

**EMPATHIC LISTENING AND MARITAL SATISFACTION
OF DUAL-EARNER COUPLES IN BARANGAY
POBLACION ZONE I-IV DASMARINAS
CITY, CAVITE**

THESIS

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DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

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This study was conducted to determine the demographic profile, level of empathic listening, and level of marital satisfaction of couples. The difference between the level of empathic listening and level of marital satisfaction among husbands and wives was determined. And, the significant relationship between empathic listening and marital satisfaction was identified. A comparative-correlation design was used in the study making use of Empathic Listening Scale and Marital Satisfaction Scale as research instruments. The participants were 69 dual-earner couples from Dasmariñas City, Cavite. Frequency counts, percentage, mean, standard deviation, Mann–Whitney U test, and Spearman rank correlation coefficient were the statistical measures employed to analyze the data.

The findings revealed both husbands and wives fall on the high level of empathy and high level of marital satisfaction. On the other hand, it was also revealed that the level of empathic listening and level of marital satisfaction were significantly related. Results imply that high empathic listening relates to high level of marital satisfaction. Because of the significant relationship between level of empathic listening and level of marital satisfaction, it is recommended that couples may preserve their empathic listening skills and satisfaction about their marriage to maintain a harmonious relationship within the family.

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INTRODUCTION

“The world today is characterized by changes and contrasts,” (Ramos, 1997). What we used to do and believe before may not be applicable today. Just like in the aspect of work, people traditionally consider men as the breadwinner. They are the one responsible in supporting the basic needs of the family. But nowadays, both men and women are striving to earn a living due to the rapid changes in the society.

Due to this change in the working set-up of couples, time spent with each other is mostly affected. As stated in the study of Cosp and Román (2010) time spent with the family of dual-earner couples is lesser compared to the time spent with the family of single-earners. It was also found out that the different time schedule of dual-earner couples reduce their time with each other but has a different effect to their children. Papalia, Olds, and Feldman (1998) also stated that dual-earner couples has difficulty in dealing with time, energy, conflicts, rivalry, anxiety, and guilt. So due to less time spent with each other the relationship of the two and other family members may be affected, specifically in terms of their communication.