



## Perception Of High School Students And Teachers Of Dona Montserrat Lopez Memorial High School Towards Reproductive Health: Basis For Reproductive Health Education And Counseling Program

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### Abstract

2017 was a very challenging school year for the guidance counselors of Dona Montserrat Lopez Memorial High School, Silay City, Negros Occidental, Philippines. Many female students have been referred to our office due to unwanted pregnancy which resulted to drop out. Likewise, a number of male students have expressed, through their advisers, the need for medical attention and counseling due to contamination of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Concerned of the future of the youth, many of whom are enrolled in our school, proponent embarked on a study that would help students develop an awareness of their sexuality thus, promote reproductive health. Researcher would like to find out if there are significant differences on the level of perception towards Reproductive Health when the DMLMHS students and teachers are grouped, according to their selected characteristics and if there is significant relationship between students and teachers' level of perception towards RH. Descriptive analysis and qualitative design were conducted to 375 students and 119 teachers who were identified through stratified random sampling. Data were collected through a valid and reliable questionnaire, and analyses through SPSS software. Results of the study revealed that both students and teachers have high perception toward reproductive health and that there exists no significant difference between the levels of perception of students as well as teachers when they were grouped according to selected characteristics. Taken as a whole, there was no significant relationship on the levels of perception between students and teachers. Though findings show that both students and teachers' perception towards reproductive health is high yet there is a need for programs to be advocated to make them understand clearly its importance thereby embracing appropriate reproductive health practices which has been deterred for a long time due to some cultural beliefs and biases.

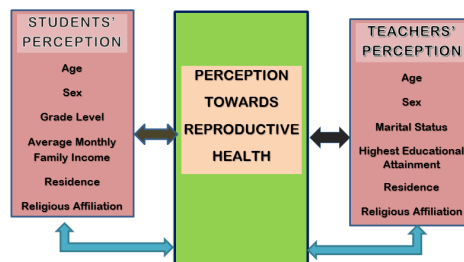


Figure 1. Level of Perception of Students and Teachers towards Reproductive Health and their significant difference and relationship as a whole and when taken according to specific variables

### Biography

Marissa Celis-Plantinos has been a Guidance Counselor in a lead government secondary school in Silay City, Negros Occidental, Philippines for over 25 years. Her passion for guidance and teaching are equally the same, thus, she also handles a part-time job as a College Instructor in Psychology and Education subjects after office hours. She is a child and women advocate and has been invited to speak on child protection and women empowerment. She is an accredited National Trainor and National Child Protection Specialist having had extensive training by the Department of Education. She is likewise, a National Trainor on Personal Safety Lessons for Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse. Her constant interaction with peers and students on the issue of teenage pregnancy, the rise of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS cases in her community, made her passionate to make a research on reproductive health. Her study was sponsored by the Department of Education under its Basic Research Education Fund.

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