

WISDOM IN A POOR MAN'S KINGDOM: LIVED
SOCIAL EXPERIENCES OF THE IMPOVERISHED
FILIPINO ELDERLY IN TERNATE, CAVITE

THESIS

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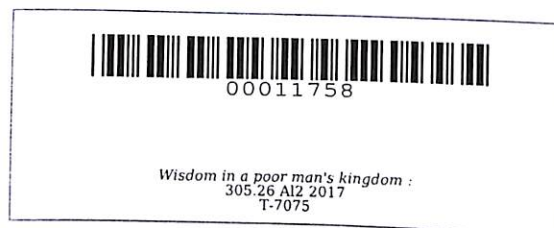
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**WISDOM IN A POOR MAN'S KINGDOM: LIVED SOCIAL EXPERIENCES OF
THE IMPOVERISHED FILIPINO ELDERLY IN TERNATE, CAVITE**

An Undergraduate Thesis
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ABSTRACT

ALLAN S. ALEX, CHARLES DIETHER R. CASTILLO. Wisdom in A Poor Man's Kingdom: Lived Social Experiences of the Impoverished Filipino Elderly in Ternate, Cavite. Undergraduate thesis. Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Cavite State University. May 2017. Thesis Adviser: Mary Jane A. Amparo, RPh.

This study aimed to explore lived experiences on the social life of impoverished Filipino. This study was a qualitative study incorporating interpretative phenomenological analysis as research design which gather and define the lived social experience aged at least 60 years old, whether male or female, shall be living in chronic poverty for their whole lives, resident of Ternate, 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. Ana Ruth M. Andalajao to maintain the reliability of the data.

The findings showed that Impoverished Filipino Elderly were divided into four themes which was Family Connectedness, Spiritual Connectedness, Positive Thoughts, and Social Connectedness, and Battle with Poverty.

Under Family Connectedness, the participants showed positive parent-child connectedness and relationship with spouse. Also, the participants exhibits dependence on God's presence, tranquility of mind because of religion, they also include religion as a life style, and they also gain support from church community. On their positive thoughts or values, they have shown that they have contentment, resilience, and they are morally upright despite of being impoverished Social Connectedness show that they possess harmonious interpersonal relationships towards other people. Experience with poverty presents their struggles as impoverished people.

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INTRODUCTION

Poverty was a global problem that had the characteristics of a ticking time bomb (Kabuye, 2015). It had become a problem that was grew among older persons but has yet to be adequately addressed. In the Philippines, Filipino elderly might think they were pampered lot with their senior citizen discounts for medicine and some basic goods, but statistics do not lied: Filipino elderly counted among the poorest sectors in the country (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2014). Things got worst because only a small percentage of the elderly were actually covered by pensions since a good part of the worked population belonged to the informal sector.

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (2014), Filipino elderly belonged to the eighth highest poverty incidence among the eight basic sectors in the Philippines. Their poverty incidence rate was at 16.1 percent in 2009 and 16.2 percent in 2012. Many of them do not have any personal savings and social pension to rely on; hence they