

VULNERABILITY OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ON THE HEALTH & WELL-BEING OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (AGTA) IN SITIO MAPATONG

SARAH MAY D. JABOLA

Laguna State Polytechnic University, San Pablo City, Laguna, Philippines

ABSTRACT

The Philippines is one of the countries in Asia with a wide number of Indigenous people. In this study on Indigenous people, it reveals the vulnerability of the socio-economic environment its impact on their health and well-being. This study comprised of seventy-five (75) Indigenous people (Agta) from Sitio Mapatong, Brgy. Sto. Tomas, Tagkawayan, Quezon. It was a descriptive design, and purposive sampling was used. The question that frames this study are: what is the demographic profile of the Bihog (Agta) in Tagkawayan, Quezon in terms of: age, sex, civil status, educational attainment, job description, and dialect; how do the respondents perceive the vulnerability of the socio-economic environment in terms of: social interaction, education, health services, family orientation, source of living, human capital, raw materials, inflation, and technological advancement; what is the perceive health and well-being of the respondents in terms of: physical health, mental health, emotional well-being and economic well-being; are the vulnerability of the socio-economic environment factors significantly related to the health and well-being of the Agtas? The following were significant findings of the study: The demographic profile of the Bihog (Agta) respondents in Tagkawayan, Quezon are the following: Age under 11-15 years, 16-20 years old, and 26-30 years old got the highest percentage of 17.3%. In terms of sex, male got 52% and female with 48%. Civil Status, 31.9% were married, 1.3% widowed, and 66.7% single. Educational attainment, 80% didn't able to go to school, 17.1% elementary level, 1.3% elementary graduate, and 1.3% ALS graduate. Job description, mining (kabod) 48%, mining, charcoal burner 2.7%, and mining, coconut harvester with 49.3%. Dialect, tagalog, bikol, manedi have 84%, tagalog, manedi 14.7%, tagalog, bikol with 1.3%. The perceive vulnerability of the socio-economic environment in social is 'agree' in terms of social interaction (4.30%), education (3.82%), health services (3.98%), family orientation (3.98%), and economic factor with source of living (4.09%), human capital (3.94%), raw materials (3.77%), inflation (3.66%), technological advancement (3.90%) were also agreed. The perceive health and well-being of the Agta are the following: Physical health got 3.78%, mental health with 3.73%, emotional well-being have 3.85%, economic well-being with 3.92, all have a verbal interpretation of agree. Results show that there is a significant relationship to socio-economic environment (social and economic factor) and its health and well-being in terms of physical health, mental health, emotional well-being, and economic well-being. Indigenous people (Agta) may continue to cope, adapt, and adjust to the new normal in the face of a pandemic, which can improve their socioeconomic environment and help with their physical health, mental health, emotional well-being, and economic well-being. A similar study may be conducted to know more about the vulnerability of the socio-economic environment impact on the health and well-being among Indigenous people.



Keywords: socio-economic environment, demographic profile, Indigenous people, new normal