension	74
8 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Emotional Dimension	78
9 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Mental Dimension.....	80
10 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Spiritual Dimension.....	82
11 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Attitudinal Dimension.....	85
12 Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors towards Gays and Lesbians in terms of the Physical Dimension.....	87
13 Summary of Perceptions of Filipino Guidance Counselors Along the different Dimensions of Personhood among Gays and Lesbians.....	89
14 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors	92
15 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Acceptance.....	100
16 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Tolerance	103
17 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Pity	105
18 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Repulsion.....	107
19 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Antilocution.....	109
20 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Avoidance	112
21 Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Discrimination.....	114

LIST OF TABLES CONTINUED

TABLE	PAGE
22	Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Physical Attack..... 116
23	Extent of Homophobic Attitudes among Filipino Guidance Counselors in the area of Extermination..... 118
24	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Sex..... 120
25	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Age..... 122
26	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Civil Status..... 125
27	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Educational Attainment 126
28	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Years in the Counseling Profession..... 128
29	Homophobia and Filipino Guidance Counselors' Type of School where they work 131



LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	PAGE
1 Model of the Integrated Theory of Prejudice	33
2 Conceptual Framework	57

