

**GENDER-BASED PERCEPTION TOWARDS WOMEN AS PRESIDENT AMONG
SELECTED VOTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSARIO, CAVITE**

**Undergraduate Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of the
College of Arts and Sciences
Cavite State University
Indang, Cavite**

**In Partial Fulfillment
Of the Requirements for the Degree
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science**

**CABANSAG, MICAELA B.
FERRER, KEY ANGELY B.
FLORES, BEATRIZ M.**

June 2022

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ABSTRACT

CABANSAG, MICAELA B., FERRER, KEY ANGELY B., and FLORES, BEATRIZ M.
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This study was conducted from October 2021 to June 2022 at the Municipality of Rosario, Cavite. It generally aims to provide an understanding of the gender-based perception towards women as president among registered voters of Rosario, Cavite. Specifically, this study sought to find out the perception of male and female voters towards women as president in terms of different aspect of leadership namely: (a) leadership traits; (b) leadership style; and (c) issue competency. Furthermore, the significant differences between the voter's perceptions were identified. It also examined the significant relationship between the voter's gender and their perception towards women as president.

The study used a descriptive correlational method in analyzing the relationship between the variables. The participants of the study were 383 voters coming from ages 25 and above who already voted more than once. Data was collected through a survey questionnaire in the form of 5-point Likerts Scale. For the data analysis and interpretation, the statistical procedures utilized were frequency, mean, standard deviation, T-test and Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (r). The findings of the study revealed that the perception of female and male voters towards women as president in terms of leadership traits and leadership style were neutral, with a 'neither agree nor disagree' verbal interpretation to the survey, except in issue competency where women have 'agree' verbal interpretation. It was further shown that there is only a significant difference in male and female voters' perception towards women as president in terms of their leadership style. Moreover, no significant relationship between voter's

gender and perception to women presidents were found. Hence, this study recommends that programs be created that supports and guides both the voters and the candidates to be gender fair and have gender awareness towards their voting behaviour and vote choice, and for the future researchers to create a more in-depth research on voter's gendered perception towards women as presidents and its larger impact on women's situation in the Philippine politics.

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INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, the world of politics was solely dominated by men. After a decades-long campaign for women's suffrage, women have only been able to officially take their first step into politics when they acquired voting rights during the early years of the twentieth century. Although over 95% of all countries have already granted women the right to vote and be voted, it is still a hurdle across the globe to change the prevailing political landscape where women remain underrepresented.

Presently, there has been growing support for women's empowerment in the political sphere, which came from the realization of their importance in democratization and development. However, despite the continuous efforts to overcome the barriers to women's political participation and leadership, the progress remains relatively slow. Recent data shows only a global average of 25.7 % of women in national parliaments, 21% in ministerial positions, and 36% in the local deliberative bodies (IPU, 2021; UN, n.d.). Globally, there are 26 women serving as Heads of State and/or Government in 24 countries. According to the calculations of the UN, at the current rate of development, it