

Leaving to Make a Living: Differences on the Subjective Well-Being of Children in Transnational Families and in Families Living Together

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Abstract : This research explored the relationships of a child's family condition, sex and subjective well-being (SWB) to gain some understanding of the experiences of both transnational and non-transnational families. A descriptive-correlational design was used to study the variables. Participants included 52 male and female children from Iloilo and Kabankalan cities, representing the family conditions in this study. Data were gathered using a semi-structured interview guide. Responses were analyzed using Mann-Whitney U Test. The results showed that the SWB of non-transnational children was significantly higher compared to their transnational counterparts ($U = 134, p = .00$). Also, analysis between females and males indicated a significant difference only on some aspects ($U = 318, p = .71$). Some recommendations were suggested to better understand the plight of the left-behind children.

Keywords : left-behind children, mothers, subjective well-being, transnational families

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