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**THE CURRENT EXPOSURE - IMMERSION PROGRAM OF THE
CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION AT THE
ANGELES UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION :
AS BASIS FOR A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**A Thesis
Presented to
the Faculty of the Graduate School
of the Angeles University Foundation**

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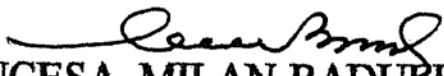
**In Partial Fulfillment of
the Course Requirements in
Master of Arts in Educational Management**

MA. CRISTINA DE LEON SANTIAGO
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APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis entitled "EXPOSURE - IMMERSION PROGRAM OF THE CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION AT ANGELES UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION AS BASIS FOR A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM," prepared and submitted by MA. CRISTINA DE LEON SANTIAGO, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT, has been examined and is recommended for acceptance for ORAL EXAMINATION

THESIS COMMITTEE


CONCESA MILAN-BADUEL, Ph.D.

Chairman


DONY F. ANGELES, Ph.D.

Member


ABNER C. MANALOTO, Ed.D.

Member

PANEL OF EXAMINERS

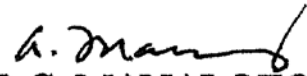
Approved by the Committee on Oral Examination with a grade of **Meritus** on March 24, 1998.


CONCESA MILAN-BADUEL, Ph.D.

Chairman


TOMAS M. CARLOS, Ph. D.

Member


ABNER C. MANALOTO, Ed.D.

Member


DONY F. ANGELES, Ph.D.

Adviser

Accepted and approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT.

Comprehensive Examination was taken and PASSED on May 20, 1995.


CONCESA MILAN-BADUEL, Ph.D.

Dean, Graduate School

Date : _____

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The Paradigm of the Proposed Exposure - Immersion
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Dedication

This research work

is dedicated

to my ever supportive father , Rizal Santiago Sr. ,

to my loving mother , Felisa de leon Santiago ,

to my beloved brothers and sisters ,

who served as my inspiration to grow in my chosen vocation .

Above all , to Almighty God

who never get tired of loving me and continuously

showering me with abundant blessings .

Cristy

Acknowledgement

The researcher wishes to extend great appreciation and gratitude to the following persons who guided and inspired her:

Dr. Dony F. Angeles , adviser , for his untiring support which made this study a reality .

Dr. Concesa M. Baduel , Dean of the Graduate School , for inspiring her to dream.

Dr. Archimedes David , Registrar , and the Deans of the Different Colleges for the assistance they have extended in gathering her data .

Dr. Abner C. Manaloto , Ms. Estelita Cayabyab and her Coleagues in the Center For Christian Formation for the moral support .

Mr. Ted Dizon , her statistician .

THESIS ABSTRACT

Title : THE EXPOSURE - IMMERSION PROGRAM OF THE
CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION AT ANGELES
UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION : A CRITICAL ANALYSIS
AS BASIS FOR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

1. Rationale / Background :

A Catholic Educational Institution , as center for the primary task of fostering critical and dynamic social conscience , should strive to develop both educators and students to become agents of Christian Social Transformation .

The Christian spirit of service to others for the promotion of social justice was of particular importance for each Catholic University , to be shared by its teachers and developed in its student . The church was firmly committed to the integral growth of all men and women . The Gospel was interpreted in the social teaching of the church in an urgent call to promote "the development of those people who were striving to escape from hunger , misery , endemic diseases and ignorance ; of those who were looking for a wider share in the benefits of civilization and the more active improvement of their human qualities ; of those who were aiming purposefully at their complete fulfillment (Paul II , 1988) .

Theology today had identified preferential option for the poor as one of the most essential aspects of following the Lord . Discipleship was devoid of authenticity and relevance if it was not responsive to the needs of the poor who were , from the very beginning of time , the recipients of God's saving acts in history . In the reality of the poor was seen in God's demands for promoting the dignity and well - being of

those who lived at the fringes of life . The response to God's call was based on what Jesus himself did and which the disciples were to live out in turn . Incarnating him in the midst of the poor today , giving witness to his values of love and compassion , continuing his mission of proclaiming , the Good News to the poor and immersing in their world of poverty are demands on every Christian disciple today .

2. Statement of the Problem

The primary concern of this study was to assess the status of the exposure - immersion program of the Center For Christian Formation in Angeles University Foundation. The results of this assessment would serve as the basis of the development program of the Exposure - Immersion in Angeles University Foundation.

This study answered the following questions:

Based on the provision of the existing / current Exposure - Immersion Program,

1. How effective is the current Exposure - Immersion Program as regards ;
Rationale / objectives , content , instructional materials / aids , activities and places ?
2. How may the specific Christian Values attained and imbibed by the students through the current exposure be strengthened and internalized ?
3. What development program may be proposed and instituted based on the perceptions of the respondents ?

This study used the descriptive method of research . It involved general descriptions , evaluation and assessment of a particular situation , namely , the Christian Formation Program in Angeles University Foundation , specifically the status of the

exposure -immersion program that has been in operation for already thirteen (13) years .

The descriptive research method that was used in this study was applied in the development of the Center For Christian Formation in Angeles University Foundation .

The Organization of the Christian Formation Program : Exposure - Immersion Program was based on the existing Exposure - immersion program of the Center For Christian Formation in Angeles University Foundation . The five major dimensions were as follows .

An Exposure - Immersion Program for the Elementary level (Grade VI) . This program would lead the participants open their eyes to the actual life conditions of young children who are considered less fortunate than them . The participants would be helped to understand how their fellow young children were experiencing the difficulties and miseries of life both in the absence of the parents and in living with their parents . The program therefore would give them opportunities to integrate with the children of DSWD Reception Center for Children and the Street Children of Angeles City . The implementation of activities would be done on an important seasons within the year namely ; Christmas Season , Valentines' day and University Anniversary / Foundation day . The participants are to be scheduled by batch .

An Exposure - Immersion Program for the high school level (fourth year) . This program would bring the participants to the world of the poor in the selected communities of Pampanga . This activity would guide each participant to see , think

and analyze situations of structural injustices and poverty in the actual life encounter with the poor people in the community . Through this program , the participants were expected to develop certain values in themselves that could hopefully develop their sense of commitment and service to those people who are victims of oppressions and in the present society . Each participant is expected to make his / her own stand which tried to root out the causes of injustices and poverty which directly and indirectly affected their dignity and rights as human persons . A two - day exposure would be arranged in a staggered basis . To complete the required number of hours each student was required to make a written narrative report and an oral report with the group in a more reflective atmosphere .

An Exposure - Immersion Program for the College level . (for students who were taking up Christian Formation 4 course only) This program could provide opportunity for every college student to experience the life of the poor , to analyze the root causes of their problems and to act on the basis of their ability so that each participant can create and initiate transformation both in themselves and the people (the poor) . The program would also provides rich experiences and information regarding the lives of the poor through listening from them , learning from them , working with them , living with them which eventually forming in each participant the values of love and concern for the poor . Finally , the program would develop each participant to be an authentic living witness of Christ to their fellow youth as a process of evangelization . Each college student was required to complete twenty four hours (24 hrs) . At the end of the period , the participants would submit a narrative report

and reflection paper for that matter . An Exposure - Immersion Program for the Graduate Students . This program would provide rich opportunities for the Graduate Students , as an educator and as a Public Servant to deepen their commitment to Christ . It was a faith - life experience which hopefully transformed each educator , Christian educator and Publics Servants in their attitudes and values vis -a- vis the demands of the quality education in a global community . It would also provide a chance for each faculty to integrate actual life situations in their lessons . Each faculty would be given a schedule during school days to free himself / herself from classroom instructions inorder to give way to an opportunity of reaching out to their poor brothers and sisters in the community . A group of faculty could create a program based on their own line of interest vis -a- vis the needs of the people in the selected community . Each faculty or a group of faculty would be required to submit a narrative report regarding their experiences and a faith - reflection paper for that matter .

The graduate students would be helped to see opportunities of integrating community while valuing education in school , it was also very vital to administrators to see the link of education in the culture of the poor . This would hopefully correct the wrong impressions that “ education was only for the rich “ and the poor people were deprived of such an opportunity to progress and develop themselves . Helping them to advance in knowledge and skills , an organized activity during the academic year was scheduled .

The research employed the following research tools for data gathering
1) questionnaire , 2) interview , 3) documentary analysis , and 4) observation .

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	<p>The questionnaire were prepared by the researcher for the students who have completed the Christian Formation four (4) Course offering of the Center For Christian Formation in Angeles University Foundation . The questionnaire was composed of (7) areas of concerns namely ; 1) The effectiveness of the current Exposure - Immersion Program as regards ; rationale , objectives , content , instructional materials / aids , activities and places . 2) With regard how may the specific Christian Values attained and inhibited by the student through the current exposure be strengthened and internalized ? 3) What development program may be proposed and instituted based on the perceptions of the respondents .</p> <p>The three (3) sets of questionnaire were constructed only after the researcher have extensively perused the professional materials which were used as baseline information of the questions guided by the specific problems of the study . Suggestions pertinent to the improvement of the questionnaire were incorporated in the final draft of the instrument .</p> <p>The questionnaire was presented to the researcher's adviser and consultant for suggestions . The necessary revisions and changes were made before it was administered .</p> <p>The researcher administered the questionnaires to the third year college students of Angeles University Foundation .</p> <p>The purpose and the plan of the study were explained to them . The questionnaire was administered on the month of January and February 1998 to the</p>	

College students of Angeles University Foundation specifically those who have already undergone the exposure - immersion program . Administration of the questionnaires were done by the researcher in the different classes with the permission of the Deans of the Colleges .

An interview was conducted by the researcher to double - check some items in the questionnaire and in order to cross check the consistency of the contents of the study .

The guidelines and directives of the National Catechetical Directory for the Philippines (NCDP) and the Asian Social Institute (EASI) Exposure - Immersion Program guide books were analyzed .

The development of exposure - immersion program of the Center For Christian Formation demanded enough skills ,patience , knowledge and efforts . The researcher has been a part of the exposure - immersion program of the CCF since the time , the program was established in 1983 . It was about thirteen (13) years now that this said program was established .

The researcher asked permission from the vice - president for Academic Affairs, through the office of the Director of the Center for Christian Formation in Angeles University Foundation for the field testing of the questionnaires . The Sets 1,2 , 3 , 4 and 5 questionnaires were distributed to the 311 or (50 %) of the third year college student of the Angeles University Foundation . They were given an hour and 30 minutes (1 hr. and 30 min.) to accomplish the said questionnaire . The raw scores

were made as the bases of the findings of this study . When the questionnaires were retrieved , these were validated and evaluated .

The respondents of this study were three hundred eleven (311) , the fifty percent (50%) of 622 third year college students who had completed Christian Formation four (4) at Angeles University Foundation .

Since the researcher required descriptive analysis , the data gathered were organized and translated using statistical techniques such as frequency distribution and percentage .

Summary of Findings

The Effectiveness of the Current Exposure - Immersion Program as regards ;
rationale , objectives , content , strategies , instructional materials /
aids , activities and places of exposure .

1. The rationale and objectives of the current exposure - immersion program were rated as very good by the college students of the Angeles University Foundation . It means , that the rationale and objectives were clearly stated and well - defined , adequately implemented , attainable , helps in the attainment of the goals of the program and every activity has specific objectives .
2. The Current Exposure - Immersion Program was rated by the majority of the college students of Angeles University Foundation as very good in terms of its content . The content of this program was consistent with the mission of the church to the poor , deprived , oppressed and exploited , social teaching of the church , proclamation of the Good News , current trends and issues in the church and society , students and people , theory and practice of Christian Spirituality ,

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	values , beliefs , the normative , ecological and integrated focus on the importance of Human Dignity and concern for the poor , the teaching of Christian moral - values and focus on the love for the poor and exploited .		
	3. The Current Exposure - Immersion Program used very good teaching strategies namely , lecture / discussion , group dynamics , small group discussion , reporting , orientation sessions regarding the mechanics of the program , ocular visitation to the exposure areas , preliminary social investigation , planning session to prepare the plan of activities , research on the related topics especially relevant issues on human life , film viewing analysis , reflection / journal writing , examinations and commissioning rites .		
	4. The instructional materials used in the teaching of the content of the exposure - immersion program were very good . These were , documentary films , Bible , Church documents / encyclicals , guide book , textbooks , handouts , leaflets , pamphlets , T.V. set , VHS / Beta machines , slide projector and journal notebook .		
	5. The implementation of the Preparation Phase activities were the orientation of the faculty who handled the program , orientation of the students regarding the activities , orientation of the contact persons or foster parents regarding the whole program , the grouping of the students participants , inputs to faculty and students concerning relevant issues of life , ocular visitations to the places of exposure , planning sessions , practices of students for the commissioning rites , inputs on the importance of the commissioning rites , processing of forms and schedules of the activities and prepares the transportation facilities .		

6. The Exposure - Immersion Activities were rated as Excellent by the majority of the college students of Angeles University Foundation . The activities were : Initial assembly of people and students in the place of exposure before the start of activities , distributions of the students participants to their respective foster parents, implementation of the activities, Agape , fellowship meals with the family , family integration , "Talakayan" for the youth and adult games for the children , culminating program , fix and pack - up things and journal writing .
7. The activities on the processing of experiences and follow - up rated by the majority of the college students were rated as very good . The activities were , group reflection , group sharing , vision clarification sessions , culminating activity (Prayer / Mass) , evaluation; follow - up activities , faculty evaluation , suggestions. Recommendations to the improvement of the program , establiship linkages with institutions and contact persons in the community and re-planning , re-programming for the next school year .
8. The places of exposure - immersion and the activities based on the majority of the frequency of the respondents were classified and discussed as follows . In their exposure - immersion to the Public Schools majority of the respondents said that Bible Study was usually done as a part of the exposure - immersion activities in the community Character Education helped pupils evaluate their attitudes and values in life , retreat and recollection activity enhances the participants on the knowledge of self , others and God . In their exposure - immersion to the Reception Center for Children majority said that the students played games with the children , believed

the students had extended help to the orphanage . Also the children were taught about Jesus , and learned to appreciate the talents and creativity of the children . In their exposure - immersion to the Regional Youth Rehabilitation Center , majority of the college students also had opportunity to mingle with the youth offenders and through parlor games the students had observed that the youth offenders had developed camaraderie and deepened their fellowship . In their exposure - immersion to the Tribal Communities , majority of the students learned the value of service in the community by serving the Aetas , also , the Aetas learned a lot from the students through literacy program , the students conducted bible study for the Aetas were also human beings like them who had plans for their family and the students established good relationship to the family . In their exposure - immersion to the Farmer Communities , majority of the students observed that the children of the farmers were very attentive and cooperative during the activity . The students learned to value the beauty of God's creation , vegetable gardening sustains family economic needs and foster the value of productivity , the students also developed a sense of commitment in uplifting the life of the farmers , they learned the importance to proclaim the Good News , discovered that the farmers have deep faith in God , learned a lot from the lifestyle , values , beliefs and culture of the farmers thinks "Talakayan" , developed a genuine concern for others , and both the farmers and students developed awareness on social problems . In their exposure - immersion to the Evacuation Centers , majority of the college students claimed that parlor games were usually provided during their activity with the children , and the students simply lived with the family doing the household chores .

Specific Christian Values Attained and Imbibed by the College Students through the Exposure - Immersion Program

1. The values of love , concern for the poor , justice , responsibility , respect for life , integrity and harmony of creation were attained and imbibed by the majority of the college students in "level of feelings".
2. Simplicity , Humility , Prayer and Gratitude to God were attained and imbibed by the college students in "level of thinking."
3. Based on the analysis , the college students had not fully internalized the values being taught through exposure - immersion program since majority of them attained and imbibed the values in the feeling and thinking levels , while a few number of them were already in the acting level .

Conclusions

From the findings derived in this study , the researcher came - up with the following conclusions :

1. The current exposure - immersion program of the Center for Christian Formation at Angeles University Foundation had a very good rationale , objectives , content , strategies , instructional materials / aids , activities and places of exposures .
2. The activities implemented in the different places of exposure - immersion had been achieved .
3. The places of the exposure - immersion were commendable to the attainment of the objectives and goals of the program .

4. The college students attained and imbibed christian values of love , concern for the poor , justice , responsibility , respect for life , integrity and harmony of creation in the level of thinking and a few number were already in the acting level .
5. The values of simplicity , humility , prayer and gratitude to God were attained and imbibed by the college students in the level of thinking .
6. Majority of the college students did not fully internalize the values taught through the current exposure - immersion program in Angeles University Foundation .

Recommendations :

In the light of the findings and conclusions drawn , the following recommendations are hereunder offered :

1. The current exposure - immersion program of the Center for Christian Formation at Angeles University Foundation be designed in such a way that would fit to the needs and situation of the student participants of every college .
2. The activities prepared and implemented in every place of exposure needed to be relevant and effective to both students - participants and the people in the community considering the goals and objectives of the exposure - immersion program .
3. The places of exposure must fit to the requirements of the program .
4. The students and the people who were involved in the program were expected to attain and imbibe specific Christian values after such experience .
5. The school administrators and official should support the continuity of the program and provides its developmental needs .

6. This study had follow - up inorder to determine the effectiveness of the proposed exposure - immersion program at least within five (5) years of implementations .