



### ABSTRACT

Raising a child with special needs is a challenge to most parents, especially to mothers whose role is to provide immediate care to their children. This study described the lived experiences of mothers of children with special needs and determined the role of mothers in the family. An interpretative phenomenological analysis was adopted. Participants were five mothers of children with special needs regardless of their age and educational attainment, Filipino citizen and whose child ages from 5 to 12 years old. Data analysis established five super ordinate themes that captured lived experiences of mothers of children with special needs namely; Mothers faced various challenges; Mothers took action on the challenges; Mothers acquired personal growth as a result of parenting their children; Mothers strengthened their role in the family.