

**IMPACT OF PARENTS' SEPARATION AS PERCEIVED BY THEIR
CHILDREN AGES 7-12 AND 13-17 IN SELECTED
BARANGAYS IN INDANG, CAVITE**

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

CAGUIOA, LOVELY KAE V., "Impact of Parents' Separation as Perceived by their Children Ages 7 – 12 and 13 – 17 in Selected Barangays in Indang, Cavite".
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The study was conducted in selected barangays in Indang, Cavite whose children ages seven to twelve (7-12) and thirteen to seventeen (13-17) who are adolescents. The barangays are Banaba Cerca, Calumpang Cerca, Kaytapos, Kayquit II, Mataasna Lupa, Poblacion I. It was conducted from March to April to determine the impact of parents' separation as perceived by their children. Specifically the study aimed to find out the impact of parents' separation to their children; know the different experiences of children about the separation of their parents; and determine the reactions of children on parents' separation. Narrative research design was used in the study and the purposive sampling method was utilized to determine the different impact of parents' separation to their children, it was a qualitative research.

The participants of the study were six (6) children, it was divided into school age/childhood whose three (3) are from children ages seven (7) to twelve (12) and there were three (3) participants from adolescents/teenager ages thirteen (13) to seventeen (17) years old.

The participants shared the different impact, experiences and reactions to their parents' separation. There were different impacts of parental separation to the children such as educational, behavioral, social, emotional, physical and spiritual aspects in their lives. As the study was conducted, the children had the same result on their

experiences as having separated parents, where they were teased by their classmates in school and having difficulties in adjusting and coping to their family situation. The school age children were independent from parents who are with them while the adolescents became dependent and mature in facing their challenges in life. They also had different reactions to their parents such as sadness, loneliness, hatred, and being worried about themselves and their family. On the other hand, even though they had struggles to adjust and cope up with their situation they are willing to pursue and achieve their dreams in lives.

Moreover, the participants accepted their situation in the family. With the help and support of the family and as parent to the child they accepted the parental separation. On the other hand, there were children who accepted their parents who were separated even though there were some concerns in the family.

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INTRODUCTION

In Article 3, paragraph two of the Presidential Decree No. 603 also known as "The Child and Youth Welfare Code", where every child has the right to a wholesome family life that will provide him with love, care, and understanding guidance and counselling, and moral and material security. The dependent or abandoned child shall be provided with the nearest substitute for a home.

According to Reiss (1980), the universal essence of the family is a "small kinship-structured group with the key function of nurturing socialization". The family has the responsibility for producing and socializing children to become effectively functioning members of society.

The family shall provide an emotional support by affection and companionship, economic support, care and guidance by physically and psychologically safe, kinship, and strong relationship to the member of the family especially to the children (Bigner, 2002).