

Inside Out: Sentiments of Wives on Their Husband's Detention from the Anti-Drug Campaign

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ABSTRACT

The proliferation of the illegal drug trade in the Philippines made President Duterte enforce an anti-drug campaign or Oplan Tokhang after he took office on June 30, 2016. Those who surrendered were rehabilitated, but some of those who were arrested and are still in detention have wives who are suffering in silence because their plight has not been given attention because the most visible victims in the anti-drug campaign are their husbands.

This study aims to explore the impact of the husbands' incarceration due to the anti-drug campaign on their wives, to identify the immediate and primary needs of the wives after their husbands' detention, as well as their means of coping.

The study uses qualitative research methods with phenomenology as its approach for analysis. The data was gathered from semi-structured, face-to-face interviews with eight women who are married to detainees of the government's anti-drug campaign in the Municipality of Hagonoy. Member checking for validation of data results was also conducted.

An analysis of the interview transcripts gave way to the **3 Dimensions of Husbandwives Phenomenon (3DHP)**. It shows the themes – categorized as impacts – on the wives from

their husbands' detention, which are as follows: (1) familial responsibilities, (2) emotional anxiety, and (3) personal growth goals.

Keywords: Anti-drug Campaign, Detention, Familial Responsibilities, Emotional Anxiety, Personal Growth Goal

INTRODUCTION

War on drugs, as defined by US Legal, Inc. is a series of actions tending toward a prohibition of illegal drug trade. The term "War on Drugs" was first used by President Richard Nixon on June 17, 1971, where he described illegal drugs as "public enemy number one in the United States." It is a global concern that has brought devastating effects on the economy, environment, and human lives, both that of the victims and their respective families. The origins of some of these tensions are seen on the rapid changes in political alignment, reduced family and community cohesiveness, increased unemployment and underemployment, economic and social marginalization, and rampant crimes (United Nations International Drug Control Programme, 1995). Even with the resolutions and amendments crafted at the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, where 97 States, including the Philippines, were represented at the United Nations Conference in Geneva from March 6 to 24, 1972 (United Nations Single Convention on Narcotics Drugs, 1961), this issue has remained the most controversial because of the approach that would be employed to decrease, at the very least the number of drug users and pushers.

In the Philippines, the war on drugs intensified with President Rodrigo Duterte's anti-drug campaign or locally known as Oplan Tokhang (Palatino, 2018). This was embodied in Command Memorandum Circular (CMC) No. 16-2016 or the PNP Anti- Illegal Drugs Campaign Plan-Project: "Double Barrel" including the Oplan Tokhang (Lower Barrel Approach), which focused on low level- sellers and drug users, and Project HVT (Upper Barrel Approach), which targeted drug syndicates and drug traffickers. Both aimed at suspected drug dealers and users, to at least minimize if not totally eradicate the perennial problem of illegal drugs in the Philippines.

An issue raised regarding President Duterte's anti-drug campaign which has been criticized relentlessly by various Human Rights groups is its inhumane approach that has led to the mass murder of the suspected drug users/dealers (Park & Enos, 2018). Human Rights in the Philippines is supported by the UN's International Bill of Human Rights—a consolidation of three legal documents including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (Gavilan, 2017). According to Human Rights Watch, (2018a) more than 12,000 drug suspects have already been killed due to President Duterte's "drug war".

Another issue against President Duterte's anti-drug campaign is that the majority of the victims of drug-related killings are from the Philippines' poorest urban neighborhoods and "almost all the victims were poor" and "lived in the slums and outskirts of the provinces" (Ballaran, 2016). Data released by the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) in 2015 showed that drug abusers were usually male, unemployed, and poor. In addition, the poor communities have become vulnerable to abuses of the said campaign; their households are the ones accessible to the raids done by the police enforcers (Lanzona, 2016).

On January 30, 2017, President Duterte ordered a halt in illegal drug operations after police officers were allegedly involved in an extortion racket of the South Korean businessman Jee Ick-joo who was kidnapped and killed inside Camp Crame (Tan, 2017; Bueza, 2017). This incident, along with the other reported cases of groups taking advantage of the anti-drug campaign leading to the so-called extra judicial killings (EJKs), made Director General Dela Rosa, upon the order of President Duterte, task the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) to conduct all anti-drug operations (Villamos, 2017). Months after, Director General Dela Rosa announced that the Philippine National Police would resume its operations, having eliminated the police officers whose reputations are questionable. President Duterte has been firm in his stand against illegal drugs as he publicly encourages on-the-spot killings of drug suspects and has been quoted saying, "my order is shoot to kill you. I don't care about human rights, you better believe me." (Park

& Enos, 2018). In fact, based on the records of Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) 3,906 deaths of suspected drug users and dealers resulted from police operations from July 1, 2016 to September 26, 2017 (Human Rights Watch, 2018b). Such is a total disregard to Section 1 of Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, otherwise known as the Bill of Rights, which states that “no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of laws.

Along with the issues of abuses and human rights violations that go with strengthening the implementation of the said campaign, there seems to be a part of the problem that has not been given much attention: the plight of the urban poor wives left by their husbands who have been arrested and detained, since only the poor get killed in this war on drugs (Aldama, 2018; Ballaran, 2017).

It is indeed a sad reality that the only things highlighted in the news reports are the arrests of the suspected drug users and pushers, as well as the gruesome death suffered by the victims and the trauma inflicted on the children who witnessed the murder of their parents. Rarely that one would read about the miserable conditions of the wives left behind and the responsibilities that they had to bear without their husbands. Their economic conditions may have compounded their emotional sufferings. Who will be there for them when immediate help from relatives is not at hand? Who will they turn to when they have no savings or properties to use to start a new life? According to the Dangerous Drugs Board report, most drug users in the Philippines are part of families with an average monthly income of PhP10,172.00, which is below national poverty line (DDB, 2016), and are usually unemployed or employed as construction workers, drivers, or porters (Ballaran, 2017).

With the foregoing discussion, the researcher hopes to bring to light the dilemma, not to mention the precarious situations, that the wives of the victims are in. The study, however, only focuses on those whose husbands were arrested and are still detained because of government’s anti-drug campaign. Moreover, it aims to recommend ways on how they can recover from such an unpleasant and painful experience.

METHODS

The study is an attempt to explore the impact of the anti-drug campaign of President Duterte on the urban poor wives of suspected drug users, pushers, and dealers who were arrested and, until time of writing this study, are still detained. The following diagram shows the progression of the study:

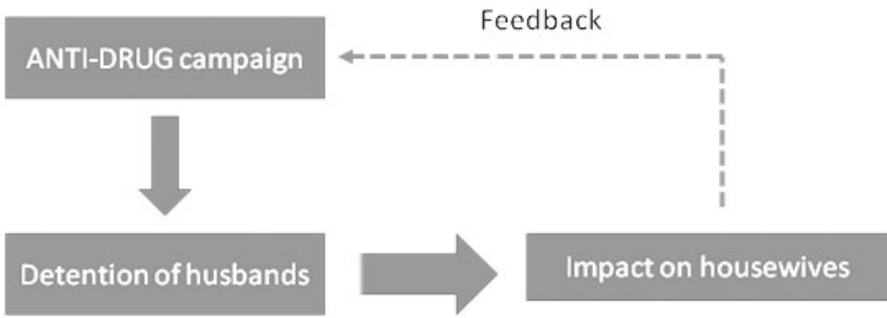


FIGURE 1
Conceptual Framework of the Study

This research is a qualitative study which has made use of phenomenology for its approach. Phenomenology aims to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of people's everyday experiences (Polit & Beck, 2008) and directs the understanding of phenomenon consciously experienced by people themselves (Polifroni & Welch, 1999). Gathering qualitative data allows for contextually rich insights and understanding to be drawn from relatively small sample as recommended by Crouch and McKenzie (2006).

This phenomenological inquiry involved the participation of the wives whose husbands were arrested and detained, having been suspected either as drug users, pushers, or dealers in relation to the government's anti-drug campaign in the Municipality of Hagonoy.

Hagonoy is a municipality in Bulacan, bound by the municipality of Calumpit to the north, the municipality of Paombong on the east, the municipality of Masantol, Pampanga on the west, and Manila Bay to the

south. According to Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index, Hagonoy ranked 8th in terms of population with 129,807, as of August 1, 2015.

As regards its anti-drug campaign, one key informant commented that the illegal drug trade in Hagonoy is rampant, and this can be proven by the anti-drug operations conducted by the police that can be seen on television and were even witnessed by some of the people in Hagonoy. These usually end with the arrest and detention, if not the killing of the drug suspects. As of May 25, 2018, there were 105 suspected drug users and pushers put behind bars in Hagonoy provincial jail for “safekeeping”. Safekeeping is the term used to refer to temporary detention while their cases undergo hearing at the Regional Trial Court in Malolos Capitol.

According to the wives of the detained drug suspects, their husbands’ cases are in the hands of the fiscal; unfortunately, months have passed and they still have not heard any news about the results of the hearing. They even add that they are disappointed with the justice system in the Philippines since it is slow and only favors the rich.

Another sentiment of the wives is the living conditions of their husbands in the provincial jail that, according to them, can only accommodate 25-30 individuals but have over 105 drug suspects incarcerated there. Their husbands are complaining that it is like hell to be inside—it is congested, and they are packed like sardines. Ventilation is poor, and most of them sleep while standing.

There were originally 10 participants for the individual interview but two of them backed out because they could not handle the pain of recalling the incident when their husbands were arrested right before their eyes.

Using purposive sampling 8 from the original 10 participants were selected based on the set criteria: (1) the wives’ family should belong to the working poor – with **working poor** defined as working for most of the day but getting minimal hourly wages so that the total monthly wage is insufficient to cover basic expenditure, so all the wage is normally spent on consumption and results in an absence of savings (Piana, 2006); and (2) wives’ husbands were arrested and detained due to President Duterte’s anti-drug campaign.

Table 1: Demographic Profile of the Participants

Code #	Age	Husband's Age	Husband's Occupation before the Arrest	Duration of Husband's Detention	Wife's Occupation before Husband's Arrest	Wife's Occupation after Husband's Arrest	Number of Children (and their Ages)
1	29	32	construction worker	6 months ago (up until now)	none	none	4 (13, 8, 4, 1 month)
2	40	31	carpenter	3 months ago (up until now)	none	washer-woman	5 (19, 16, 12, 9, 6 months)
3	54	55	tricycle driver	2 months ago (up until now)	washer-woman	errand worker*	4 (30, 28, 19, 17)
4	48	47	carpenter	24 days ago (up until now)	none	washer-woman	3 (19, 15, 10)
5	42	39	funeral service owner (family owned business)	3 months ago (up until now)	funeral service owner/ baker and pastries seller	funeral service owner/ baker/ pastries seller	2 (14, 10)
6	28	28	water delivery man	2 months ago (up until now)	none	banana cue seller	2 (10, 8)
7	38	42	jeepney driver	15 days ago (up until now)	dress maker	dress maker	2 (10, 8)
8	45	40	fish vendor	18 days ago (up until now)	none	fish seller	1 (13)

Note: *errand worker – does all types of jobs like being a washerwoman, cleaning lady, running errands, etc.

The above mentioned criteria for the selection of the participants were deemed important as they provided essential information on the subject of the study. Wives whose family belong to the working poor were chosen since they are the ones who can be rendered more economically vulnerable by their husbands' detention. As indicated in the table there are five (5) wives who only stayed at home before their husbands' arrest and the other three (3) helped their husbands earn a living; that's why, it was difficult for them to assume the responsibility of acting as the provider after the arrest of their husbands. Since there are wives who work to help their husbands, they claim that what they earn being a washerwoman and a dressmaker is barely enough to provide for the expenses of the family.

Their husbands work by doing odd jobs. According to their wives, their jobs are not regular. There are days or weeks that they have work and on days that they do not have work, they stay at home and borrow money for their daily provisions. They promise to pay the moment they get to work again. Construction workers' average income per week ranges from PhP3,000.00-PhP3,600.00. However, it depends on their skills, like the ones mixing cement get lower pay than the foreman's. The former's average income per week (except Sunday) is PhP1,500.00 (PhP250.00 a day) while the latter's is PhP500.00-PhP600.00 a day. Just like the construction workers' job, the carpenters' is not regular, either. They earn an average income per week (six days except Sunday) of PhP1,800.00 (PhP300.00 a day). Their families have more than enough when they get clients who will hire them to work for months. The wives try to save some money but, according to them, much as they want to, sometimes there are emergency needs that would necessitate them to spend the little amount that they have tucked away.

The tricycle driver earns PhP400.00 a day while the jeepney driver brings home PhP600.00-PhP800.00. The fish vendor's earnings are not fixed either. He gets to earn a maximum of PhP1,500.00 when the fish trade is good. In the same way that the funeral service owner's earnings are not regular. Their business, according to the wife is something that they cannot depend on; that's why, she has to help in the expenses by selling homemade cupcakes, crinkles and other pastries which she, herself,

bakes. The water delivery man earns an average of PhP300.00 a day. He is given PhP2.50 commission per gallon ordered, but there are also lean times when he only brings home PhP150.00.

Having left by their husbands, they are expected to assume the responsibilities of being both a mother and a father to their children. Most of them who only stayed at home to take care of their children used to depend on their husbands in terms of financial support for the family.

Second criterion is that their husbands were arrested by the police officers/PDEA agents simply because the main focus of the study was the anti-drug campaign of President Duterte. The ones arrested may have been guilty or innocent suspected drug users, pushers or dealers; still, the effect on wives is perceived to be the same, whether guilty or innocent, because they are left behind to assume the responsibilities of the family.

Data Collection Instrument and Procedure

The instrument utilized was a semi-structured face-to-face interview guide with questions formulated after the researcher had read literatures on the anti-drug campaign.

Transcripts from the interviews were used as the instrument where data were gathered, interpreted and analyzed, along with the observations of both the verbal and non-verbal messages conveyed by the participants in the course of the interview which supported the findings found from the main instrument. From the formulated meanings being clustered, emergent themes were formed in relation to the sentiments of the wives on their husbands' detention from anti-drug campaign. To ensure openness to alternative interpretations of data, and hence increase the validity and trustworthiness of findings, member checking was done where the researcher allowed the participants to see the transcribed copies of their interviews.

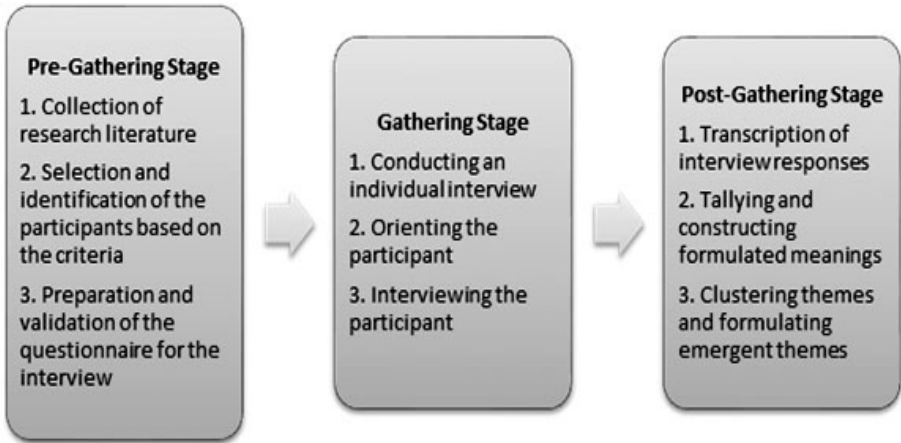


FIGURE 2
A schematic representation of the process followed
in attaining the objectives of the study

To realize the objectives of the study, the researcher carefully mapped out the steps involved in each of the three stages of the data gathering procedure and executed as planned.

RESULTS

Having analyzed the transcripts, three themes emerged from the participants' responses in the interviews, namely: familial responsibilities, emotional anxiety and personal growth goals.

Below is the summary of the participants' sentiments on their husbands' detention from anti-drug campaign:

Table 2: Formulated Meanings and Theme Clusters
from Significant Statements

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>I seldom visit my husband in the penitentiary because I don't have the money even to pay for my fare. If I will go there, I will have to spend less than one hundred pesos. The money I will spend in going there can already be used for our daily provisions like our food and the milk of my grandson.</p>	<p>The participant would save the little money she has for the needs of the family even if it would mean not being able to visit her husband.</p>	<p>Lack of financial resources</p>
<p>My husband was the only one working for our family because I take care of our children. Now that he is in prison, we have to live with and depend on my mother for our survival. I also pity my mother because she is already old and what she earns from her small sari-sari store is not enough for us. But then I cannot do anything but swallow my pride.</p>	<p>The wife is forced to live with her mother who could provide her and her children with their needs.</p>	
<p>It pains to think that even my relatives do not trust me anymore when I borrow money from them. Maybe they are thinking that I don't have the means to pay them. They may be right but it hurts because I expect that somehow they will be the ones to understand my situation, that I can ask for their financial support in times of needs but I was wrong.</p>	<p>It was disheartening on the part of the wife to be denied of financial help even by her closest relatives.</p>	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>Before my husband's arrest, he worked as a tricycle driver. His earnings were barely enough for the family; that's why, I also sell banana cue. I am the only one earning now and with our children still studying, I find it hard to budget our money.</p>	<p>Budgeting the small income from a small business is barely enough to provide for the needs of the family.</p>	
<p>Losing my husband is already painful but what is more painful is not knowing where to get the money for our needs.</p>	<p>The sufferings of the wife are doubled because she doesn't know where their provisions will come from.</p>	
<p>Much as I would like to work and earn for my family, I cannot because my youngest daughter is only 6 months old. Then I have to bring food to my husband at least twice a day because their food in the prison cell is not provided. Even my tricycle fare, I have to think where I will get it at times because I cannot ask from my mother all the time.</p>	<p>Being left with children who are still young prevents the wife from earning for the needs of her family.</p>	
<p>It's really hard to be a father and a mother at the same time to my children when my husband was arrested. With all the responsibilities left to me by my husband, many times I am thinking of how I will be able to support my children and give them a good future when I am alone especially if my earnings are not enough.</p>	<p>Playing the role of a father and mother and earning too little makes it difficult for the wife to support the family.</p>	<p>Inability to provide for the needs of the family</p>
<p>We are trying to make both ends meet. I do not work and I only depend on</p>	<p>With only the help coming from the mother of a wife, it is hard to meet</p>	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>what my mother will give me. I am trying to spend it wisely because the money is only given by my mother.</p>	<p>the needs of the family.</p>	
<p>My youngest daughter had to stop schooling in day-care. Even if it is free, I still have to think of her food in school.</p>	<p>Education becomes an expensive commodity for a wife with little or no earnings at all.</p>	
<p>Life is hard these days. Even if I have a small carinderia and I still sell banana cue, sometimes, it is still not enough. My only consolation is our family have food to eat if I will not be able to sell them all. But the expenses of my children in school are a big problem for me even if it is only in public school because of the cost of the school projects.</p>		
<p>I used to help my husband earn a living being a washerwoman because his earnings being a carpenter were not enough for our family's needs. I am a washerwoman and we also receive the 4Ps. Still, our combined earnings were not enough then. How much more now that I am the only one earning and it is not every day that my neighbours will call for my services.</p>	<p>A wife cannot depend on a job which is not a regular source of income.</p>	
<p>I accept whatever chores I can do to earn a living. Even if it is hard, I try to get into any job available just to</p>	<p>Even children have their share of the sufferings when their needs are not well provided.</p>	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>earn. If not, we will sleep with empty stomach, although there were times when we could not do anything, I would just let my children eat even without any viand. I will just mix the rice and coffee, at times, rice with soy sauce.</p>		
<p>When you are in need, you will try everything just to earn money. I was a plain housewife before my husband's arrest, but now I have to work to earn money. I accept all jobs—house cleaner, washerwoman, errand woman, anything just to have something for my family. If I am still young, I will go to Manila and serve as a waitress in a restaurant or anywhere where the pay is good.</p>	<p>A wife will do anything and everything just to provide for the needs of the family.</p>	
<p>It is not easy to do something you are not used to. There are times that I go home empty handed selling fish. I cannot even get the money I invested. Although I bring home the fish I sell, I do not have money to use the next day, so I will borrow again. But many times, people will not trust you if you don't pay them on the date you promised. That's why there are times when I also borrow from the loan sharks.</p>	<p>Some principles are compromised just so a wife will be able to provide for her family's needs.</p>	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>Since I am the only one working, I really need to juggle my time—being a housewife and a husband working for the family. But I need to do it even if it is hard because no will make a living for our family because my children are still young.</p>	<p>Housewife multitasks in order to earn for her children.</p>	
<p>It is hard to think of what happened to my husband but I am trying to be strong for my children. If I will allow myself to be affected, what then will happen to my children? I am the only one they are depending on. I am also affected but I try to hide it from my children. They should see me strong, so that they will be able to forget what happened. Still, at night, especially before I sleep and when I watch my children as they sleep, I cannot help but cry because I think of what kind of future they will have.</p>	<p>Though a wife fights her situation, some apprehensions remain especially if it concerns the future of her children.</p>	<p>Fear for the future</p>
<p>There are times when I feel that my life has ended especially when I see my children who are still young. How will I support them? I only finished elementary. What will happen to their future?</p>	<p>Not having any investment at all in terms of finances and education will make any wife feel insecure not for her but for children.</p>	
<p>I spend many sleepless nights every time I will look at my children while they are sleeping because I do not know how I can give them good future if I will be alone. My only hope</p>	<p>The future of the children is the primary concern of a wife.</p>	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
is that my husband will be found innocent.		
I do not have any idea when my husband will be released. Knowing our justice system, if you have the money, there is a chance that you will win the case. But if you are poor, no one will attend to your case. (Gasping for breath, then she stopped for a few minutes before continuing with the interview.)	Frustration over the slow justice system adds up to the plight of the poor.	Repressed anger
According to the fiscal, we need to wait for the hearing which will take about three months. But if we will wait for the lawyer provided by the government, I believe that it will take more years than three months because there are many accused drug users, dealers and pushers in the prison cell. If only you could see them, they are packed like sardines! I pity my husband every time I go there but I pretend that I am strong in front of him.	Seeing the miserable condition of a loved one makes any wife harbor grudge toward a person or a system which for her is wrong or unfair.	
Sometimes, it's hard when you are poor. You do not know whom to ask help from, where to get help... (She started crying. The researcher stopped the interview because she seemed very much affected but she decided to stay until she could already talk.)	Feeling of helplessness surfaces when you are alone fighting your battle.	

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>We have a small shanty beside my mother-in-law's house because it was not only I who was traumatized but even my son. It pains me so much every time my son will recall what he witnessed. After the arrest of his father, he did not go to school for one week. The truth is, he really did not want to come to school anymore but I pleaded to him. Good thing that he listened to me.</p>	<p>Witnessing an unpleasant experience of a member of a family will inflict emotional 'wounds' in the hearts of the children.</p>	<p>Feeling traumatized</p>
<p>When my husband was arrested, I was at home and my daughter came rushing calling for me. We went to the house of our neighbour where he was arrested and I started wailing and shouting at the police officers. What I did not realize was that my daughter was looking at me and crying. When I saw her, I tried to calm myself because I did not want my daughter to be affected. Since then, my daughter has become silent.</p>	<p>Seeing your child emotionally wounded causes more pain to the mother than to the child.</p>	
<p>I feel guilty at times because if we do not have money and we don't have anything to eat and no one will lend money to me, I tend to become short-tempered. I shout at my children especially when they are getting unruly and becoming noisy at home.</p>	<p>Bearing the responsibilities of the family makes a wife's negative emotions unmanageable.</p>	<p>Feeling irritable</p>

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>There are occasions when I would spank my children because they do not want to listen to me when they are fighting over something which is too trivial. It's something that I used to tolerate but now, I seem to notice even the little things that they do. After that, I will go out so that I will not see them for awhile.</p>	<p>Transferring a wife's frustration to her children has become a way out for a wife.</p>	
<p>I regularly visit my husband because that is my way of showing my love and support for him. It is at this moment that I can prove to him our vow when we got married. I am just hoping that his stay in the penitentiary will help him think of how he can give our children a better future once he is released.</p> <p>Everything has a reason why it happened. If others were able to survive, even if it is hard for now, I will try to fight for my children.</p>	<p>Seeing the light in the midst of a difficult situation is what keeps a wife going.</p>	<p>Overcoming a difficult situation</p>
<p>I am still hoping that my husband will be proven innocent because he is a good man. I want it to be soon but if it will not happen I am willing to help.</p>	<p>Despite the seemingly difficult situation, a wife waits in great expectation of a reunion with a husband.</p>	<p>Believing in the possibility of a family reunion</p>
<p>I know my husband and my family will be reunited one day. I always pray that the truth will prevail.</p>		

Significant Statements	Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters
<p>I must admit that my husband is guilty but I always pray to God that he will be able to recover and change his ways for his family especially his children.</p>		
<p>I also want to help the other wives going through the same experience as mine. I know how difficult it is, so if I can do something to help them alleviate their pain, I am more than willing to do it.</p>	<p>Sharing one's experience to help others bear their own can be an option.</p>	<p>Openness to be of help to others</p>
<p>I am also willing but my situation will not allow me because my children are still young. I believe that I need to take care of my children first but if I have the time, why not?</p>	<p>Although the wife's primary concern is her children; still, given the chance, she is open to the idea of helping other wives going through the same experience.</p>	
<p>I believe that I need more to be healed before I can help others because at this point I am still hurting.</p>	<p>Though open to help others, a wife's healing should take precedence over her will to help others be healed.</p>	
<p>Maybe in the future when my children are already grown-ups, I also want to help the wives who are in pain. I think I can do it because I have already experienced how it is to have a husband arrested.</p>	<p>Being open and willing to help wives in pain is a welcome idea for a wife.</p>	

Table 3: Theme Clusters and Emergent Themes
from Formulated Meanings

Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters	Emergent Themes
<p>The participant would save the little money she has for the needs of the family even if it would mean not being able to visit her husband.</p> <p>The wife is forced to live with her Mother who could provide her and her children with their needs.</p> <p>It was disheartening on the part of the wife to be denied of financial help even by her closest relatives.</p> <p>Budgeting the small income from a small business is barely enough to provide for the needs of the family.</p>	<p>Lack of financial resources</p>	<p>Familial responsibilities</p>
<p>The sufferings of the wife are doubled because she doesn't know where their provisions will come from.</p> <p>Being left with children who are still young prevents the wife from earning for the needs of her family.</p> <p>Playing the role of a father and mother and earning too little makes it difficult for the wife to support the family.</p> <p>With only the help coming from the mother of a wife, it is hard to meet the needs of the family.</p> <p>Education becomes an expensive commodity for a wife with little or no earnings at all.</p> <p>A wife cannot depend on a job which is not a regular source of income.</p> <p>Some principles are compromised just so a wife will be able to provide for her family's needs.</p>	<p>Inability to provide for the needs of the family</p>	

Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters	Emergent Themes
Housewife multitasks in order to earn for her children.		
<p>Though a wife fights her situation, some apprehensions remain especially if it concerns the future of her children.</p> <p>Not having any investment at all in terms of finances and education will make any wife feel insecure not for her but for children.</p> <p>The future of the children is the primary concern of a wife.</p>	Fear of the future	Emotional anxiety
<p>Frustration over the slow justice system adds up to the plight of the poor.</p> <p>Seeing the miserable condition of a loved one makes any wife harbor grudge toward a person or a system which for her is wrong or unfair.</p> <p>Feeling of helplessness surfaces when you are alone fighting your battle.</p>	Repressed anger	
<p>Witnessing an unpleasant experience of a member of a family will inflict emotional 'wounds' in the hearts of the children.</p> <p>Seeing your child emotionally wounded causes more pain to the mother than to the child.</p>	Feeling traumatized	
<p>Bearing the responsibilities of the family makes a wife's negative emotions unmanageable.</p> <p>Transferring a wife's frustration to her children has become a way out for a wife.</p>	Feeling irritable	
Seeing the light in the midst of a difficult situation is what keeps a wife going.	Winning over a difficult situation	Personal growth goals
Despite the seemingly difficult situation, a wife waits in great expectation of a reunion with a husband.	Believing in the possibility of a reunion of the family	

Formulated Meanings	Theme Clusters	Emergent Themes
<p>Sharing one's experience to help others bear their own can be an option.</p> <p>Although the wife's primary concern is her children; still, given the chance, she is open to the idea of helping other wives going through the same experience.</p> <p>Though open to help others, a wife's healing should take precedence over her will to help others be healed.</p> <p>Being open and willing to help wives in pain is a welcome idea for a wife.</p>	<p>Openness to be of help to others</p>	

DISCUSSION

Having analyzed the transcripts, the **3 Dimensions of Husbandwives Phenomenon (3DHP)** came into view. The said model shows the impact on the wives regarding their husbands' detention from anti-drug campaign.

As indicated in the said figure, there are three themes that came out after analyzing and interpreting the transcripts of the participants' responses, namely: **bearing a double burden with familial responsibilities which** refer to the tasks both for the husband and the wife performed by the wife alone after the detention of her husband. In Moser's triple role framework, production, reproduction, and community affairs are performed by wives simultaneously. Men are seldom engaged in household chores and more active in production and community-managing activities. With the husbands' incarceration, the roles or work intended for both the husbands and wives are left to the wives. These responsibilities include working for a living to provide for the needs of the family, sending children to school, disciplining the children, and taking care of their needs. Community roles are not a priority because all of the women are concerned with production and reproduction as those are the basic needs of their respective families.

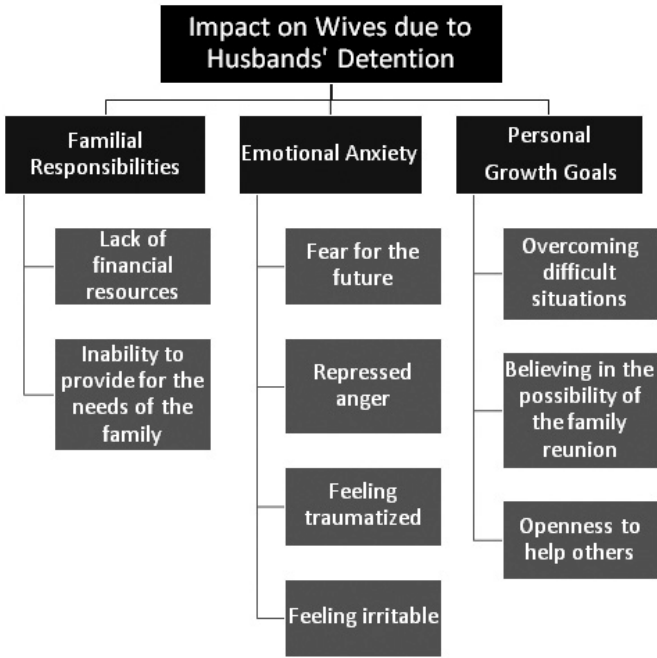


FIGURE 3
Three Dimensions of Husbandwives Phenomenon (3DHP)

Evidently the problem that the wives are confronted with is the lack of job opportunities. Most of them are forced to work as washerwoman, fish vendor, and even run errands for neighbors. Although those are decent jobs, wives need to have work with regular income, which the government should provide as part of their human rights. The Philippine Commission on Women (formerly the National Commission on the Role of the Filipino Women) is an agency run by the Philippine government with the intention of promoting the rights of the women in the Philippines, as well as initiating the promotion of Women’s Economic Empowerment. Hence, women may appeal for the help of the government through its policies like the RA 9178 or Barangay Micro Business Enterprises (BMBEs) and RA 8425 or an act institutionalizing the social reform and poverty alleviation program, created for the purpose of the national anti-poverty commission.

Being able to work for the family, the wives may somehow keep the family intact and afloat. After all, it is stated in Article XV, Section 1 of the Constitution that the State recognizes Filipino family as the foundation of the nation and it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development.

The second theme is emotional anxiety, which deals with the feelings created or caused by the detention of the husband like fear for the future of the children, repressed anger, feeling traumatized, and irritability. Comfort (2007), Hagen and Dinovitzer (1999) and Nurse (2002) in Lander, Howsare, and Byrne (2013), state that incarceration impacts family dynamics along multiple dimensions. It is evident how the wives are affected not just by the arrest and detention of their husbands, but also by the immense responsibilities left to them, which have caused increased emotional stress and sexual health risks (Girshick, 1996; Khan et al., 2011; Thomas et al., 2018 in Lee, Porter, & Comfort, 2014).

However, the impact is not only seen and felt by the wives but also by the children. Some children are still young, especially the ones who witnessed the arrest, and there may have been unhealthy and damaging effects to their psychological and social make-up. Cunningham (2001 in Robertson, 2007) cites that the impact of parental imprisonment on children can be profound and long-lasting. Many times children with a parent who is imprisoned are discriminated against and stigmatized, and have suffered from trauma, fear, shame, guilt and low self-esteem (Commission for Children and Young People and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Board, 2001 in Robertson, 2007). There are also children who experience, at a young age, being ostracized and scorned because of their association with an imprisoned parent and face the “stigma and feelings of isolation associated with being the family of a prisoner, of being contaminated in some way by the deeds of the offender” (Robertson, 2007).

Lastly, **personal growth goals**, which take on the positive side of a negative experience, has something to do with the wives’ desire to overcome a difficult situation, to believe that a reunion with their husbands is not farfetched, and to be open to help others be healed by using their own experience through giving testimonies is something they look forward

to. Innate among humans is the desire to be empowered, but this can only happen if they can put to good use their potentials and realize their self-worth. This may be done if the Philippine government, through the Philippine Commission on Women, upholds the Women's Economic Empowerment through the implementation of the different policies which aim to protect the rights of women and, at the same time, alleviate poverty through the support extended by the LGUs and other non-government organizations which promote the cause of women.

Table 4: Summary of Participants' Sentiments on the Impact of Their Husbands' Detention

Sentiments	Summary of Responses
Lack of financial resources	Of the eight participants, six expressed their sentiments over the lack of financial resources.
Inability to provide for the needs of the family	Eight participants, however, cited inability to provide for the needs of the family.
Fear for their children's future	All the eight participants were concerned over their children's future even if only four were cited in the paper.
Repressed anger	Four out of eight participants had pent up emotions regarding the detention of their husbands.
Feeling traumatized	Two wives whose children witnessed the arrest of their fathers were emotionally affected.
Feeling irritable	Two somehow developed the feeling of irritability caused by the responsibilities left to her.
Overcoming a difficult situation	Two were hopeful that despite the difficulty of their situation.
Believing in the possibility of a family reunion	Two believed that a possible reunion is in the offing.
Openness to help others be healed	Four expressed openness and willingness to be give testimonies to others for them to be healed.

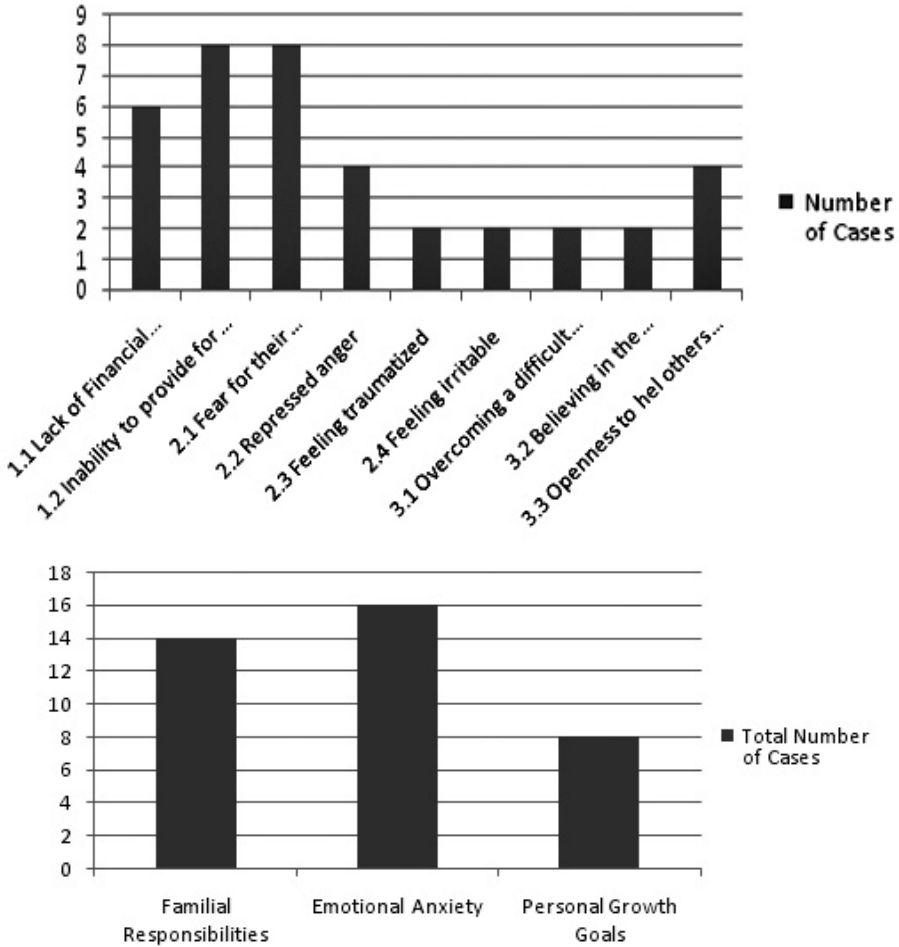


FIGURE 4
Graphical Representation of the Sub-themes

Familial Responsibilities

In the study conducted, a great number of participants consider the lack of financial resources as the most significant. They expressed this concern because it would affect the family, especially the children, whose needs will not be met or provided for.

The concept of family for the Filipinos may be far different from those in the other countries. Filipinos have been described as family-

centered, and families have been observed to be closely-knit (Tarroja, 2010). It further asserts that the influence of family members on one another is not simple, but complex; it is not one-way but reciprocal. The family, like a mechanical system, is made up of multiple parts that are interdependent. When one part does not function well, all other parts are impacted.

With the detention of the husbands, the wives are the ones standing and doing the responsibilities of a father and a mother in the family. This will give the feeling of being incomplete and alone in the fight for survival, especially if, before the arrest of their husbands, they only stayed at home and took care of the children and managed the household.

As narrated by one participant:

Sobrang hirap maiwanan ng responsibilidad na mag-isa ka lang. Doble sakit, kasi 'di ko na kasama ang asawa ko, sa akin pa naiwan lahat ng responsibilidad. Minsan naisip ko, "Paano ko kaya maitataguyod mga anak ko ng mag-isa?"

Another participant expressed:

No'ng mangyari po na maaresto ang asawa ko, nagpalahaw po ako ng iyak. Naisip ko po pagkatapos no'n na 'yon po palang iyak ko ay di lang dahil sa asawa kong mawawalay sa amin kundi du'n popala sa mga naiwan na responsibilidad sa akin. Wala naman po akong trabaho at gustuhin ko man po ay di ko magagawa kasi nga po ay meron akong anak na pasusuhin pa. Anim na buwan pa lang po siya kaya 'di ko po maiwan. Yung nanay ko lang po ang nagbibigay ng panggastos namin. E ano na po ba 'yong kinikita ng maliit na tindahan? Ang tubo po sa mga chichiria e papiso-piso lang. Naawa na nga po ako sa kanya kasi matanda na e nagiging pasanin pa kaming mag-iina. (Habang nagsasalita ay nababasag na ang boses at tuluyan na syang napaiyak sa pagtatapos ng pagkukwento.)

Such reactions from the wives are a manifestation of their frustration over their condition of not having anything to spend for their needs.

Under familial responsibility is the inability to provide for the needs of the family. Analyzing the transcripts, it can be noted that the lack of financial resources is one of the causes of the inability of the wives to provide for the needs of the family. However, it was taken as a separate entity because there were wives with means of financial resources, yet they were still unable to provide for the needs of the family.

As shared by one participant:

Siguro po sadyang mahirap talaga ang buhay. 'Pag po iisipin 'yong responsibilidad na naiwan sa akin e parang 'di ko na po makakaya dahil 'yong kinikita ko po sa paglalaba ay 'di sumasapat. 'Di naman po laging may nagpapalaba kaya kahit ano na nga pong trabaho pinapasok ko. Nando'n na maglinis ako ng bahay, kahit po utusan lang ako na may bilin sa palengke kasi inaabutan po ako kahit pabente-bente. Malaking bagay na rin po 'yon kasi di mo naman po mapupulot 'yon. Pamasaha na rin po iyon sa paghahatid ng pagkain sa asawa ko kasi po ay wala po silang rasyon ng pagkain. 'Di naman po pwede na kami ay kumakain at siya ay alam kong walang makain.

This was reinforced by the comment from another participant:

'Yong pang araw-araw na kabuhayan po ang mabigat. Kaya nga po 'yong mga bata 'di rin nakakapasok madalas kasi walang baon. 'Yong anak ko rin po na may asawa, kadalasan iniintindi ko pa yung panggatas ng anak nya. E saan ko po ba kukuning kamay ng Diyos 'yon? 'Yon nga pong 4Ps ko nagagamit ko na sa pang araw-araw na gastos naming mag-iina. Napatawag napo ako ni Kapitana kasi may nagsumbong po na 'yong anak ko ay tumigil na sa pag-aaral. Baka po itigil na rin yung budget sa amin.

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) or otherwise known as conditional cash transfer (CCT) is an anti-poverty program, which is one of the Philippine government's anchors along with good governance aimed at fighting the worsening poverty situation in the country (Reyes & Tabuga, 2012).

It can be gleaned from the responses that parental imprisonment can cause a family considerable financial hardship. Many prisoners' families were economically (and socially) vulnerable and marginalized even before imprisonment, with high rates of unemployment, low-wage jobs, and dependency on external support (Rosenbluth & Krupat, 2007 in Robertson 2007). After the husbands have been imprisoned, they were even more disenfranchised that even their close relatives could not be depended on for help. As McDermott and King (1992) and Noble (1995) in Murray (2005) put it, imprisonment of a partner can be emotionally devastating and practically debilitating as it results to loss of income, social isolation, difficulties in maintaining contact, and deterioration in relationships.

Another wife commented by saying this:

Ako po e napasok ko ang pagtitinda ng isda kasi po 'yong asawa ko ay humahango ng isda at tinitinda rin. E dahil nga po sa hindi naman ako sanay pa no'ng una, uuwi po ako nang walang benta at dala ko 'yong isda. Kaya po wala na 'kong puhunan kinabukasan o sa makalawa kaya kahit sa 5-6 pinapatulan ko na. Kasi naman po e mas lalo pong walang mangyayari sa'min 'pag titigil ako.

Emotional Anxiety

The second theme is the emotional anxiety experienced by the wives. According to the Emotional Processing Theory, fear is activated through associative networks that include information about the feared stimulus, escape or avoidance responses to the feared stimulus, and the meaning of the fear (e.g., threat or danger) (Rauch & Foa, 2006).

In the situation of most participants, their feared stimulus was economic instability resulting in the uncertainty about the future of their children as the wives left behind were the only ones working and their earnings were barely enough to provide for the needs of the family. Unlike others who would try to avoid or escape the cause of fear, the wife was willing and ready to face such fear head on.

One participant said:

Kapag gabi po at ‘di ako dalawin ng antok, pinagmamasdan ko lang po yung mga anak ko habang natutulog. Maiiyak na lang po ako kasi ang babata pa nila at hindi ko alam kung ano ang magiging kapalaran nila lalo na kung ‘di sila makatapos ng pag-aaral?

Another participant shared:

Ayoko pong magaya sa akin ‘yong mga anak ko na ‘di nakapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Ako po ay elementary lang ang natapos ko, tapos po nakapag-asawa nang maaga. Ngayon po ay natatakot ako na baka matulad sa akin ang aking mga anak. Pangarap ko po na maiba ang takbo ng buhay ng aking mga anak, e sa nangyayari po, paano ko pa po mapagtatapos sila ng pag-aaral?

Aside from fear for their children’s future, there were wives who showed repressed anger toward their husbands’ arrest, believing that they were innocent. Others were frustrated over the slow processing of their husbands’ case, claiming that the justice system here in the Philippines does not favor the poor who cannot afford the services of good lawyers. Those were shown from what one wife cited:

‘Di ko alam kung kailan makakalabas ang asawa ko kasi ‘yong alam mo naman ‘pag mahirap at wala kang pera, di maasikaso ang kaso mo. Nakakasama lang ng loob kasi ‘pag mahirap talaga pong walang boses sa lipunan. Mahirap na lang pong magsalita pero alam naman po nating mga Pilipino yan. Pasalamat po sila at di nila pinagdadaan ang aming hirap.

These sentiments prove the reports of many reporters claiming that a greater number of the victims of the anti-drug campaign of the President Duterte’s administration are the “poor because they are the easy target” (Matsuzawa & Viray, 2016). Moreover, according to the research conducted by the Human Rights Watch (2017), it has been found that “police are falsifying evidence to justify the unlawful killings.”

Another wife expressed:

Sabi po ng piskal ay hihintayin pa raw po ang hearing. Sabi raw po ay mga 3 buwan pero pag po yung attorney ng gobyerno ang aasaan baka po hindi lang 3 buwan kasi sa dami po ng nakakulong at lahat halos ay mahihirap e baka po abutin ng taon. Kung makikita nyo po ang kalagayan ng mga nakakulong, para po silang sardinas dun. 'Di ko po matagalang tingnan ang aking asawa. Sila po ba sigurado sa mga pinaghuuli nila? Inosente po ang asawa ko. Napagbintangan lang po siya at may nagtanim po ng droga sa kaniya.

However, there was one participant who admitted that she was thankful, in a way, that her husband was arrested because she knew all along that he was a drug user. She was hoping that his experience would make him realize his wrongdoings and try to change for his family once he is released.

She said:

Mas panatag ako ngayon kaysa dati kasi mahirap at nakakatakot na nakikita ng mga anak ko ang ginagawa ng ama nila. Nawawala rin ang respeto nila sa ama nila at masakit 'yon para sa akin. Dasal ko na lang sa Diyos na sana ay maliwanagan siya at makapagbagong buhay. Umaasa naman ako na makakalabas pa siya at magkakasama pa kaming mag-anak. Bata pa naman ang asawa ko. Dasal lang ang kailangan.

This one comment that surfaced may be different from the majority of the responses; still, it is an isolated case the fact that majority of the victims, as well as the families' victims of the anti-drug campaign have expressed utter resentment toward the anti-drug campaign as it "institutionalizes violence as a way of rendering justice" (Matsuzawa & Viray, 2016).

Worse than the wives' sentiments against the plight of their husbands was the traumatic experience of their children who witnessed the arrest of their fathers.

One wife shared:

Ang masakit po ay no'ng makita (ko) ng anak ko ang paghuli sa tatay nila. Para pong binibiyak yung puso ko no'ng nagmamakaawa 'yong anak ko habang umiiyak at sinasabing "Hwag niyong kunin ang tatay ko." No'ng gabi po na 'yon, 'di po kumain ang anak ko. Ayaw na rin po n'yang mag-aral. Isang linggo po siyang 'di pumasok. Nagmakaawa lang po ako sa kanya no'ng kinausap ko. Mabuti naman po at nakinig. Siguro po ay naawa sa akin no'ng nakita na umiiyak na'ko.

Children can suffer a range of problems during their parent's imprisonment, such as: depression, hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, withdrawal, regression, clinging behavior, sleep problems, eating problems, running away, truancy, and poor school grades (Boswell & Wedge, 2002; Centre for Social and Educational Research, 2002; Johnston, 1995; Kampfner, 1995; Sack et al., 1976; Sharp & Marcus-Mendoza, 2001; Shaw, 1987; Skinner & Swartz, 1989; Stanton, 1980 in Murray, 2005).

This was supported by another wife:

Nasa bahay po kasi ako at 'yong asawa ko ay nasa kumpare niya nung maaresto po siya. Pinuntahan po ako ng anak ko sa bahay at dali-dali naman akong lumabas habang nagpapalahaw. Sumunod po pala 'yong anak ko. Nung nadala napo yung asawa ko at naiwan po kami, nakita ko po yung anak ko na nakatingin sa akin habang umiiyak. (Umiiyak ang maybahay habang sinasalaysay) Pinilit [pinigil] ko po ang pag-iyak ko no'n kasi 'di ko po maipaliwanag 'yong mukha ng anak ko. Mula po no'n naging tahimik napo yung anak ko. 'Di na po siya palakibo.

Such experience of the wives and children who have witnessed the arrest of their husbands/fathers would develop in them the fear that would in turn affect their behavior. Not being able to address such fear will take its toll on the health and well-being of the sufferers. According to the Learning/Behavioral Theory of Strongman (1995), fear becomes problematic when it is intense to a degree that it gets in the way of

functioning, or when it persists even when there are no clear indications of danger.

Further, according to Bernstein (2005), “watching a parent [being] arrested and taken away ... is itself one of the most significant traumas a child can experience” (p. 23). This trauma can be especially acute if the arrest is violent or forcible, something more likely in settings where there has been a “shift to a more militaristic form of policing (Robertson, 2007). That is why, prisoners’ children have been variously referred to as the ‘orphans of justice’ (Shaw, 1992), the ‘forgotten victims’ of crime (Matthews, 1983) and the ‘Cinderella of penology’ (Shaw, 1987).

The last manifestation shown by the wives was feeling irritable. This was exhibited by two of the wives who would, out of frustration over their conditions, transfer their frustration onto their children. Transference, as classically defined by Sigmund Freud, is a form of projection. It is the unconscious tendency of a patient to assign to others in the present environment feelings and attitude associated with significant persons in one’s earlier life. Thus, a change in the household can be felt. According to Brown and Christensen (1986), when one person in the family begins to change his or her behavior, the change will affect the entire family system.

A wife felt remorseful after having realized what she has been doing to her children.

May mga pagkakataon na pag napupuno na ‘ko at ‘di ko na alam kung saan kami kukuha ng kabuhayan, pati mga anak ko nadadamay na rin. Yung dati na di ko napapansin na ingay at gulo nila, napapalaki ko. Nasisigawan ko sila kasi parang pakiramdam ko punong-puno na ang ulo ko at ‘di ko na alam ang gagawin kaya konting kagalitan nila nag-iinit ang ulo ko.

As verbalized by another respondent:

Nakakasama din po ng loob na ‘yong mga kamag-anak mo na inaasahan mong tutulong sa iyo, ‘yon pa ang magsasalita ng ‘di maganda sa’yo. ‘Di na nga nakatulong, magsasalita ka pa ng ‘di maganda. Di po ba napakasakit no’n?

Another wife said:

Hanggat maari po ay ayoko naman talagang pinapalo ang mga anak ko. 'Di kopo gawi 'yon kaya lang dumarating na ang pagkakataon na napagbubuhatan ko na sila ng kamay lalo na pag magulo sila at matigas ang ulo.

In the study conducted by Al-Turkait and Ohaeri (2008), it says that the detention of a husband, partner or spouse has a significant psychological impact on the wellbeing of partners, with possible large emotional difficulties as a consequence, such as loneliness, feelings of isolation, and symptoms of depression, posttraumatic stress (PTS), and anxiety, to medical and health problems, and even the development of unhealthy behaviors and antisocial activities. These unhealthy behaviors have affected the mothers' relations with their children. Although they have already lashed out, it is a good thing that they know how to make amends for what they have done.

Personal Growth Goals

The experience of the wives may have been painful and may have caused them traumatic experiences, yet there were wives who still saw hope and have remained positive that they would be able to win the situation that they are battling, not just for their husbands but more so for their children and their future. It may be viewed as a forced choice on the part of the wives, but asserting their rights and taking on the responsibilities by working to provide for the needs of the family are what will make them prove their worth as persons, since "work is as much about human rights as about income," (International Labour Organization, 2001). Interestingly enough, their faith in God was very instrumental in moving on and maintaining hope despite the difficulty of the situation they are in.

They even expressed openness and willingness to help those who are undergoing the same predicament by giving testimonies.

One wife said:

Totoo pong masakit na alalahanin 'yong pinagdaanan naming lalo na nung maaresto ang aking asawa pero kung itutulot po ng Panginoon na ako ay magamit bilang instrumento para maibsan yung pinagdadaanan ng tulad kong maybahay, ako po [ay] handang tumulong na ibahagi ang aking karanasan at tumulong din po sa mga gawain ng simbahan at komunidad.

The researcher then asked how she was dealing with her experience:

Ako po naman talaga ay kahit hindi nakakasimba nang madalas o linggo-linggo, nando'n pa rin po ang pananampalataya ko sa Diyos. Nagdadasal din po ako. Siguro po, yung mga anak ko at magulang pati na rin mga kapatid ko na tumutulong sa amin ang nagsisilbi kong lakas. Lalo napo pag nakikita ko ang mga anak ko. Maliliit pa sila, lagi pong yung kinabukasan nila ang iniisip ko. Pagka minsan nga po na gusto ko nang bumigay, 'yon lang pong isipin ko yung kanilang kinabukasan na ayokong matulad sa akin na 'di nakatapos ng pag-aaral ang nagsisilbi kong lakas. Kaya po gusto kong magtrabaho para sa kanila.

Aside from faith in God, it is the dream of giving a better future for their children that motivates them to go on. It's the feeling of self-worth that, even in the absence of their husbands, they can play the role of being providers for the family.

Another wife claimed:

Mahirap makapagpatunay nang ikaw mismo ay 'di pa nakakabawi sa pinagdadaanan mo o 'yong sugat mo ay 'di pa naghihilom. Sino ba ang ayaw makatulong? Likas naman sa atin 'yan, kaya nga lamang e siguro dapat muna na siguro na ikaw mismo ay okay na, 'yon bang tipong magaling na ang sugat mo. Kasi kapag ako ay may galit pa sa puso tapos magpapatunay ako, mandadamay lang ako at palalalain ko lang ang kanilang sitwasyon. Pero, ako po ay nakahandang tumulong lalo na po sa katulad ko kahit pa po sa ibang proyekto ng barangay o munisipyo.

Just like what the World Vision does of partnering with local churches and community organizations that serve people who are hungry, homeless, addicted, unemployed or hit by disaster, these wives are also willing to extend their help as they make themselves part of a noble cause by serving others.

When asked how she was coping, she said:

Siguro malaki talaga 'yong nagagawa ng dasal. Sa mga pagkakataon na wala ka nang makakapitan, talagang sa Panginoon ka lang tatakbo. No'ng mga unang linggo ng pagkaaresto ng asawa ko, lagi ako sa simbahan, araw-araw yata. Kaya lang syempre may responsibilidad ka ring dapat gampanan. Kailangan kong bumangon at magtrabaho para sa mga anak ko at alam kong nauunawaan ako ng Diyos.

Another participant shared her way of dealing with her situation:

Hindi naman po gano'n kadali maghilom lalo pa nga po at makikita mo ang asawa mong parang kawawa sa kulungan. Halos magkapalit na po ng mukha ang tao sa kulungan sa dami. Tapos maiisip ko pa 'yong kalagayan ng mga anak ko. Pero ako naman po ay naniniwala na lahat ng nangyayari ay may dahilan. Iniisip ko na lang po na isang araw paggising ko e mawawala rin ang problema ko. Sige lang po ang laban sa buhay. Hanggang nand'yan ang mga anak kong nagbibigay ng lakas sa akin para lumaban at ang Panginoon na gagabay sa amin, naniniwala po ako na matatapos ding lahat ito.

Other participants also expressed the same faith in God and that the day will come when they will be healed of their wounds. They believe that things happen for a reason. It may not be tomorrow that they will know the reason but one thing is for sure, that everything will soon pass.

Such strong faith in God served as their weapon. The Catholic church as their stronghold may be attributed to the religiosity of the Filipinos. Bagaoisan (2016), taking from the 2015 Global Attitudes survey of the US-based Pew Research Center, relays that nearly 9 in 10 Filipinos (87%) considered religion very important in their lives. In addition, the Philippines ranked 10th in religiosity among the 40 countries surveyed.

CONCLUSION

Despite the ongoing human rights cases because of President Duterte's anti-drug campaign, the PNP operations will still continue, and a number of users, pushers, and dealers will still be arrested or be killed if they will not surrender. As long as there are those being arrested and detained or killed, there will be wives who will suffer from being separated from their husbands, even if just temporarily, as this may still cause relational strain and union dissolution (Lopoo & Western, 2017). The wives will be left with the responsibilities supposedly both shared by the husband and the wife, like raising their children well and giving them good future and earning a living to support the needs of the family (Lee, Porter, & Comfort, 2014).

While it is true that those being arrested and those who surrendered are suffering from their incarceration, considering the conditions they are in—congested prison cell, irregular meals, and separation from family, it must be noted that the wives they left are suffering as much, if not more. The wives have taken on responsibilities aside from household work and childcare (Moser, 1993), which include being the sole provider for their respective families. They also experience emotional anxiety from seeing their children get affected by the situation. Duterte's anti-drug campaign targets drug users, but there seems to be no programs for the wives and their children who experienced the trauma of their husband's/father's arrest and who were left with the burden to provide for the needs of their families. It must be understood that the government is duty-bound to protect and provide for the needs of the Filipino citizens belonging to the marginalized sector in the society. According to the RA 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women, marginalized sectors are defined as those who belong to the disadvantaged or vulnerable groups who are mostly living in poverty and have little or no access land and other resources, as well as basic social and economic services.

The impact of their husbands' detention has caused a great deal of emotional and psychological pains for them and their children as well. Having an incarcerated family member affects multiple domains of life: economic hardship, family dynamics, and emotional well-being (Lee et al., 2014). Although some of the wives remain positive and optimistic about

their present conditions, they still need to be healed. Moreover, support in whatever form should also be extended to help alleviate the pains that they are suffering from. Article II, Section 12 of the 1987 of the Philippine Constitution stated that the “State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution”. Further, Article XV, Section 1 of the Constitution points out that the “State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation... it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development”. In the absence of a father who provides for the needs of the family, it is then the responsibility of the government to ensure that decent work standards for women that involve the creation of jobs of acceptable quality in conditions of freedom, equity, security, and human dignity (IRR of RA 9710, Section 25) are considered.

RECOMMENDATIONS

With President Duterte openly and unequivocally declaring an all-outwar against drugs at the expense of persecuting a large number of individuals unjustifiably and extra-judicially (Baruah, 2018) and which has led to the incarceration of the husbands, whether guilty or innocent, the idea of a family composed of a mother, a father, and children is already out of the picture. Moreover, all the responsibilities of both a mother and a father are left to the wives. In cases when support in all forms especially in terms of financial assistance seems to be out of reach for the wives and children left behind, it is the responsibility of the government to protect and provide them with their basic needs. Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that, “The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life”.

Further, the Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710), which is the comprehensive women’s human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in marginalized

sector, ensures that women should be accorded the support and assistance they need like education, employment, and livelihood opportunities, among others. The same is provided in RA 7822 which is an Act providing assistance to women engaging in micro and cottage business enterprises and other purposes.

On the premise of the above mentioned provisions and this study, being among the first of its kind in relation to the ongoing campaign against illegal drugs, the following recommendations are set forth:

To the Municipality Mayor of Hagonoy:

- That the Gender and Development Office tie up with universities, non-government organizations, civil society organizations, and other anti-discrimination against women movements like the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) among others to help the wives know their rights as women and become productive by providing them livelihood training programs, which will eventually be utilized to make them earn a living;
- That RA 9178, Section 2 or the Barangay Micro Business Enterprises (BMBEs) Act of 2002 which serves as the seedbeds of Filipino entrepreneurial talents as well as RA 10644 or the Go Negosyo Act, which seeks to strengthen micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to create more job opportunities, promote inclusive growth and reduce poverty, be enforced or implemented by the local government to address the needs of the wives in need of source of living;
- That a considerable portion of the 5%-budget allocation for Gender and Development be spent in designing and implementing /intensifying and expanding programs for training in entrepreneurship and for skills development for labor (RA 9501 or the Magna Carta for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs));

- That programs or trainings offered for women by the Municipality of Hagonoy be printed on tarpaulin and posted in strategic places in Hagonoy for wider dissemination and information;
- That an intervention program be crafted for affected families, both housewives and their children who were traumatized by the arrest of their husbands/fathers by giving them psychological debriefing;
- That conditions of the detained alleged drug suspects be looked into and assess if any violations of human rights may have been committed;

To the Philippine Government:

- That a review or better yet a repeal of Executive Order No.15 or the Creation of an Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force to Suppress the Drug Problem in the Country be considered, since it is a blatant disregard and violation of Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, otherwise known as the Bill of Rights where Section 1 states that “no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws”.

To the Gender and Development Office in the Municipality of Hagonoy and Religious Groups in the Municipality of Hagonoy:

- That the Gender and Development Office partner with the local churches and community organizations, not just in bringing the support through regular visits with the wives left behind, but also in conducting activities that will promote their quality of life through the enhancement of women’s access to economic resources such as capital, technology information, market, and training (Philippine Commission on Women);
- That the wives be empowered by having access to factors of production, land, labor, credit, training, marketing facilities,

and publicly available services and benefits (Longwe's Women's Empowerment Framework).

- That wives be given training on how they will be able to help other wives overcome the trauma caused by their husbands' arrest.

To Bulacan State University:

- That this study be an avenue in which a program for the Extension Services of the University may be designed for wives with arrested/detained husbands in the province of Bulacan to help them know their rights as women, as well as methods of coping.

To the Future Researchers:

- That they look into the impact on children whose fathers were victims of extrajudicial killings;
- That a study be conducted on the conditions of women in jail after they were arrested and detained due to anti-drug campaign.

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