

**FINANCIAL STRESS LEVEL OF WORKING COUPLES
IN SELECTED AREAS OF CAVITE**

THESIS

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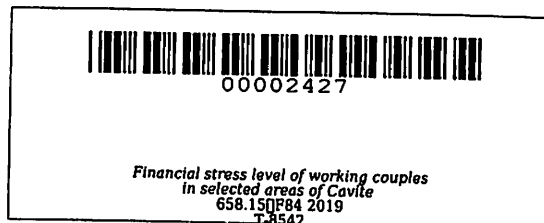
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IN SELECTED AREAS OF CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted to determine the financial stress level of working couples in selected areas of Cavite.

The study specifically aimed to (1)determine the socio demographic profile of working couples; (2)determine the level of financial stress of the working couples; (3)determine the causes of financial stress to working couples in selected areas of Cavite and; lastly, (4)ascertain the significant difference on the financial stress level of working couples when grouped according to their socio-demographic profile.

The study used comparative research design in order to determine if there is significant difference on the financial stress level of the participants. The researchers used random sampling method using Slovin's formula and purposive sampling technique that came up with a total sample of 100 working couples from Dasmariñas, General Trias, Trece Martires, Silang, and Indang, Cavite.

In order for the researchers to answer the given problems, statistical analysis was used. Mean and frequency were used to determine the level of financial stress of the participants. Then, standard deviation, Mann-Whitney U, and Kruskal-Wallis tests were used in finding the difference on the financial stress level of working couples according to their socio-demographic profile.

The study revealed that there is a significant difference on financial stress level of working couples in terms of income and debt as to number of their dependents. In addition, increasing number of dependents influences the expenses. Moreover, financial stress of the working couples in terms of income, asset, and money management is in moderate level, while high in terms of debt. Lastly, inflation

rate in the Philippines and the increasing rate of utility bills found to be the major cause of financial stress.

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INTRODUCTION

Many young couples experience some tension over finances during the early years living together because of differences in values and priorities. Sometimes, couples also need to adjust their individual lifestyles to suit new standards of living (Ong, 2017).

Financial stress has been defined as a situation of having insufficient financial resources to meet basic requirements to maintain a reasonable standard of living (Yates, 2007). Financial stress incorporates many aspects of financial circumstances including income, debts, assets and money management.

While financial stress is more common in low-income households, it is also experienced by those with higher incomes and affects people in different ways. While financial stress does present some individuals and families with serious problems, the experience of financial stress for many could also be viewed as part of normal household budgeting and priorities. Many households are able to survive an episode of financial stress provided they are sufficiently financially literate and have the structures to enable them to navigate their way through difficulties (Bray, 2001).