



ABSTRACT

Title of Research: **ANALYSIS OF FAMILY DYNAMICS AND DISCIPLINE PRACTICES OF FILIPINO NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILIES**
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This sequential exploratory research was conducted to explore, describe, and analyze the different family relational boundaries and household discipline practices experienced by children and caregivers of non-traditional families in order to draw some recommendations for psycho-educational program.

The data were gathered from non-traditional families in Father Luigi Caburlotto School, composed of 45 families from different household types. This study involved two phases, namely: the qualitative phase by which data were drawn from a face-to-face interview and the quantitative phase by which data were gathered through survey questionnaires which were used to generalize the findings of the first phase.

The findings show that experiences of non-traditional families in their family relational dynamics are within the balanced boundary in the areas of emotional expressions, family involvement, and cooperation though with some experiences within the rigid and diffused boundaries.

From the various experiences of the participants in household discipline



practices, inductive discipline as a positive discipline is experienced by the participants. Other experiences of discipline practices like that of power assertion and love withdrawal are expressed through reprimands, coercion, giving warning, yelling, showing angry gestures, permissiveness, expressions of displeasure, and saying "no" without any explanation. Experiences of forgiveness, dialogue, spending quality time, signs of personal initiative, positive correction, love, concern, sense of sacrifice, trust in God, and respect are among the strengths of non-traditional families in their relationships. Misunderstandings and diminishing or lack of spirituality among members are considered as weaknesses of non-traditional families.

This study hereby recommends that a comprehensive psycho-educational program for non-traditional families be developed and proposed and components to include be considered. To further address specific issues and evaluate outcomes of interventions over prolonged periods of time, future researchers could conduct longitudinal studies.