

BEHIND THE SMILES: PERCEIVED LIFE SATISFACTION  
OF INFORMAL SETTLERS OF  
BACOR CITY, CAVITE

THESIS

ANDRE' EVANS A. BARBASA  
JAY C. WONG

College of Arts and Sciences  
CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY  
Indang, Cavite

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**BEHIND THE SMILES: PERCEIVED LIFE SATISFACTION OF INFORMAL  
SETTLERS OF BACOR CITY, CAVITE**

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**ANDRE' EVANS A. BARBASA**  
**JAY C. WONG**  
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## ABSTRACT

**BARBASA, ANDRE' EVANS A., WONG, JAY C. Behind the Smiles: Perceived Life Satisfaction of Informal Settlers of Bacoar City, Cavite.** Undergraduate thesis. Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Cavite State University. May 2017. Thesis Adviser: Mary Jane A. Amparo, RPh.

This study aimed to define how informal settlers perceived life satisfaction. This study was a qualitative study incorporating phenomenological approach as research design which gathered and defined the lived experiences of 45 years old and above second generation informal settlers of Bacoar City, Cavite. This study used a one-on-one semi-structured interview. The data was coded by the researchers, Ms. Mary Jane A. Amparo and Ms. Armi Grace B. Desingano to maintain the reliability of the data.

The findings showed that there were four main concerns of informal settlers. It was identified as their life as individuals, their management of their family and marriage, their way to raise children and their environment where they live.

Perception of life satisfaction involves contentment, hopelessness, negative self-concept and broken dreams. Resolving conflicts and complementary responsibilities in sustaining financial obligation belongs to perception on satisfaction in the area of marriage and family management. Then perception on raising children of informal settlers contains of hope for good future formerly discipline and training. Lastly the perception on environment shows of security then socialization and peace making. Among these four, their main concern about contentment is their family and raising their children.

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# **BEHIND THE SMILES: PERCEIVED LIFE SATISFACTION OF OLD AGED INFORMAL SETTLER OF BACOR CITY, CAVITE**

**Wong, Jay  
Barbasa, Andre Evans**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Smiles are said to be the indicators of happiness or so called satisfaction though it may be deceiving and at the same time smiles tend to cover pain or despair. Filipinos are said to be happy people and the Philippines was fifth happiest country from the whole world based on CNN survey (Garcia, 2015). It was not questionable but one particular group caught the researchers' attention and this was the informal settlers. Informal settlers despite of their life situation of being such deprived of some needs still possessed a smile (Taruc, 2012) which make them look optimistic and moreover satisfied persons.

Informal settlers are people who stall their houses on a vacant lot without or sometimes with permission. Most of these people lack their physiological necessities such as water supply, medicine supplies, foods, financial assistance and education for some of them (World Health Organization, 2012).