

THE WIFE OF A GAMBLER: LIVED EXPERIENCES OF STUDENT-WIVES WHOSE HUSBANDS ARE CONSTANTLY INVOLVED IN COCKFIGHTING

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ABSTRACT

Student-wives play a multi-tasking role in the family that they deal more than one task at a time. The role of the mother is to support and promote the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development of a child (www.child.encyclopedia.com). Aside from a multi-tasker, the participants of this study are also students who need to comply with the college demands. The problem under investigation was the issues, problems encountered, and coping mechanisms experienced by student-wives in dealing with a cocker husband as they functioned in their multiple roles of student-wife-mother. Participating in this study were the 15 student-wife enrolled in Eastern Samar State University-Maydolong, Maydolong Eastern Samar which was identified through snowball sampling. The stress, the pains that student-wives underwent in her everyday struggle is a phenomenon that is not understood by their partners. A stress-strain-coping-support mode was used to enlighten how these issues about behavior, thoughts and, emotions of the participants were addressed. This phenomenological study used interviews, focused group discussions and essay documents from the participants. Results showed that student-wives experienced financial and emotional problems and tried to cope through understanding, crying, praying and to be more focused on attaining her goal – to earn a degree. Support from their own family was also found. The result of this study will be a benchmark in conducting livelihood extension programs in the Municipality of Maydolong, Maydolong Eastern Samar, for wives of a gambler to help augment household expenses.

Keywords: wife, cockfighting husbands, lived experiences, phenomenology, Eastern Samar, Philippines