Abstract

"Indicators on Family Well-Being"
Commissioned by UNICEF-Philippines to the Institute of Family Life Development of the Philippines, Philippine Women's University, 2004

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With globalization, challenges facing the Filipino families have become more complex. Families try to cope with these challenges the best way they can, and, in the process, endangers the cohesiveness of families with children the hardest hit victims of such conditions. Governments try to provide programs and interventions to help families; but oftentimes, these interventions are not sufficient since the problems are more deeply-rooted in the family system—and is something that mere provision of services cannot simply address.

And yet, the family remains to be an enduring institution in Philippine society. It is the web that links the past to the present, and gives a sense of an anchor for the future. It is for these reasons that a study on possible indicators on the well-being of the Filipino family was conducted to track changes on family life over time. Family stability, parenting effectiveness, social responsibility, and rights perspective were the four major rights initially identified and discussed. This study is expected to lead towards the development of a score card for the Filipino Family Well-Being which can be done on a periodic basis.
FAMILY SCHOLARS COLLOQUIUM

"PROTECTING AND STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES"

DAY TWO: PLENARY SESSION 3

PAPER 10

INDICATORS ON FAMILY WELL-BEING

BY

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7 - 8 AUGUST 2006
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
THE FILIPINO FAMILY:
INDICATORS OF FAMILY WELL-BEING

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To establish a set of indicators on family well-being to track changes in the family over Time.
INDICATORS OF FAMILY WELL-BEING

- FAMILY STABILITY
- PARENTING EFFECTIVENESS
- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

1. FAMILY STABILITY

- Refers to the family’s ability to cope with crisis and challenges facilitated by:
  - relationships and communications style
  - financial security
  - coping skills
  - rituals
4. RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

- Refers to how one views human rights, the rights of children and women, and social justice in general:
  - Awareness and promotion of rights
  - Violation of rights

FINDINGS
Demographic ....

- Increased single-parenting

  - due to divorce or separation - 15%
  
  - being widowed - 60%
  
  - unmarried or where one parent is abroad - 25%

I. Family Stability

- Elements affecting husband-wife relationship:

  - lack of trust
  - lack of dialogue
  - absence of empathetic listening
  - infidelity
  - vices
Family Stability...

- The Filipino has almost perfected skill of coping with crisis:
  - praying and having a childlike trust in God
  - support from family members and relatives
  - support from neighbors and community institutions
  - maintaining a sense of humor

Family Stability...

- Most families do not anymore observe traditional practices that are seen to give them a sense of anchor and "familyness."
Parenting ....

- Children view parents as both provider and nurturer indicating an acceptance of the dual role of mother and father;

- Children expressed need for parents to spending more time with them and guide them;

Parenting...

- Transmitting values to children are part of early socialization but today remains a nebulous aspect in child rearing
III. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- The child’s early socialization and training at home is the beginning of the child’s concern for others;

- Pakikipagkapwa is understood in the context of mutual and reciprocal obligations and expectations among neighbors.

Social Responsibility...

- The bayanihan concept is another element of the Filipino’s socialization process in the community.

- Its appreciation is often dependent on situations when one’s own rights are affected;
Rights Perspectives....

- Enactment of several laws on protection of women and children greatly improved protection measures;

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Safety net measures should be provided by Government to protect families and ensure compliance to children's rights;

2. Special attention to OFWs and their families left behind through appropriate interventions;
Recommendations.....

6. Further studies on the following:

- Longitudinal study of children left behind by migrant parents
- Extent of cohabitation arrangements and its long-term impact on children

THAT'S IT, FOLKS!

THANKS FOR LISTENING!