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FILIPINO-AMERICAN PERCEPTIONS OF AND
EXPERIENCES WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A Project
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Social Work

by
Bernice Macaraeg Tabil

June 2006


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Approved by:



Dr. Janet Chang, Faculty Supervisor
Social Work

6/6/06

Date



Dr. Rosemary McCaslin,
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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to assess Filipino Americans' perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence. Questionnaires were distributed to Filipino Americans using non-random and snowball sampling. A total of 170 Filipino Americans participated in this study. The Original Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS1) was used to assess participants' experiences with domestic violence. Statements regarding domestic violence and Likert scale response were used to assess participants' perceptions of domestic violence.

Statistical tests showed that there were gender, age, generational, and marital status difference on specific perceptions of domestic violence among Filipino Americans. Furthermore, statistics also revealed that the majority of participants reported using non-violent means of resolving conflict. However, there were few instances in which participants used minor or severe violence during a conflict with a partner.

This research study is relevant to social work practice as it provides an understanding of domestic violence in the Filipino American community. These findings contribute to the development of a knowledge

base to for domestic violence issues in the Filipino American community. This knowledge can affect the planning, utilization and delivery of intervention programs and treatment programs to address domestic violence among Filipino Americans.

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DEDICATION

To my family, friends, and fellow Filipino Americans
for your love, support, and inspiration.

BMT

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Domestic violence may be a problem in the Filipino American community. However, there is a lack of information and knowledge concerning this problem. Therefore, this chapter will discuss the importance of and the need for understanding the problem of domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Problem Statement

Domestic violence is a serious problem for everyone in the community. In the United States, domestic violence is the number one cause of injury for women each year (Center for the Pacific Asian Family, 2005). According to the 2002 National Violence Against Women (NVAW) survey, Asian Americans reported the least incidence of domestic violence. Although the reporting rate is low, it is important to be skeptical in thinking that domestic violence does not occur in Asian American communities. Furthermore, it should not be assumed that domestic violence issues in Asian communities need not be addressed.

Another survey found that 41%-60% of their Asian American participants reported experiencing acts of domestic violence (Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence, 2005). Due to the ambiguities of these two surveys, one can see that there is a need for further research on domestic violence especially in the Asian American community. Furthermore, there is a need for additional research to explore domestic violence among individual Asian groups. Therefore, this study specifically explored domestic violence within the Filipino American community.

Domestic violence is present in the Filipino culture. However, there are many Filipinos living abroad and in the United States that do not consider their violent relationships as domestic violence for various reasons. Furthermore, there is a tendency for the American culture to stereotype the acts of domestic violence in different ethnic groups as part of the culture (Menjivar & Salcido, 2002). Included in these ethnic groups are Filipinos and Filipino-Americans. This stereotype makes it seem that these cultures accept domestic violence in their culture. However, this is not the case; different cultures have different reasons for

enduring these acts of violence. It is important to understand these views of domestic violence in order to prevent and intervene with these groups to end the cycle of domestic violence.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to expand on the little knowledge that is currently available on domestic violence in the Filipino American community. Currently, there is not enough research about domestic violence in the Filipino American community to adequately explore its prevalence in the United States. In order to know the prevalence of domestic violence in the Filipino American community, it is important to understand how it exists. Therefore, it is best to begin by understanding the domestic violence perceptions and experiences of the Filipino American community. Ultimately, this research explored the various views and experiences that Filipino-Americans have on domestic violence. This research helped to lay a foundation of knowledge for a general understanding of domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

To get an adequate understanding of the various perceptions and experiences of domestic violence in the Filipino American community it is important to reach numerous sub-populations in the community. This study reached out to Filipino Americans of different age ranges, income brackets, genders, and residency status. To assure a representative sample from the general population, surveys were distributed to various religious organizations, schools, and Filipino American specialty stores and restaurants in the Riverside and San Bernardino County that serve the Filipino American community. In addition, surveys were distributed to the researcher's Filipino American friends and family members, using a snowball sample. The survey was also posted on the internet for participants to take at their convenience. E-mails were sent to various Filipino organizations asking for their participation in this research by taking the survey on the internet. Fliers were posted and distributed at various Filipino American specialty stores to inform participants about the research and to encourage them to take the survey on the internet.

The instrument used for this study was a questionnaire that the researcher created to address the perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence. The Original Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS1) was used to address the experiences of domestic violence portion of the questionnaire. To address perceptions of domestic violence, the researcher compiled a set of questions based on findings from various studies of Filipino domestic violence in the Philippines and in the United States.

Significance of the Project for Social Work

This study is important for the field of social work because it builds knowledge and understanding about domestic violence in the Filipino American community. Furthermore, this research helped social workers to address issues of domestic violence in the Filipino American community. There is evidence that shows domestic violence occurs in the Filipino American community. However, due to the lack of research about this topic there is an imminent need for research in this area.

To begin this research one needs to know what Filipino Americans think about domestic violence.

Additionally, one needs to know what kinds of experiences Filipino Americans have with domestic violence.

This study uses the "beginning" stage of the generalist intervention process as it attempted to understand the way Filipino Americans perceive domestic violence. Furthermore, it steps into the "assessing" stage of the generalist intervention process as it explored the domestic violence experiences of Filipino Americans. Ultimately, the information received from this research provides social workers, social services agencies, and those who work in the field of domestic violence with a better understanding of the prevalence of domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Therefore, this study answered the following.

- 1) What are Filipino Americans' perceptions of domestic violence?
- 2) What experiences do Filipino Americans have with acts of domestic violence?

CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

It is important to understand the previous work about domestic violence in the Filipino American community. However, there has not been much research on this area. Thus, this chapter will discuss the cultural implications for addressing domestic violence. Additionally, it will look at the theories guiding this research. Furthermore, it will look at the existing literature on domestic violence in the Philippines. Last, it will look at the existing literature regarding domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Cultural Implications for Addressing
Domestic Violence

In attempting to understand the need for this research project, existing literature was reviewed that examined domestic violence specifically related to the concepts of culture, ethnicity, and immigration. Through this, many common themes were found. These themes revolved around the basic assumption that domestic violence experiences are the same for all cultures.

However, this is not the case. Thus, there is a need to understand the dynamics of domestic violence in relation to culture and ethnicity.

Several studies have indicated that domestic violence does not occur in one single form. For different cultures and families there are varying predictors of domestic violence. Additionally, domestic violence presents various meanings, experiences, and consequences for each individual (Bogard, 2005; Dasgupta, 2005; Ely, 2004; Sokoloff & Dupont, 2005).

In her research, Bogard (2005), looked at domestic violence using the concept of "intersectionalities." These intersections included race, class, sexuality, and gender. In addressing race and domestic violence, it was found that there is little information about concerning the minorities and domestic violence. Furthermore, race and domestic violence is made complicated and un-useful by collapsing races into categories such as Asian and Hispanic. Thus, there is a need for further research on ethnicity specific domestic violence.

In addressing social class and domestic violence, Bogard (2005), found that social class is inversely related to domestic violence. Those of lower social class

experience higher levels of domestic violence. Those of higher social class experience lower levels of domestic violence.

In sexuality and domestic violence, Bograd found that there is a lack of knowledge concerning this area. Thus, there is a need to address this in the future. In looking at gender and domestic violence, it was found that domestic violence can effect men and women differently. Men are usually the perpetrators of domestic violence using more violent tactics. Women are more likely the victims or survivors of domestic violence. However, it is important to note that women can be the perpetrators of domestic violence and when they are, they employ more verbal tactics of abuse. Overall, in her research, Bograd emphasizes the importance of addressing all these intersectionalities of domestic violence in order to get a rounded understanding of domestic violence experiences.

A separate study by Sokoloff and Dupont (2005), provided a review of the current literature to examine domestic violence and its relations with the intersections of race, class, and gender. Their review found that culture plays a major role in domestic

violence occurrences and the simplistic way that this relationship is portrayed does not do it justice. Therefore, there is an important need to "address how different communities' cultural experiences of violence are mediated through structural forms of oppression, such as racism, colonialism, economic exploitation, heterosexism, and the like" (p. 45). Overall, the authors point out that it is important to examine all the factors that may affect one's experiences with domestic violence.

In addition to looking at domestic violence at the intersectionalities of race, class, and gender it is also important to look at immigration and its effects on domestic violence. Menjivar and Salcido (2002), reviewed the limited literature on domestic violence concerning immigrant women in the United States. Their purpose was to show that domestic violence is not the same among immigrant cultures. They found that the rates of domestic violence in immigrant communities are not necessarily higher than the rates of native populations. However, the domestic violence experiences of immigrant women are made to be much more complicated when compared to the native populations'. This complication is attributed to a woman's immigrant status, inability to speak the

language, being isolated from friends and family, unemployment or the inability to access a job, uncertainty about her legal status, and her experiences with local authorities.

In knowing this, it is important to understand that domestic violence is not part of an immigrant woman's culture. However, immigrant women's domestic violence experiences are considered to be similar because they are likely to experience a combination of the factors stated above that make domestic violence complicated for them. Overall, it is important not to lump the domestic violence situations of immigrant women together, thus minimizing their experiences.

In another literature review of domestic violence in immigrant communities, Ely (2004), points out that culture can perpetuate domestic violence in immigrant communities despite being in the United States for several years. The idea that domestic violence is accepted by certain cultures may stem from the cultural beliefs of the immigrants native country. Additionally, the author points out several barriers that immigrant women face when seeking help for domestic violence. These barriers include patriarchal values, social acceptance of

violence, racism, fear that she will be blamed, various social stigmas, the pressure to acculturate, views of marriage and divorce, the extended family, reproductive freedom, sexuality, abuse during pregnancy, immigration status, and the lack of culturally competent professionals to help these women. In knowing that these are the barriers that immigrant women face when seeking help for domestic violence, it is important that social workers address each woman's experience of domestic violence based on her own interpretation of the situation.

In reviewing the literature on cultural implications for domestic violence the basic point is to look at each situation of domestic violence differently, using the victims' definition and interpretation of the situation, as each episode of domestic violence is different based on culture, ethnicity, views and acculturation of the parties involved.

Theories Guiding Conceptualization

According to Kurst-Swanger and Petcosky (2003), domestic violence can be analyzed from several different levels, at different perspectives, and/or using numerous

theories. At the micro level domestic violence can be explained using the psychobiological perspective. This perspective states that inherited biological characteristics of the abuser causes domestic violence. With this perspective there is a tendency to blame the victim for being in a violent relationship. Likewise, abusers are excused for their violent behavior because it is an inherited trait.

On the meso level domestic violence can be explained using the sociopsychological model. This perspective explains domestic violence based the family's interaction patterns and the relationships among each family member. A theory that falls under this model is social learning theory. Social learning theory looks at domestic violence as a learned interaction process. Thus, domestic violence interactions are learned through modeling, imitation, and reinforcement. Furthermore, domestic violence is passed on from generation to generation.

Another theory that falls under this category is social exchange theory. Social exchange theory looks at family behaviors in terms of the costs and rewards. When rationalizing behaviors of domestic violence, abusers feel that there are more rewards and less costs in

abusing their partners. The victims think that there are more rewards and less costs by being in a violent relationship. Therefore, the abusers and victims remain in these violent relationships based on the costs and rewards.

On the macro level, domestic violence can be analyzed using the sociocultural model and the multidimensional model. The sociocultural model explains domestic violence using socially constructed variables. According to this model, values and beliefs are important to understand the dynamics of domestic violence. The multidimensional model explains domestic violence by looking at all the variables that could possibly effect the situation. Included in this model is ecological theory. Ecological theory examines domestic violence by addressing the relationship between the individual and the environment, the quality of the environment and the interactions between individuals in that environment.

Overall, all of these perspectives, models, and theories are useful in addressing domestic violence. The basic points of these theories will be used to address domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Domestic Violence in the Philippines

To understand domestic violence in the Filipino American community it is important to look at the roots of Filipinos by going back to look at domestic violence in the Philippines.

An article presented by Nolido (2004), looked at the prevalence of and factors related to domestic violence in the Philippines. Nolido, states that domestic violence was not an issue discussed publicly until the late 1990s. During that time reports of wife abuse to the Bureau of Women's Welfare in the Philippines rose from 850 to 7850 cases from 1991 to 1997. Until then abuse in families was acknowledge but it was often excused as necessary to keep loved ones in line, a part of fate, and a solution to conflicts. Statistically, it is estimated that 60% of Filipino women are victims of domestic violence.

In his research Nolido found that the major types of abuse in the Philippines were physical, verbal, psychological, sexual, resource, and abandonment in this order. Physical abuse included hitting with an object, kicking, boxing, throwing things across the room, and homicide. Verbal abuse included calling a partner stupid, dumb, or ugly. Psychological abuse included teasing a

partner, holding a partner against her will, and forcing a partner to do something unwillingly. Sexual abuse included forcing a partner to perform sexual acts against her will, or even denying a partner sex. Resource abuse was defined as not allowing the partner to have access to money or funds, and putting vices such as alcohol and gambling before the partner. Abandonment was described as leaving the partner to care for the children, and offering no support financially and emotionally to the family.

Nolido found that the factors that contributed to domestic violence included a woman's lack of control over the family, lack of access to medical care, poverty, the batterer's control issues, alcohol and/or drug use, jealous tendencies, and the Catholic religion. Predictors of domestic violence included stress, alcohol, and/or drug use, a woman refusing to have sex, talking back to the husband, neglecting to care for the children, a woman earning more money than the man, and a woman considering her husbands' job to be inadequate. Overall, this article provides a basic overview of the prevalence and factors associated to domestic violence in the Philippines.

In a separate study of domestic violence in the Philippines, Lee, David, and Naraval (2000), address the male's view of domestic violence. The researchers state that in domestic violence cases 80% of the abusers are men. Despite the fact that men are the primary causes for domestic violence, they have been excluded from adding their input for programs that aim to reduce domestic violence in the Philippines. In their study, researchers recruited 58 men from four separate communities in the Philippines. The participants were all above 20 years of age, cohabitating with a female partner for at least a year, low to middle income, of Catholic religion, and had children. Data were collected over a 10-month period during discussion groups. During these discussions, group leaders asked a series of questions regarding gender roles and domestic violence.

In discussing gender roles all participants agreed that the men are symbols of power and strength in the family. Thus they are the main sources of authority and supplier of the family. "Men are in charge of the family, particularly in supplying the needs of its members" (p. 424). Participants stated that men also give psychological and emotional support to their family as

one of their duties. Men said that they were the stronger sex and this meant it was natural for them to be leaders of the family. The men confessed that at times they are unable to fulfill these roles, such as earning enough money to support the family, and providing support to their wives and children. Men admitted that they were not able to fulfill these roles because of problems with alcohol, womanizing and gambling.

Men stated that a woman's role revolves around the home; this includes managing family income, and doing the cooking and cleaning. The men had high standards for their partners. The men maintained that they requested their partners to be clean and "make themselves desirable and available for sexual interaction." Furthermore, the men agreed that it is a woman's job to provide sex and understand the sexual needs of men. Some participants valued the idea of women being employed because the women can contribute to the family. The men agreed that both husbands and wives should contribute to creating a happy family. It was agreed that this was done by having open communication between the husband and the wife. Being open to each others weaknesses and faults were the best ways to keep lines of communication open in the family.

In discussing domestic violence all of the men said that they had observed and experienced domestic violence in their own homes or in homes of other people they knew. The most common form of violence was verbal and physical abuse committed against men and women to each other and to the children. The men stated that their wives called them stupid, dumb and useless. This was the most common form of violence they experiences. The men stated that physical violence involved, hitting, kicking, beating, slapping, biting, punching, dragging, pushing, throwing objects, and choking. Few of the men acknowledged that abandonment, extramarital affairs, not sharing the man's paycheck, and giving the silent treatment to their partners were forms of domestic violence.

Men stated that instances of domestic violence started in response to conflicting views on certain issues, frustration over questionable behavior of the other partner, and the woman's failure to fulfill her responsibilities. Men stated that the wives usually initiated these arguments by nagging or questioning their male partners about gambling, alcohol use, and womanizing. Participants stated that the majority of the arguments were about money matters. Participants admitted

that most of their experiences with domestic violence occurred when they were under the influence of alcohol.

Most of the men admitted to feeling remorseful, shameful, and feeling pain after they have physically or verbally abused their wives or children. Some of the participants were not regretful, as they stated they were relieved after an instance of abuse toward their wife or children. The men agreed that it is impossible for men not to realize that they have caused harm to their families after a domestic violence occurrence. Some men stated that those who fail to recognize the harmful consequences of domestic violence were probably on drugs or drunk at the time of the violent episode.

The participants knew that injuries from physical violence can result in death of their partners or children. Many of the men understood that domestic violence can ruin their familial relationships, whether it is the husband and wife separating or the children growing up to become violent themselves. Many of the participants stated that they know domestic violence is a problem that needs to be solved in their communities. On a positive note, the majority of the men stated that men who abuse their wives and children could change with

proper interventions. Only a few stated that old men, and men who are unwilling to change are men who would continue to abuse their wives and children despite proper interventions.

Based on the findings from their research, five suggestions are made for interventions concerning domestic violence in the Philippines. 1) In order to adequately address domestic violence, male sensitive approaches are needed to include men in community based programs. 2) Programs addressing domestic violence should use neutral, non-disabling labels for men and women, such as describing violent men as men with violent behaviors, and addressing victims of domestic violence as survivors. 3) Interventions should look at both the positive and negative dimensions of a man's role in domestic violence. This includes addressing a man's role, familial positions, and their violent behaviors. 4) Domestic violence intervention workers should realize that all men are not the same in their views of gender roles and domestic violence. 5) Interventions with domestic violence should involve men; however they should first be separated from the women and children.

Overall, this article provides an extensive background about domestic violence in the Philippines. It is important to know that these factors and views of domestic violence exist when looking at domestic violence in the Filipino American community because it provides background views of domestic violence in the Philippines which in turn relates to the domestic violence experiences of Filipinos in the United States.

Domestic Violence in the Filipino American Community

Looking at the available literature on domestic violence in the Filipino American community, there were only two articles that addressed this. One article by Agbayani-Siewert (2004), examined domestic violence perceptions of Filipino, Caucasian, Hispanic, and Chinese American college students. The second study by Agbayani-Siewert and Yick Flanagan (2001), examined Filipino American college students' perceptions of dating violence.

Agbayani-Siewert (2004), has recently conducted research to find the differences in Filipino American college student's attitudes of gender roles and perceptions of intimate violence when compared to

Caucasian, Hispanic, and Chinese college students. A modified version of the Perceptions of and Attitudes Toward Intimate Violence was administered to local college students of the above ethnicities to measure the student's attitudes and perceptions of spousal abuse. Additionally, researchers used the Attitude Toward Women Scale - Simplified Version to measure students' beliefs about women's roles. Data were also collected on each participant's age, gender, education level, fraternity or sorority membership and birthplace.

This study showed that the views of Filipino students towards intimate violence and gender roles were more similar to Caucasian and Hispanic students. Chinese students had views more different than the Caucasian and Hispanic students. The Chinese students viewed acts of domestic violence as acceptable and needed. Filipino students viewed acts of domestic violence as unnecessary and needing to be changed within the culture. Therefore, although Chinese people and Filipino people are generally categorized together as Asians, their views on intimate violence and gender roles are very different from each other.

In a separate study by Agbayani-Siewert and Yick Flanagan (2001), researchers sought to examine aspects of dating violence among Filipino American college students. This study looked at the definitions, justifications, and experience with dating violence among Filipino-American college students. Using a modified version of the Perceptions and Attitudes Toward Intimate Violence questionnaire and the Psychological Violence Subscale, researchers compared the perceptions that males and females had on dating violence.

Researchers found that both males and females considered psychological aggression to be dating violence however; males did so a little less than females. The male and female participants agreed that physically and sexually aggressive behaviors are acts of dating violence. This study found that among Filipino American college students in general, their perceptions of dating violence were not much different from each other.

Overall, these two studies have only examined dating violence and intimate violence in Filipino American college students. Both studies point out that there is a need to include people from the general Filipino American community in research addressing issues of domestic

violence. By including a wider sample of the Filipino-American community, there will be a better understanding of domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Summary

This literature review has looked at the cultural implications for addressing domestic violence, the theories guiding this research, domestic violence in the Philippines and domestic violence in the Filipino American culture. It is important to look at and address the cultural factors that can have an effect on domestic violence. In regards to theoretical support, it is important to examine domestic violence at the micro, meso, and macro levels using the various models and theories discussed. In addition to using theories to guide us it is important to look understand the roots of domestic violence in the Filipino American by looking at domestic violence in the Philippines. Finally, in looking at the existing research concerning domestic violence in the Filipino American community, there is an impending need for more research and understanding of domestic violence in this community.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODS

Introduction

This chapter will present the methods and design that will be used in this study to measure perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence within the Filipino American community.

Study Design

The purpose of this study was to explore Filipino Americans' perceptions of domestic violence. This described the ways that Filipino Americans view domestic violence. In addition, the experiences of domestic violence were explored. Doing so, described Filipino American persons' experiences with domestic violence that are unique to this community as a whole.

The design of this research was to use a survey to address the perceptions and experiences of domestic violence. The survey used participant demographics as the independent variables. The dependent variables were the participants' views and experiences with domestic violence. This portion of the survey asked participants about their agreement or disagreement towards various

statements about domestic violence. Furthermore, the survey asked participants about the amount of times they have experienced acts of domestic violence.

The questionnaire was able to reach a wide variety and range of participants using minimal resources. However, there were some limitations to this method in which the questionnaire left little room for participants to explain their answers.

The research questions that guided this research are: 1) What are Filipino Americans' perceptions of domestic violence? 2) What are Filipino Americans' experiences with domestic violence?

Sampling

The general Filipino American public was chosen for this study because previous research on Filipino Americans and domestic violence had only included college students. Thus, it was important to reach out to the general Filipino American population. Furthermore, it was imperative that the views and opinions of a wide range of Filipino Americans be heard in this study in order for it to be applicable to the Filipino American population.

The sample for this study was Filipino Americans. Filipino American was operationalized for this study to be a person who considers themselves to be of Filipino decent, who are currently living in the United States. United States citizenship or immigration status is not a factor in this sample.

The participants for this study were obtained through non-random sampling and snowball sampling. The sample size was 170. The participants included both males and females age 18 years and older. The majority of the participants were from California. However, because snowball samples were also used, there may be participants in the study from outside the Southern California borders.

Participants for this research were obtained through several venues. The researcher distributed questionnaire packets to various religious groups, Filipino Student Organizations, Filipino American specialty shops friends and family members. The researcher posted the questionnaire on the internet. The researcher distributed and posted fliers (see appendix A) in the above mentioned places to advertise the research and encourage Filipino Americans to take the survey via the internet.

Additionally, the researcher emailed friends, family, and various Filipino American organizations about this research, and asked them to participate in the research by taking the survey on the internet.

Data Collection and Instruments

The independent variables of this research were the demographics of participants. This included the age, gender, generation as a Filipino American, income, marital status, level of education and religion (see Appendix B).

Gender for this study was male or female, and it was a nominal variable. It is important to consider gender in this study because of the different views and experiences males and females have about domestic violence. The independent variable of age was the participants' age it was a scale variable. All participants in the study were 18 years or older. The independent variable generation as Filipino American was operationalized as follows:

- 1st generation: You were born and raised outside of the United States.

- 1.5 generation: You were born outside of the United States but you were raised in the United States.
 - 2nd Generation: You were born and raised in the United States.
 - 3rd generation: Your parents and you were born and raised in the United States.
 - 4th generation: Your grandparents, parents, and you were born and raised in the United States.
- Generation Filipino American is a nominal variable.

Education level was measured as the highest level of education completed, and it was measured as a nominal variable. Income was measured as the total household income and it was an ordinal variable.

Religion/Spirituality was one's religious practice or spiritual practice; it was measured as a nominal variable. Marital status was measured as the current status of the participant, it was a nominal variable.

Ethnicity was also an independent variable to be measured in this research, it was a nominal variable. All participants had to be at least part Filipino for their responses to be valid.

All the above independent variables were important to look at in this study because these aspects of one's life may influence views and experiences of domestic violence. Furthermore, the study determined if the independent variables are related to the dependent variables in some way.

The dependent variables in this study were the participants' perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence.

The measurement tool to explore perceptions of domestic violence in the Filipino American community was a survey that the researcher created to address Filipino American perceptions of domestic violence. (See Appendix C.) The researcher developed this survey based on the research findings of various studies of Filipino domestic violence in the Philippines and the United States. For this portion, the participants were asked to answer questions using a four point Likert scale responses; in which they indicate if they strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed, or strongly disagreed with the statement asked. The questions in this part of the survey were used to gain an understanding of how Filipino Americans view domestic violence acts and causes.

To explore and describe Filipino American experiences with domestic violence the Original Tactics Scale (CTS1) was used. The CTS1 is the most commonly used scale to measure family conflict. This scale looks at the various ways in which partners resolve conflict, this includes the reasoning, verbal aggression, and violence (Straus & Gelles, 1990). The CTS1 was chosen for this study because of its ease of use, reliability and validity. For this research the CTS1 responses were measured as an ordinal variable to determine the amount of specific domestic violence acts that one may have experienced in the course of a year (see Appendix D).

In order to test the readability of the entire questionnaire packet, the researcher selected five Filipino Americans of different education levels, and ages to take the entire questionnaire packet. These select five gave feedback to the researcher about the readability of the questionnaire packet and the researcher made changes to the questionnaire accordingly.

Procedures

To obtain a representative sample of participants for this study, the researcher distributed the

questionnaire packet to various religious organizations, school-based organizations, and Filipino specialty shops and restaurants in the San Bernardino and Riverside, CA areas. The religious organizations are asked to participate in this study because of the significant Filipino American population within these religious settings. A local college Filipino organization also was also asked to participate in this study, questionnaire packets and fliers were distributed to members. The Filipino restaurants and stores were those within San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

In the snowball sample, surveys were distributed to the researcher's Filipino American family and friends; they were asked to participate in the study. In addition, these family and friends were given extra surveys and they were asked to distribute these surveys to their Filipino American family and friends. The surveys distributed through snowball sampling also had pre-addressed and postage paid envelopes attached to them so that participants can return them at their convenience.

Additionally the researcher set up the entire questionnaire packet on the internet. The researcher

emailed various Filipino Organizations, family and friends and asked them to participate in this research by taking the survey on the internet. Furthermore, the researcher posted and distributed fliers at various Filipino Communities to advertise the research and ask Filipino Americans to participate by taking the survey on the internet.

Protection of Human Subjects

The anonymity of participants was ensured by instructing participants to not write their names or any other type of identifying information on the survey form. Additionally, a statement was made on the survey advising participants that they should not and are not required to share their responses with others. Furthermore, the participants were asked to fill out the survey only if they felt they were in a safe place and safe state of mind to do so.

The questionnaire packet included a participant recruitment letter, which explained the purpose of the research and the risks and benefits of the research to the Filipino American community (see Appendix E).

An informed consent form was given to participants with the questionnaire packet. The informed consent did not require the participants' signature in order for participants to remain anonymous (see Appendix F).

A debriefing statement was also included with the questionnaire packet to ensure participants' safety (see Appendix G). The debriefing statement thanked the participant for their participation. It advised participants to seek help if the survey affected them emotionally or physically; resources were listed on the debriefing statement. In addition, the researcher's contact information, and information to locate the study's findings were included in the debriefing statement.

Data Analysis

When all the data were collected they were entered into frequency tables. Frequency statistics, such as mean, mode and median was used to determine the frequency of each independent variable and each dependent variable.

In addition to using frequency statistics, inferential statistics were used to determine that the outcomes are not due to chance happening. Specifically,

Chi square was used to determine if there was a relationship between each independent variable and the dependent variables. Furthermore, correlations were used to determine what type of relationship exists between specific independent variables and the dependent variables.

Bivariate statistics were run to compare means of the independent and dependent variables. Specifically, independent samples t-tests and one-way analysis of variance were run to compare each group.

Summary

This chapter has reviewed the methods and design of this study. This study used surveys and questionnaires to assess the perceptions and experiences of domestic violence in the Filipino American community based on the independent variables. It utilized random sampling and snowball sampling. Additionally, this chapter has discussed the confidentiality, informed consent and protection of participants for this study. Furthermore, data analysis was discussed.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

Introduction

The purpose of this research was to attempt to understand Filipino Americans' views of domestic violence and their experiences of domestic violence. This chapter will present the results of the various statistical tests run for this research. Participants' gender, age, generation, and marital status were used as the independent variables. Participants' perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence were used as the dependent variables for this study.

Demographic Characteristics of the Study Sample

A total of 170 Filipino Americans participated in this study. All participants were of Filipino decent and are currently living in the United States. Table 1 presents the participants demographic characteristics. Participant ages ranged from 18-74 years old, with over half of the participants being 18-25 years old. The average age of participants was 30.82. Participants' generation as Filipino American ranged from first generation to fourth generation. The majority of the

participants were second generation Filipino Americans (48.8%). Education levels included intermediate through master's/doctorate levels. Most of the participants' possessed college level educations (78.6%). Participants' current marital status included being single, married, or dating; a majority of the participants were currently single (43.0%). Participants' total household income ranged from less than \$15,000 to greater than \$60,000. A majority of the participants had household incomes greater than \$60,000, (42.4%). The majority of the participants were of Catholic religion (88.7%); a few respondents reported being Christian or "other" religion.

Table 1. Respondent Demographic Characteristics

Variable	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Gender (N = 168)		
Male	72	42.9%
Female	96	57.1%
Age (N = 166)		
18-25	95	56.5%
26-35	28	16.7%
36-45	7	4.2%
46-55	22	13.1%
56-65	9	5.4%
66-75	7	4.2%
Generation (N = 168)		
1st	56	33.3%
1.5	27	16.1%
2nd	82	48.8%
3rd	1	.60%
4th	2	1.2%
Education (N = 168)		
Intermediate	1	.60%
High school	24	14.3%
College	132	78.6%
Masters/Doctorate	11	6.5%
Marital Status (N = 165)		
Single	71	43.0%
Married	57	34.5%
Dating	37	22.5%
Household Income (N = 165)		
Less than 15,000	24	14.5%
15,000-24,999	18	11.5%
25,000-34,999	14	8.5%
35,000-44,999	18	11.0%
45,000-60,000	20	12.1%
Greater than 60,000	70	42.4%
Religion (N = 168)		
Catholic	149	88.7%
Christian	16	9.5%
Other	3	1.8%
Ethnicity (N = 168)		
Filipino	143	85.1%
Filipino and other	25	14.9%

Mean Scores of Participant Perceptions of Domestic Violence

Participants were asked about their agreement or disagreement with various statements regarding domestic violence. These statements were used to determine participants' views of domestic violence. Table 2 displays the mean scores of the participants' views of the statements used to assess participants' perceptions of domestic violence.

The highest mean score was in response to the statement, domestic violence is a new social problem, it is only happening now ($\bar{X} = 3.38$). This insinuates that participants disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement. Thus, indicating that the participants believe domestic violence is not a new social problem and they are aware that it has been occurring for many years.

In response to the statement, domestic violence only occurs between or among family members, the mean score ($\bar{X} = 2.74$), suggests that the majority of the participants disagreed with his statement. The same mean score ($\bar{X} = 2.74$) of responses occurred for the statement, domestic violence is common in Filipino American families.

The lowest mean score was found in response to the statement, pointing a gun or knife at a partner is considered part of domestic violence ($\bar{X} = 1.28$). This score suggests that a majority of the participants strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.

Another low mean score was found in response to the statement, kicking and slapping a partner is considered a part of domestic violence ($\bar{X} = 1.43$). This suggests that the majority of the participants strongly agreed or agreed with this statement.

In response to the statements regarding sources and receivers of domestic violence, participants' scores indicated that participants had different views. In response to the question, between men and women, who are more likely to be the sources of domestic violence, ($\bar{X} = 2.0$), the mean score was misleading due to there being only being three choices of men, women, or both. The majority of the participants indicated men to be the sources of domestic violence (51.2%). Furthermore, 46.4 % of the participants stated that both men and women were sources of domestic violence. Only 2.4% of the participants stated that only women were sources of domestic violence.

In addition, in response to the question, between men and women, who are more likely to be the receivers of domestic violence, ($\bar{X} = 2.30$), the mean score is also misleading. The majority of the participants stated that women are most likely to be receivers of domestic violence (67.9%). Furthermore, 31% of the participants indicated that participants identified both men and women as sources of domestic violence. Only 1.2% of participants indicated men to be the only receivers of domestic violence.

Table 2. Respondent Perceptions of Domestic Violence

Item	Mean
1. Domestic violence only occurs between or among family members.	2.74
2. Domestic violence is common in Filipino American families.	2.74
3. Domestic violence is a new social problem, it is only happening now.	3.38
4. Domestic violence happens in families of different income levels.	1.87
5. Domestic violence occurs in low income families.	2.41
6. Kicking and slapping a partner is considered part of domestic violence.	1.43
7. Forcing a partner to have sex is considered part of domestic violence.	1.50
8. Forbidding a partner to earn money is considered part of domestic violence.	2.31
9. Preventing a partner from talking to other people (including family, friends, and strangers) is considered part of domestic violence.	2.03
10. Pointing a gun or knife at a partner is considered part of domestic violence.	1.28
11. Calling a partner names such as "useless," "dumb," or "stupid" is considered a part of domestic violence.	1.81
12. Between men and women, who are more likely to be the sources of domestic violence?	2.00
13. Between men and women, who are more likely to be the receivers of domestic violence?	2.30

Mean Scores of Participants and Partner Experiences with Domestic Violence

The Original Conflict Tactics Scale (CTS1) was used to assess participants' experiences with domestic violence. Additionally, participants were able to report a partner's experiences with domestic violence. Table 3 reports the mean scores of the participants' and their partner's experiences with domestic violence.

The highest mean scores were found in the reasoning subscale of participants experiences with domestic violence. Participants indicated that they ($\bar{X} = 3.80$) and their partners ($\bar{X} = 3.65$) discussed an issue calmly during a conflict.

The lowest mean scores were found in the severe violence subscale of the Conflict Tactics scale (CTS1). The low mean scores in this subscale insinuates that only a few participants experienced severe acts of violence on rare occasions. Participants indicated that they ($\bar{X} = 0.06$ and their partners ($\bar{X} = 0.08$) used a knife or fired a gun during a conflict with their partners.

Table 3. Experiences with Domestic Violence

Item	Respondent Mean score	Partner Mean score
Reasoning		
a. Discussed an issue calmly.	3.80	3.65
b. Got information to back up your side of things.	2.91	2.62
c. Brought in (or tried to bring in) someone else to help settle things.	0.66	0.63
Verbal aggression		
d. Insulted or swore at the other.	1.53	1.50
e. Sulked and/or refused to talk about an issue.	1.90	1.82
f. Stomped out of the room or house.	1.14	1.10
g. Did or said something to spite the other.	1.26	1.48
h. Threatened to hit or throw something at the other.	0.24	0.38
i. Threw something or smashed or hit or kicked something.	0.48	0.58
Minor violence		
j. Threw something at the other.	0.27	0.26
k. Pushed, grabbed, or shoved the other.	0.31	0.38
l. Slapped the other.	0.22	0.29
Severe violence		
m. Kicked, bit, or hit the other person with a fist.	0.15	0.25
n. Hit or tried to hit the other person with something.	0.14	0.21
o. Beat the other person up.	0.14	0.14
p. Choked partner.	0.07	0.07
q. Threatened partner with a knife or gun.	0.07	0.04
r. Used a knife or fired a gun.	0.06	0.08

Bivariate Analysis

Chi square statistics were conducted in order to determine if there was an association between the independent variables and the dependent variables. The independent variables that were used for chi square analysis included age, gender, generation, and marital status. The dependent variables included participant perceptions of domestic violence, participant experiences with domestic violence and the partner's experiences with domestic violence. Through this analysis, there were several significant associations found.

An association was found between gender and the statement, kicking and slapping a partner is considered part of domestic violence ($\chi^2 = 10.3$, $df = 3$, $p = .02$). It appeared that the majority of male participants agreed with this statement, while female participants strongly agreed with this statement.

Another association was found between gender and the statement, pointing a gun or knife at a partner is considered part of domestic violence ($\chi^2 = 12.5$, $df = 3$, $p = .01$). The majority of Filipino American females strongly agreed with this statement. The majority of Filipino American males agreed with this statement.

Between gender and the statement, calling a partner names such as "useless," "dumb," or "stupid" is considered part of domestic violence a significant association was found ($\chi^2 = 15.8$, $df = 3$, $p = .001$). Female participants reported that they agree or strongly agree with this statement. On the other hand male participants responded differently on this statement. Some male participants reported that they agreed with this statement, and some male participants reported that they disagree with this statement.

An association was found among gender and the statement, between men and women, who are more likely to be the sources of domestic violence ($\chi^2 = 6.2$, $df = 2$, $p = .05$). The majority of the male participants identified men or both men and women to be the sources of domestic violence; a few male participants identified women as sources of domestic violence. The majority of the female participants identified only men or both men and women to be sources of domestic violence; no female participants identified women as the only sources of domestic violence.

There was one association found between generation and the statement, domestic violence only occurs between

or among family members ($\chi^2 = 14.8$, $df = 6$, $p = .02$).

First generation Filipino Americans were more likely to agree with this statement, 1.5 generation Filipino Americans were more likely to disagree with this statement, and second generation Filipino Americans were more likely to disagree and strongly disagree with this statement.

An association was found between marital status and the statement, forcing a partner to have sex is considered part of domestic violence ($\chi^2 = 14.4$, $df = 6$, $p = .03$). Amongst single participants, there were some participants who agreed with this statement, and some who disagreed with this statement. However, married and dating participants indicated that they mostly agreed or strongly agreed with this statement.

Additional chi square statistics were run to determine if there were associations between the participants' age, gender, generation Filipino American, and marital status with participants' experiences with domestic violence. These tests revealed that there were associations found among the above independent variables and various participant experiences with domestic violence.

Several associations were found between age and experiences with domestic violence. An association was found among age and sulked or refused to talk about an issue ($\chi^2 = 41.6$, $df = 25$, $p = .004$). Younger Filipino Americans reported engaging in this behavior more frequently than older Filipino Americans.

Between participants age and threatened to hit or throw something at the other, an association was found ($\chi^2 = 39.7$, $df = 20$, $p = .005$). Younger participants indicated that they were more likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict. Older participants indicated that they were less likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict with a partner.

There is a relationship between age and pushed, grabbed, or shoved the other ($\chi^2 = 57.1$, $df = 25$, $p = .00$). Older participants less frequently used this type of violence during a conflict with a partner. Younger participants more frequently used this type of violence during a conflict with a partner.

Another association was found among age and hit or tried to hit the other person ($\chi^2 = 41.7$, $df = 15$, $p = .00$). With age, younger Filipino Americans reported

engaging in this type of violence more frequently than older Filipino Americans.

A relationship was found between age and beat the other person up ($\chi^2 = 45.8$, $df = 15$, $p = .00$). Younger participants indicated that they engaged in this action more frequently than the older participants.

Between age and threatened partner with a knife or gun ($\chi^2 = 19.2$, $df = 10$, $p = .04$). It appeared that the younger participants more frequently acted in this type of violence, while the older participants acted in this type of violence less frequently.

An association was found among age and used a knife or fired a gun ($\chi^2 = 19.3$, $df = 10$, $p = .04$). The younger participants reported engaging in this type of violence more frequently than the older participants.

Two associations were found among generation and experiences with domestic violence. There was a relationship between generation and insulted or swore at the other ($\chi^2 = 26.2$, $df = 10$, $p = .004$). The majority of 1.5 generation and 2nd generation participants indicated that they were more likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict. On the other hand, the majority of the

1st generation participants indicated that they never engaged in this behavior during a conflict.

A relationship was found between generation and did something to spite the other ($\chi^2 = 23.8$, $df = 10$, $p = .008$). The majority of the participants who identified themselves as 1.5 generation and 2nd generation Filipino American engaged in this behavior more often during a conflict. First generation participants were less likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict.

An association was found between marital status and insulted or swore at the other ($\chi^2 = 18.7$, $df = 1$, $p = .05$). Single participants were more likely to insult or swear at their partner during a conflict, as opposed to participants who were dating or married.

Chi square analysis found several associations between the participants' reports of their partner's experiences with domestic violence and age, gender, generation, and marital status.

Several significant associations were found between participants' age and their partners experiences with domestic violence. There was a relationship between age and their partners use of sulked and/or refused to talk

about an issue ($\chi^2 = 45.5$, $df = 25$, $p = .008$). Older participants reported that their partners were less likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict. On the other hand, younger participants indicated that their partners were more likely to engage in this behavior.

A relationship was found between age and partners use of pushed, grabbed, or shoved the other ($\chi^2 = 34.4$, $df = 20$, $p = .02$). Younger participants reported that their partners more frequently engaged in this behavior during a conflict than older participants.

Between age and the partner kicked, bit, or hit the other person with a fist ($\chi^2 = 56.7$, $df = 25$, $p = .00$). It appeared that younger participants indicated that their partners more frequently used this type of violence during a conflict. Older participants indicated that their partners less frequently used this type of violence during a conflict.

There was an association between age and partner beat the other person up ($\chi^2 = 67.3$, $df = 20$, $p = .00$). Older participants reported that their partners more frequently used this type of violence during a conflict. Younger participants reported that their partner less frequently used this type of violence during a conflict.

Only one relationship was found between gender and their partner's experiences with domestic violence. This relationship was found between gender and partner got information to back up your side of things ($\chi^2 = 11.7$, $df = 5$, $p = .04$). Male participants stated that their partners more frequently engaged in this behavior during a conflict. Additionally, female participants indicated that their partners never or rarely engaged in this behavior during a conflict.

Additionally, a relationship was found between generation and partner sulked and or refused to talk about an issue ($\chi^2 = 25.3$, $df = 10$, $p = .005$). It appeared that 2nd generation participants stated that their partners were more frequently engaged in this behavior during a conflict. This was followed by 1st generation participants. 1.5 generation participants stated that their partners less frequently engaged in this behavior during a conflict.

Another relationship was found between marital status and partner got information to back up your side of things ($\chi^2 = 19.6$, $df = 10$, $p = .03$). Single participants stated that their partners were more likely to engage in this behavior during a conflict.

Participants who are dating indicated that their partners were less likely to engage in this behavior.

T-tests and Analysis of Variance

T-tests were run between gender and participants' experiences and their partners' experiences with domestic violence. This was done to determine if there was a difference between gender and participants' experiences with domestic violence. The experiences with domestic violence were broken down into 4 subscales, based on their reaction to conflict in their relationships according to the original CTS. These subscales are reasoning, verbal aggression, minimum violence, and severe violence.

There were no significant differences with gender and participants experiences and domestic violence. In addition there were no significant differences found between genders and their partner's experiences with domestic violence.

One-way analysis of variance statistics were performed to determine if there was a difference between the independent variables of age, generation Filipino

American, and marital status, and domestic violence subscales.

There was a significant difference between age and participants experiences with domestic violence. This difference was between participants age and their use of reasoning in response to conflict, $F(5,127) = 2.79$, $p = .02$. The same difference was found between participants' age and their partners use of reasoning in response to conflict, $F(5,127) = 2.79$, $p = .02$.

Participants between the ages of 18-25 and their partners more frequently used reasoning during a conflict.

Additionally, participants between the ages of 46-55 and their partners used reasoning in a conflict less frequently.

There was a significant difference between participants' generation and their use of verbal aggression in response to a conflict, $F(2,125) = 6.00$, $p = .003$. The same difference was found between generations and the partners use of verbal aggression in response to conflict, $F(2,125) = 6.00$, $p = .003$.

Participants who identified themselves as 1.5 generation Filipino American and their partners were more likely to use verbal aggression during a conflict. First generation

participants and their partners were less likely to use verbal reasoning in a conflict.

There was a significant difference found between marital status and participants' use of reasoning in a conflict, $F(2,128) = 3.21, p = .04$. A difference was found with participants marital status and their partner's use of reasoning in a conflict, $F(2,128) = 3.21, p = .04$. Participants who are currently dating and their partners were more likely to use reasoning in a conflict. On the other hand, married participants and their partners did not use reasoning as often during a conflict.

Summary

This chapter has presented the findings of the various statistical tests found in this study. The frequency statistics for the independent variable and the dependent variables were presented in tables. The significant Chi square findings were reported. Additionally, T-tests and One-way analysis of variances were reported.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION

Introduction

This chapter will discuss the findings of this study as it explored Filipino American perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence. Additionally, it will discuss the limitations of this study. Furthermore, it will discuss this study's recommendations for social work practice, policy, and research.

Discussion

This study sampled a total of 170 Filipino Americans who were living in the United States during the time of this study; a participant's immigration status was not recognized for this study. Participants were recruited using convenience sampling and snowball sampling. For convenience sampling, the survey packet was set up on the internet and the survey packets were distributed at local Filipino organizations and specialty stores. For snowball sampling, survey packets were distributed to the researchers' friends and family. The use of convenience sampling and snowball sampling may have caused some

populations to be oversampled or undersampled in this study.

The majority of the participants were in the age range of 18-25. This age range represents the typical college age participants. The oversampling of younger participants may have been due to the convenience of recruiting college students for this study and college students' willingness to participate in study about domestic violence.

In addition, participants who have reached college level educations were oversampled in this study. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 34% of Filipino Americans have attained a bachelor's level education. Over one-third of the participants indicated that they were in the process of completing a college level education or they completed a college level education. The over-representation of this population can also be attributed to the convenience of recruiting college students and their willingness to participate in this study.

A majority of the participants indicated that their annual household incomes were greater than \$60,000. According to the U.S. Census (2000), the median income

for Filipino Americans is \$58,323. This was consistent with the participants in this study.

The majority of the participants in this study identified themselves as belonging to the Catholic religion. This characteristic is common in the Filipino Community. However, it is important to note that the oversampling of Catholic Filipino Americans may have had an influence in participants' views and experiences with domestic violence.

The overall responses to the statements used to measure participants' perceptions of domestic violence indicates that there were only a few instances in which participants were in consensus regarding the various statements of domestic violence.

Between genders both male and female participants were in consensus towards recognizing the acts that may be considered domestic violence. However, women were more likely to indicate that they strongly agreed, while men indicated that they agreed that acts such as kicking, slapping, calling a partner names such as stupid, dumb or useless, and pointing a gun or knife at a partner is a part of domestic violence. This shows that both males and

females understand that these actions are part of domestic violence.

However, it is important to point out that, there was no significant difference found regarding the other acts of domestic violence and gender. The male and female participants had different opinions towards acts of domestic violence such as forcing a partner to have sex, forbidding a partner to earn money, preventing a partner from talking to friends and family. For example, both males and females equally agreed or disagreed with these statements. Thus, it is not clear whether these acts can be considered acts of domestic violence for the Filipino American community.

Additionally, between genders, there was no consensus about the statements regarding the context of which domestic violence occurs. Male and female participants ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree in response to statements that domestic violence only occurs between family members, domestic violence is common in Filipino American families, domestic violence is a new social problem, and domestic violence happens in low income families. Thus, it is not clear whether these statements regarding the context of domestic violence

explain the phenomenon of domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

These findings about the perceptions of domestic violence in this study are similar to the findings of Lee, David, and Naraval (2000) in which they researched the domestic violence in the Philippines. In their study, the researchers surveyed males about domestic violence. The participants in this study acknowledged the physical acts of domestic violence such as kicking, hitting, slapping, using a gun, or knife, and calling a partner names as part of domestic violence. However they did not acknowledge acts such as preventing a partner to earn money and preventing a partner to talk to others as part of domestic violence.

The similarities in these findings indicate that the views of Filipinos in the Philippines and the views of Filipino Americans in the United States are alike towards acts of domestic violence. Thus, there may be a connection between the experiences of Filipinos in the Philippines and those in the United States.

Between generations, participants had significantly different responses to the statement that domestic violence occurs only among family members. First

generation participants agreed with this statement, while 1.5 and second generation participants agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. This may be attributed to the acculturation levels that these groups have for domestic violence. For example, first generation Filipino Americans were born and raised in the Philippines, thus have the understanding that domestic violence only occurs among family members. However, 1.5 generation, and second generation Filipino Americans were raised in the United States, thus having more of an American response that domestic violence can occur outside of the family, such as in dating situations.

Furthermore, in their experiences of domestic violence there was a difference between participants' generations. First generation participants were indicated that they never insulted or swore at the other, while 1.5 and second generation participants indicated that they frequently insulted or swore at the other. Additionally, the same difference was found regarding participants use of spite in a conflict. First generation participants were less likely use this behavior, while 1.5 and second generation participants were more likely to use this behavior in a conflict. These differences may be due to

the Americanization of 1.5 and 2nd generation Filipino Americans. For example, insulting or swearing, or using spite at the other may be seen as an acceptable act in response to conflict with a partner for Filipino Americans who were raised in the United States. However, insulting or swearing, or using spite at a partner is very offensive behavior for a first generation Filipino American.

Within participants' marital status and the statement forcing a partner to have sex, married and dating participants were more likely to agree or strongly agree with this statement, while single participants agreed and disagreed. This difference can be attributed to views of commitment in a relationship. Married and dating participants may be more committed to the relationship, thus having more understanding to the impact of forcing a partner to have sex. On the other hand, single participants may be less committed in a relationship and viewing sex as a casual experience.

Additionally, with participants' experience with domestic violence and marital status, single participants indicated that they were more likely to insult or swear at their partners. Where as, participants who were dating

or married were less likely to insult or swear at their partners. This difference can also be attributed to the level of commitment. For example, participants who were dating or married were less likely to engage in this behavior with their partners because they are more committed to the relationship. Where as, participants who indicated they were single were more likely to insult or swear at their partners because they are not committed to a relationship.

In looking at the difference participants' age and their experiences with domestic violence, younger participants' indicated that they more frequently experienced the following acts when compared to older participants. Younger participants were more likely to sulk or refuse to talk about an issue; threatened to hit or throw something; pushed or grabbed; hit or tried to hit; beat up the other person; threatened a partner with a knife or gun; and used a knife or gun on a partner. The use of these acts was more common in younger participants than older participants. This may be due to the maturity levels and life experiences associated with age. For example, younger participants were more likely to engage in this behavior because they are not mature enough or

have not experienced enough in life to use other ways to solve a conflict. However, older participants were less likely to use these behaviors because they have more life experience and maturity to settle conflicts in different ways.

The overall responses to experiences with domestic violence indicated that the majority of the participants used reasoning in a conflict with a partner. This indicates that the majority of the participants were able to talk things out to solve a conflict with a partner.

Additionally, only a few participants indicated that they used verbal aggression during a conflict with a partner. This shows that the participants were more likely to try to resolve conflicts with a partner, rather than using aggression to solve a conflict.

With a majority of the participants, they indicated that they have not experienced minor or severe violence. However, there were a few participants who indicated that they have experienced minor or severe violence in their relationships. In knowing that there are Filipino Americans who have experienced this type of violence, it is important that there are programs to address domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

Overall, in looking at participants' responses to their experiences with domestic violence one can indicate that there is little domestic violence in the Filipino American community. However, because there were a few instances in which participants indicated they have experienced domestic violence, it is important to further expand our knowledge of domestic violence in the Filipino American community in order to reach out to the survivors and victims of domestic violence.

Limitations

While this study has been able to look at Filipino American perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence, there are several limitations in this study. One limitation to this study is that the statements used to measure Filipino American perceptions of domestic violence have not been tested for reliability and validity. Such a lack of validity and reliability of this measurement would compromise the validity of this study's findings.

Another limitation to this study was that there were instances of over sampling populations. As discussed above, a majority of the participants were between the

ages of 18-25; a majority were of college level educations; a majority had incomes above \$60,000; and a majority are Catholic. Due to the over sampling of these populations, the ability to generalize the finding of this study to the entire Filipino American community is limited. Additionally, the sample size was quiet small compared to the total Filipino American populations. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Filipinos are second largest Asian group in the United States, and they are the first largest Asian group in California. Thus, the small sample size of 170 participants is minuscule compared to the total Filipino American population.

Overall, with these limitations, there is a need to improve on the ways to measure perceptions of domestic violence. Furthermore, it is important to reach out to a wide range of Filipino Americans.

Recommendations for Social Work Practice, Policy, and Research

The purpose of this research study was to understand Filipino American perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence. With the information acquired from this study it is important for social work practice to reach out to the Filipino American community by providing

them with education about domestic violence. The Filipino American community needs information concerning domestic violence particularly in regards to the context of which to domestic violence occurs and the phenomenon at which domestic violence has revolved to. Furthermore, the Filipino American community needs education to understand the rules and regulations of domestic violence in the United States so that they will be able to understand the acts associated with domestic violence and the consequences of these acts.

Additionally, social work practitioners can reach out to the Filipino American community by providing services to those who have experienced domestic violence. This can include individual therapy or group therapy for both the survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence. In doing so, social work practice can address domestic violence in the Filipino American community as well as provide healing for those affected by domestic violence.

In order to address domestic violence in the Filipino American community there is a need for the national policies regarding domestic violence to include the voices and concerns of Filipino Americans. Thus, it is important that the Filipino American community is not

forgotten when it comes to domestic violence issues and the policies that may effect them. Furthermore, it is important of policies regarding domestic violence to address the culture, ethnicity, and immigration issues. Thus, ones culture or ethnicity should not be looked at as an excuse to domestic violence and one's immigration status should not influence the assistance one receives for domestic violence. Therefore, it is important to understand culture, ethnicity, immigration and their relation to domestic violence policy.

There is still need for more in-depth research about domestic violence in the Filipino American community. Future studies should attempt to include a wide range of the sub-populations within the Filipino American community, in order to get a fully representative sample of Filipino Americans. Additionally, future studies would need to look further at the context and actions of which domestic violence occurs among Filipino Americans. Furthermore, future studies should research the various ways in which domestic violence can be addressed in the Filipino American community.

Conclusions

This study has shown that Filipino Americans have different views towards domestic violence. However there were few instances when Filipino Americans had the same views regarding domestic violence. Additionally, this study showed that the majority of Filipino Americans used reasoning in response to a conflict with a partner. However, there were instances in which Filipino Americans experienced minor or severe violence during a conflict with a partner. These instances of domestic violence are important to acknowledge because these instances represent the survivors/victims of domestic violence.

Furthermore, this study has presented several aspects about Filipino American perceptions of and experiences with domestic violence. There is still a need for additional research in social work to get an in-depth understanding of domestic violence in this community. Overall, it is important for social work to address domestic violence in the Filipino American community.

APPENDIX A

FILIPINO AMERICAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STUDY FLIER

Filipino Americans

Take a survey to help in understanding

Domestic Violence in the

Filipino American Community.

Go to **<http://www.deeznett.com/thesis/intro.html>**

For more information and to take the survey online.

*You must be 18 years old or older to take this survey.

*You must be of Filipino decent and living in the United States.

APPENDIX B
DEMOGRAPHICS SURVEY

Demographics Survey

Please mark the most appropriate answer.

1. Gender: _____ Male _____ Female
2. Age: (place number on the space). _____
3. Generation Filipino American:
_____ 1st generation: You were born and raised outside of the United States.
_____ 1.5 generation: You were born outside of the United States but you were raised in the United States.
_____ 2nd generation: You were born and raised in the United States.
_____ 3rd generation: You and your parents were born and raised in the United States.
_____ 4th generation: You, your parents, and your grandparents were born and raised in the United States.
4. Educational Attainment:
_____ Elementary (Kinder - 5th)
_____ Intermediate (6 - 8)
_____ High School (9 - 12)
_____ College
_____ Masters/ Doctorate
5. Household Income Per Year:
_____ Less than \$15,000
_____ \$15,000 to \$24,999
_____ \$25,000 to \$34,999
_____ \$35,000 to \$44,999
_____ \$45,000 to \$60,000
_____ Greater than \$60,000
6. Religion:
_____ Catholic
_____ Christian
_____ Baptist
_____ Muslim
_____ Other, please specify _____
7. Current Marital Status:
_____ Single
_____ Married
_____ Separated/ Divorced
_____ Dating

8. Ethnicity/ Race: (please mark all that apply)

- Filipino
- Hispanic
- African American/ Black
- Caucasian/ White
- Asian (Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, etc.)
- Pacific Islander (Hawaiian, Tongan, Fijian, etc)
- Other, please specify _____

APPENDIX C

PERCEPTIONS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

Perceptions of Domestic Violence Survey

The following items address one's views of domestic violence.
For the following questions please circle one answer only.

1. Domestic Violence only occurs between or among family member.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
2. Domestic Violence is common in the Filipino American families.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
3. Domestic Violence is a new social problem, it is only happening now.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
4. Domestic Violence happens in families of different income levels.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
5. Domestic Violence occurs in low income families.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
6. Kicking and slapping a partner is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
7. Forcing a partner to have sex is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
8. Forbidding a partner to earn money is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
9. Preventing a partner from talking to other people (including family, friends and strangers) is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
10. Pointing a gun or knife at a partner is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree

11. Calling a partner names such as “useless,” “dumb,” or “stupid” is considered part of domestic violence.
1. strongly agree 2. agree 3. disagree 4. strongly disagree
12. Between men and women, who are more likely to be the sources of domestic violence?
1. Men 2. Women 3. Both
13. Between men and women, who are more likely to be the receivers of domestic violence?
1. Men 2. Women 3. Both

APPENDIX D
EXPERIENCES WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Experiences with Domestic Violence

The following items address conflict between partners. For the following items think of one partner that you are currently or were previously involved in a relationship with, apply the following items to your relationship with this partner only. If you have never had a relationship with a partner, place a check mark on the line below.

_____ I have never been involved in a relationship with a partner.

According to the scale below please circle the appropriate answer of how many times you did each of these things with a partner during a conflict and how many times your partner did these things to you during a conflict.

- 0 = Never
- 1 = Once a year
- 2 = Two or three times
- 3 = Often, but less than once a month
- 4 = About once a month
- 5 = More than once a month

	You did	Your partner did
A. Discussed an issue calmly.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
B. Got information to back up your side of things.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
C. Brought in (or tried to bring in) someone else to help settle things.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
D. Insulted or swore at the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
E. Sulked and/or refused to talk about an issue.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
F. Stomped out of the room or house.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
G. Did or said something to spite the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
H. Threatened to hit or throw something at the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
I. Threw or smashed or hit or kicked something.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
J. Threw something at the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
K. Pushed, grabbed, or shoved the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
L. Slapped the other.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
M. Kicked, bit, or hit the other person with a fist.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
N. Hit or tried to hit the other person with something.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
O. Beat the other person up.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
P. Choked partner.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
Q. Threatened partner with a knife or gun.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5
R. Used a knife or fired a gun.	0 1 2 3 4 5	0 1 2 3 4 5

APPENDIX E
PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT LETTER

Participant Recruitment Letter

Dear Kababayan,

Hello, My Name is Bernice Tabil. I am a Social Work student at California State University, San Bernardino. I am conducting a study about domestic violence in the Filipino American community as a requirement for the completion of my Master of Social Work Degree. The research will be conducted in the general Filipino American public from January 7 to March 17, 2006.

I would like to ask you to participate in this research by answering the questions on the enclosed survey. These questions will ask you about your views of gender roles and domestic violence as well as your experiences of domestic violence. It should take approximately 30 minutes to complete this survey. Attached to the survey is a pre-addressed and stamped envelope, in which you can return at your convenience before March 17, 2006. Your responses will be held at the strictest of confidence.

Your participation in this study is greatly appreciated; as it will be used to build knowledge about Filipino Americans in general, and to help in understanding gender roles and domestic violence amongst Filipino Americans. Thank you for your cooperation and participation.

Maraming Salamat,

Bernice Tabil

APPENDIX F
INFORMED CONSENT

Informed Consent

This study in which you are being asked to participate is a research project designed to explore domestic violence in the Filipino American community. This study is being conducted by Bernice Tabil under the supervision of Dr. Janet Chang, Professor of Social Work at California State University San Bernardino. This study has been approved by the Department of Social Work Sub-committee of the Institutional Review Board, California State University, San Bernardino.

In this study you will be asked to fill out a survey about your perceptions of gender roles and domestic violence as well as your experiences with domestic violence. This should not take longer than 30 minutes to complete. All of your responses will be held at the strictest of confidence by Bernice Tabil. Your name will not be reported with your responses. All data will be reported in group form only. You may receive the results of this study upon its completion after September 2006 by request by writing to Bernice Tabil at 14862 Hamby ct. Moreno Valley, CA 92553.

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You are free to not answer any questions or stop at any point in the survey without penalty. When you reach the end of the survey, you will find a statement describing the study in more detail. In order to ensure your confidentiality and the results of this survey I ask that you not share or discuss your responses to the survey with others. This study will benefit the Filipino American community by increasing the knowledge and information of Filipino American perceptions of and experiences of domestic violence.

The researcher feels that your safety is not put at risk in filling out this survey. In the event that you feel you need to discuss these issues further, the researcher has listed resources for assistance on the debriefing statement of this packet. The research encourages you to utilize these resources if needed. If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please feel free to contact my faculty supervisor, Dr. Janet Chang at (909) 537 - 5184.

By placing a check mark in the box below, I acknowledge that I have been informed of and that I understand the nature of the study, I am at least 18 years of age, and I freely consent to participate.

Place a check mark here

Date: _____

APPENDIX G
DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

Debriefing Statement

Bernice Tabil greatly appreciates your participation in this study. The researcher wants to explore the ways in which Filipino Americans view family conflict and the ways in which Filipino Americans experience family conflict. This study will benefit Filipino Americans by increasing knowledge and information about family conflict in the Filipino American community.

In order to ensure the accuracy of this study, I ask that you not discuss this study with other participants. If in the event that you feel you want to discuss these issues further, I encourage you to get help from the resources listed below. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Dr. Janet Change at 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407; (909) 537 - 5184. A copy of the results of this study will be available after September 2006 at California State University, San Bernardino- John M. Pfau Library or at the following website: www.deeznet.com/thesis/intro.html

Resources to Address Family Conflict and/or domestic violence.

- Family Service Association of Western Riverside County
21250 Box Springs Rd. Suite 212 Moreno Valley, CA 92533
Phone: 951.686.1091
Email: fsa@familyservicerivca.org
- Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Inc (CPAF)
543 N. Fairfax Ave. # 108
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 653-4045 or 1-800-339-3940 Hotline.
Email: Contact@cpaf.info
Website: www.cpaf.info
- Western Regional Asian Pacific Agency (WRAP)
8616 La Tijera Blvd. Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 337-1550
Email: info@wrapfs.org
Website: www.wrapfs.org
- Developing Options to Violence, Child Family Services
200 N. Vineyard Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 532- 5100
- National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233
1-800-787-3224 TTY

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