BEKING PAPA, KERI SAT, LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMOSEXUAL FATHERS

THESIS

MARK LOREMZ G. EMRIQUEZ JOHN ISRAEL P. VELASCO

College of Arts and Sciences

CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY

Indang, Cavite

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ABSTRACT

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The general objective of the study was to describe the lived experiences of homosexual fathers. Specifically, it aimed to determine the: (1) participants' point of view as homosexual; (2) participants' point of view being a homosexual father; (3) point of view of participants' experiences of being a homosexual to a homosexual father and; (4) view of the problems they encountered being a homosexual father.

Purposive sampling and snowball technique were used in choosing eight (8) participants. This was conducted in Cavite from August 2017 to May 2018.

Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis was used to analyze the data gathered which were transcribed to identify the superordinate theme and subthemes of the study. Data were gathered using a semi-structured interview.

The semi-structured interview guide had five parts which include the demographic profile of the participants, the participants' experiences being gay, the participants' aspirations as a gay, the participants' experiences being a father, and the participants' aspirations as a gay father.

Results revealed that the homosexual fathers were primed by the society which becomes their basis of their own perception. There are challenges they experienced as soon as they embraced their fatherhood but they surpassed all of these challenges all for the

benefits of their child and family. These experiences become their own perception of themselves before because they were primed.

As a father, they see themselves as an image of a responsible father. All of the participants look at themselves as a good provider and a role model which normal fathers usually think of themselves.

From the findings, it was concluded that homosexual fathers used to be afraid of the society's judgement. The participants once tried to hide their true identity to keep themselves safe and secured from the verdict the society has towards homosexuals.

They view themselves as normal fathers and even more than common fathers who are straight because they have feminine side. They provide the necessities of their families just like a responsible father does, they give free will to their child just like a supportive father does, they do not want any harm or any form of maltreatment for their child. They feel the sense of fulfillment of fatherhood because of the recognition from their families.

They perceived fatherhood is challenging and life changing.

Most of all, fatherhood leads them to success. The challenges they face serve as inspiration and stepping stone for them to reach their goals in life.

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BEKING PAPA, KERI BA?: LIVED EXPERIENCES OF HOMOSEXUAL FATHERS

Mark Lorenz G. Enriquez John Israel P. Velasco

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INTRODUCTION

"Gay men are perfect men for girls who are tough. They're not threatened by strong women, and they're usually very in touch with their feelings and pay attention to details.

I've always had an affinity with gay men."—Madonna

In some countries, homosexuals are not fully accepted and the society is bound by tradition, culture, family structure, beliefs and religion. In the Philippines, Filipinos have been Christians since who knows when. Their practices and actions are done according to what they believe is right based on the doctrines of the church (Tobias, 2013).

One taboo of the nation is homosexuality. There is a definite line between men and women, and when people attempt to cross it, they will be discriminated and harassed by other people (Tobias, 2013). But what if that homosexual is a father, married or living with a straight woman and has his own offspring? Will he still be discriminated and harassed?

An estimated 325,000 of all Asian and Pacific Island (API) adults in United States are identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT). Nationally, API LGBT individuals have lower rates of employment and academic achievement than their non-