CONSUMPTION PATTERNS OF FACTORY WORKERS IN SELECTED MUNICIPALITIES OF CAVITE

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted to determine the consumption patterns of factory workers in selected municipalities of Cavite namely: Rosario, Carmona, Dasmariñas and General Trias from November to December 2013. Specifically, the study aimed to determine the socio-demographic characteristics of factory workers; determine the level of income of factory workers; determine the percentage contribution of factory workers to their household income; determine the household consumption patterns of factory workers; determine relationship between the socio-demographic characteristics and income of factory workers; and determine the relationship between household income and household consumption of factory workers.

Stratified proportionate sampling was used to determine the number of participants per municipality. Convenience sampling technique was used to select the participants that were interviewed a total of 158 factory workers were interviewed.

Data were presented using frequency counts, means, ranges, and percentages. The chi-square test design was also used to identify the relationship test in the study.

Based on the findings, most of the participants were male, single and college graduates. The mean age was 24 years old; majority of the participants had 1 to 2 dependents; most of them had 5 to 6 household members. Most of the participants had been working for 3 to 40 months in the company.

Low income earners aged 22 to 25 years old, were mostly contractual and received P6,000 to P14,000 monthly.

Findings showed that their household income ranged from P7,000 to P23,666. Forty-two percent of the participants contributed 35 percent to 56 percent of their income to household income.

The top three consumption expenditure items were food, clothing and rent. It was proven that the law formulated by Ernest Engel holds true in this study, which states that as the income increases, the percentage spent for food decreases and the amount spent for non-food expenditure increases.

The study found out that the age was related to income. As they get older in their work the more chances they received a higher income. Likewise, educational attainment was related to income, the higher educational attainment was the more chances they received a high income. In addition, length of service was related to income. It showed that the participants who have longer in service, has the higher income. Moreover, the study showed that sex and civil status were related to income.

Also, the study found out that consumption items namely: food, clothing, cosmetics and personal accessories, utilities, health, education, transportation, personal services and recreation were related to income. It showed that as the income increases, the greater the tendency to consumed more goods and services.

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INTRODUCTION

Industrialization is a magic word to many Filipinos. It may stand for advancement, progress and prosperity. According to Balitao (2012, p.211), most developed countries are industrial nations. As an agricultural nation it seems that it is almost to be equal to underdeveloped. The agricultural economy alone cannot absorb the employment needs of the whole population.

Industrialization is measured by the increasing share of the manufacturing sector in the total income of the country and the increasing share of manufacturing labor force in the total employment force such as factory workers (Villegas, 2005 p.504).

Due to the growing industry of the country nowadays, many people were given a chance to be employed and earn even without job security. This scenario happens in Cavite since a big portion of the labor force works in economic zones where factories are usually located (National Statistics Office-Cavite [NSO-Cavite], 2009). Unfortunately,