"Typology of Young Sexual Offender in Ilocos Norte"

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

Introduction

The increasing prevalence of sexual offenses committed by young individuals has drawn significant attention from researchers, policymakers, and practitioners. Understanding the typology of young sexual offenders is essential for identifying the factors contributing to such behavior and for designing effective interventions aimed at prevention and rehabilitation. In the context of children or minors, this behavior is referred to as child sexual abuse, which can take various forms, including unwanted physical contact with intimate parts of the body, forcing or pressuring someone to engage in sexual activities, exposing someone—especially minors—to sexual content such as pornography without their consent, and verbal harassment involving sexual content or connotations.

Sexual abuse occurs globally, affecting individuals regardless of their relationship with the perpetrator or their age. In Canada, discussions about sexual violence highlight its classifications and impact. One form of gender-based violence is sexual violence, which disproportionately affects women and girls. However, it can happen to anyone and may occur within romantic relationships, families, workplaces, and even between acquaintances or strangers. It often takes place in private settings between individuals who know each other. Sexual violence includes both sexual assault and sexual harassment. Sexual assault is defined as "any unwanted act or threat of physical contact, directly or indirectly, that violates an individual's sexual innocence. Sexual assault occurs regardless of the victim's or survivor's relationship with the abuser." On the other hand, sexual harassment includes "criticism, behavior, and unwanted sexual contact." It can manifest as jokes, threats, or slanderous comments regarding someone's gender or sexual preference, occurring either in person or online (Tuttle, 2023).

Many young individuals are unaware of what researchers define as "sexual violence" because school curricula primarily focus on protective measures, such as condom use, rather than educating students on the broader implications of sexual misconduct. While such education may promote safer practices, it does not necessarily prevent young individuals from engaging in inappropriate or criminal behavior. This study, the Typology of Young Sexual Offenders in Ilocos Norte, aims to classify young offenders based on their psychological, behavioral, and social characteristics. By understanding the different types or profiles of young sexual offenders, this research seeks to provide insights that may contribute to more effective prevention and intervention strategies.

Background of the Study

Young sexual offenders are a marginalized and often stigmatized population, frequently excluded from society. They are typically viewed as the perpetrators of violence or abuse, but understanding their perspectives and experiences is crucial for developing effective prevention and intervention strategies. Unfortunately, they are often overlooked in research, which limits efforts to address the root causes of

their behavior. By giving these individuals, a voice and challenging societal preconceptions, a more empathetic approach can be taken to address this complex issue.

Epidemiological studies have estimated the global prevalence of child sexual abuse (CSA), with rates ranging from 8–31% for girls and 3–7% for boys (Barth, 2013). In Namibia, reports of sexual abuse against children are regularly featured in the media, yet there is a significant lack of research focused on understanding sexual offending (Katjangua, 2018). Previous studies also indicate that the majority of CSA offenders are male.

In the Philippines, the Child Protection Network (CPN) serves as an umbrella organization under the Women and Child Protection Unit. It comprises physicians, social workers, lawyers, police officers, and child advocates dedicated to protecting Filipino children from various forms of abuse. In 2017, the CPN reported 9,192 cases of violence against children, of which 5,884 cases (64%) involved sexual abuse. Most victims were teenagers aged 13 to 15, followed by those aged 16 to 17. The primary perpetrators of child sexual abuse were neighbors, boyfriends, uncles, and fathers, with most incidents occurring at home, in the community, or during dating. Notably, 345 cases (4%) involved minor perpetrators (CPN, 2018).

In Ilocos Norte, statistical data on children in conflict with the law for rape cases reveal fluctuating crime trends. In 2020, there were five reported incidents across the municipalities of Banna (Espiritu), Pagudpud, Pasuquin, Piddig, and Solsona. The number decreased to two cases in 2021, occurring in Bangui and Marcos, and further declined to a single case in 2022, reported in Pagudpud. However, in 2023, incidents rose again, with four cases recorded in Piddig, Batac City, Pagudpud, and Badoc.

Despite the growing awareness of sexual offenses committed by young individuals, research on the typology of young sexual offenders remains scarce. Most existing literature primarily focuses on victims or adult offenders, leaving significant gaps in understanding the factors that influence young offenders' behaviors and how they differ from adult perpetrators. Currently, no widely accepted or comprehensive typology exists for categorizing young sexual offenders. Many studies treat them as a homogeneous group, failing to account for the diverse motivations, psychological profiles, and behavioral patterns among these individuals. This gap hinders the development of tailored interventions and rehabilitation programs that address the specific needs of different offender subtypes.

This study aimed to develop a comprehensive typology of young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte, categorizing them based on psychological, behavioral, social, and environmental factors. The research seeks to identify distinct subgroups of offenders by examining the factors that influenced their actions, their strategies before committing the offense, the means used during the act, and the psychological and social effects they experience afterward. Through this classification, the study hopes to contribute to more effective prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation efforts.

Statement of the Problem

The main objective of this research study is to identify the classification of young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte. Specifically, it seeks to answer the following questions:

1. What are the factors that influence the young sexual offenders to commit the sexual act?

2. What strategy did the young sexual offenders use before committing the sexual act?

3. What are the means used by the young sexual offenders during the commission of the sexual act?

4. What are the psychological and social effects on the young sexual offenders after committing the sexual act?

5. What are the lessons that the young sexual offenders learned after committing the sexual act?

Theoretical Framework

The following theories help explain the factors influencing sexually abusive behavior among adolescent sexual offenders. By integrating various perspectives, these theories provide insights into individual, familial, social, and environmental influences, thereby guiding the development of effective prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation programs.

Social Learning Theory

Bandura (1977) posits that individuals learn behaviors, attitudes, and emotional responses through observation, imitation, and modeling. This theory helps explain how young individuals may internalize aggressive and sexually abusive behaviors by being exposed to violence, pornography, and distorted beliefs about gender roles and sexuality. Such influences can shape their perceptions and actions, potentially leading to future delinquency.

Developmental Theory

Loeber and Farrington (2000) emphasize the significance of developmental pathways and life experiences in shaping an individual's behavior over time. This theory explores how early childhood experiences, family dynamics, peer relationships, and environmental factors contribute to the emergence of sexually abusive behavior during adolescence and young adulthood. Understanding these influences is crucial for identifying risk factors and designing targeted interventions.

Ecological Systems Theory

Bronfenbrenner (1979) highlights the role of multiple, interacting environmental systems—microsystem, mesosystem, exosystem, and macrosystem—in shaping an individual's development and behavior. Family dynamics, peer relationships, school environments, community factors, and societal attitudes all contribute to the development and perpetration of sexually abusive behavior among young individuals. A negative environment or harmful social influences can increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, potentially affecting their future.

Conceptual Framework

The study utilized the IPOO (Input-Process-Output-Outcome) model, which examines how inputs influence processes leading to outputs and outcomes. The IPOO model is a framework that analyzes how various inputs affect processes which in turn lead to specific outputs and ultimately

result in long-term outcomes or consequences. (Katz & Khan, 1978).

The study's input comprised five key components: the factors influencing young offenders to commit sexual acts, the strategies employed before the act, the means used during its commission, the psychological and social effects experienced afterward, and the lessons learned post-incident. The research process utilized a mixed-method approach, incorporating interview guides and survey questionnaires to gather comprehensive data. The collected data was analyzed using frequency and rank analysis, alongside thematic analysis for qualitative insights.

INPUT

*Factors influencing young offenders to commit the sexual act.

*Strategies used before committing the sexual act.

*Means used in the commission of the sexual act.

*Psychological and social effects after committing sexual act.

*The lessons learned after committing sexual act.

OUTCOMES

The video effectively raises awareness about the dangers of alcohol consumption among youth and parents. It highlights the negative impacts on physical health, future opportunities, and relationships. By encouraging critical thinking, it aids parents in guiding their children toward responsible decision-making.

OUTPUT

Informative video: **"May alak may balak"**

PROCESSES
*Mixed Method
*Interview Guide and Survey Questionnaires
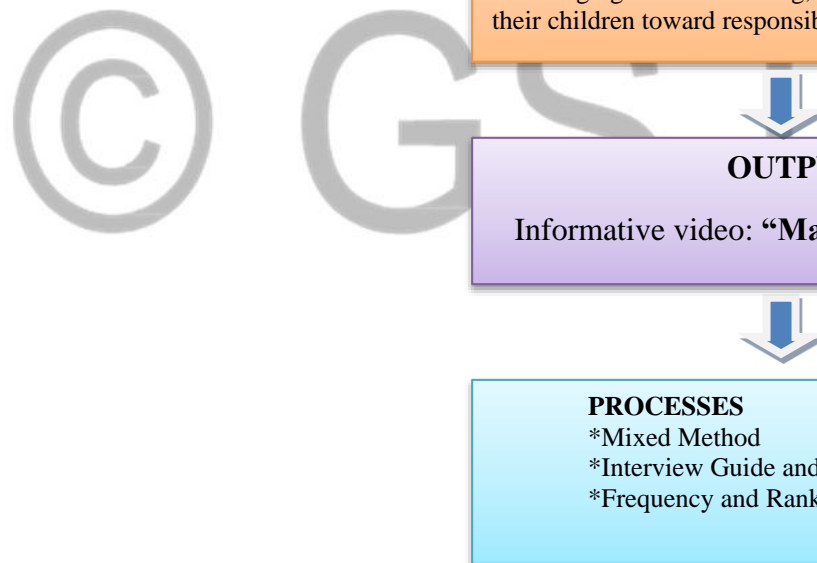*Frequency and Rank and Thematic Analysis

Figure 1. Paradigm of Study

As an output, the study produced an informative video titled "May Alak, May Balak," designed to raise awareness among women and their parents. The outcome of this initiative highlights the risks associated with alcohol consumption, particularly its impact on health, opportunities,

and relationships. Additionally, it promotes responsible decision-making and provides guidance for parents in educating their children about these risks.

Significance of the Study

This undertaking will be significant to the following:

Participants. This research will raise awareness among individuals, helping them recognize risk factors and discover new solutions or alternative techniques to address challenges related to youth sexual offending.

Victims of Sexual Abuse. This research can lead to improved support systems and services for victims. Identifying risk factors and patterns of offending behavior enables the development of targeted interventions to prevent future victimization and provide appropriate assistance to survivors.

Families and Communities. Families and communities affected by sexual abuse will benefit from increased awareness and understanding of the factors contributing to youth sexual offending. This knowledge can help reduce stigma, strengthen community support networks, and empower families to recognize and address risk factors.

Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The findings of this study can assist the DSWD in enhancing assessment, intervention, and rehabilitation programs tailored to the specific needs of young offenders. This can help promote rehabilitation and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

Philippine National Police. Law enforcement agencies can utilize the research findings to improve legal frameworks, allocate resources for prevention and intervention programs, and enhance support services for victims of sexual abuse.

Researchers. This study contributes to the growing body of knowledge on youth sexual offending by identifying key risk factors such as family dynamics and peer influence. The findings can help improve prevention strategies and inform future research.

Future Researchers. This study serves as a foundation for further investigation by highlighting challenges and gaps in existing literature, paving the way for future studies on youth sexual offending.

Scope and Delimitations of the Study

This study focused on identifying young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte through their experience. Further, it includes the factors, strategies, means, psychological social effects, social effects and the lessons they have learned.

This is limited to individuals under 18 years of age when they committed their crime. The study included 10 participants, particularly in Batac City (2 participants), Piddig (3 participants), Sarrat (2 participants), Pagudpud (2 participants), and Laoag City (1 participant).

The availability of these participant was also limited due to the sensitivity of the chosen topic. Most of the offenders just give a little regard to such experience. The researcher was required to be flexible on the terms and conditions of the participants in conducting their interviews. This study was conducted during 2nd Semester of the 2024 academic year, specifically in the month of October.

Definition of Terms

This part of the study presents the operational definition of the following terms:

Factor. This refers to the various circumstances, influences, or underlying reasons that drive young sexual offenders to commit the act, which may include psychological, environmental, social, or personal motivations.

Means. They are the specific tools, methods, or tactics utilized by young sexual offenders to facilitate and carry out the commission of the crime.

Psychological effect. This pertains to the mental, emotional, and behavioral impact of experiences, events, or concepts on individuals, shaping their thoughts, feelings, and actions. It includes both short-term and long-term consequences, such as trauma, anxiety, or altered perceptions (Steger, 2009).

Sexual abuse. An abuse encompassing any form of non-consensual sexual contact, coercion, or exploitation, particularly targeting vulnerable individuals. It often results in significant psychological, emotional, and physical trauma for the victim (APA, 2020).

Sexual violence. This refers to any act of a sexual nature committed against an individual without their consent. It includes but is not limited to rape, sexual assault, harassment, coercion, and exploitation, with lasting physical and psychological effects on the victim.

Strategies. This refers to the premeditated plans, schemes, or manipulative tactics employed by young sexual offenders before committing the crime. These may involve deception, coercion, or other preparatory actions to facilitate the offense.

Typology. It is a systematic classification method that categorizes a particular phenomenon into distinct types based on predefined attributes, characteristics, or behavioral patterns (Bailey, 1994).

Young Sexual Offenders. They are the individuals, particularly young men, who have engaged in or committed a sexual act against a minor, violating legal and ethical boundaries.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURES AND STUDIES

This chapter presents the conceptual and research literature which were found by the researcher to significantly support and strengthen the study.

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, JUNE 17, 1992- AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STRONGER DETERRENCE AND SPECIAL PROTECTION AGAINST CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ITS VIOLATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

ARTICLE I

TITLE, POLICY, PRINCIPLES AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act."

SEC. 2. Declaration of State Policy and Principles. – It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to provide

special protection to children from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation and discrimination, and other conditions prejudicial to their development; provide sanctions for their commission and carry out a program for prevention and deterrence of and crisis intervention in situations of child abuse, exploitation and discrimination. The State shall intervene on behalf of the child when the parent, guardian, teacher or person having care or custody of the child fails or is unable to protect the child against abuse, exploitation and discrimination or when such acts against the child are committed by the said parent, guardian, teacher or person having care and custody of the same.

It shall be the policy of the State to protect and rehabilitate children gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances which affect or will affect their survival and normal development and over which they have no control.

The best interests of children shall be the paramount consideration in all actions concerning them, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities, and legislative bodies, consistent with the principle of First Call for Children as enunciated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Every effort shall be exerted to promote the welfare of children and enhance their opportunities for a useful and happy life.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. -

a)"Children" refers to persons below eighteen (18) years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty,

exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition;

b)"Child abuse" refers to the maltreatment, whether habitual or not, of the child which includes any of the following:

1.Psychological and physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse and emotional maltreatment;

2.Any act by deeds or words which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;

3.Unreasonable deprivation of his basic needs for survival, such as food and shelter; or

4.Failure to immediately give medical treatment to an injured child resulting in serious impairment of his growth and development or in his permanent incapacity or death.

ARTICLE II

PROGRAM ON CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION

SEC. 4. Formulation of the Program. – There shall be a comprehensive program to be   formulated by the Department of Justice and the Department of Social Welfare and Development in coordination with other government agencies and private sector concerned, within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, to protect children against child prostitution and other sexual abuse; child trafficking; obscene publications and indecent shows; other acts of abuse; and circumstances which endanger child survival and normal development.

Rape investigation and attrition in acquaintance, domestic violence and historical rape cases

This study looks at the attrition trajectories of rape cases involving acquaintance rape, rape in the context of domestic violence by intimate (ex)partners, and in the context of historical child sexual abuse. Rape in the contexts of domestic violence or historical child sexual abuse has not received much separate attention in previous studies, tending to be included in categories involving alleged offender known to victim or excluded altogether as involving under-16s. The article explores and compares these separate types of cases in order to increase our understanding of attrition. Rape and other sexual offenses against children, involves ostensible consent as those under the age of legal consent (16 years), cannot be seen to consent regardless of whether it appears that they gave consent. Absence of consent can be also assumed in certain situations involving adults, such as violence or threat of violence, where the victim is unconscious or has a disability that limits capacity to consent (Spohn & Tellis, 2012.

Another research conducted by Hester (2015) and Hester & Lilley (2015), involved quantitative and qualitative analysis of data held by the police and CPS on 87 rape cases, interviews with criminal justice professionals, and interviews with a small sample of victim/survivors who had accessed the criminal justice system The research covers the period of 2010–2015. In two areas, access to the police database was provided, allowing for examination of all cases from the initial police log to crime reports and outcomes held on the police national computer.

The 87 rape cases reported to the police involved 98 victims (94 women, four men) and 97 accused (all men). Ages of victims/survivors at the time of reporting ranged from 16 to 57 years and for the accused from 17 to 85 years. In two cases, the accused were described as group of "Asian men", and Black French and Nigerian, but ethnicity was generally missing in the police record. Of the 87 rape cases reported to the police, between half and two thirds were initially deemed crimes by the police (53/87, 61%), but following further investigation, nine of these were reclassified by the police as "no crime" (9/53, 17%). Forty-five cases resulted in arrest (44/87, 51%), although only about half of these were referred to the CPS for charging decisions (23/87, 26%).

Historical child sexual abuse cases were the third largest group, with victims being adults by the time of reporting. These cases were more likely to result in charge and conviction due to multiple victims, similar accounts, and supporting medical or social service records. Mental health issues were a significant feature in these cases, with about one in five victims/survivors referred to counseling or mental health services.

Dangerous times for women in a culture of rape in the Philippines

In the span of just a few weeks, several women have been raped and slain by Filipino men. In one San Jose del Monte, Bulacan case, 5 members of the family were killed along with the two adult women who were raped and slain by male neighbors. Days later, a 19-year-old adolescent from Samal Island, Davao, was raped and killed by a male

neighbor. In another San Jose del Monte, Bulacan case, a 13-year-old male neighbor raped a 5-year-old girl, tied her neck with a wire to kill her, slid her in a sack, and threw her lifeless body. In another incident in Nueva Ecija, an 8-year-old girl was raped and killed by a carpenter living with the family who was just recently out on parole for qualified theft. There are many other rapes and attempted rapes that happen in the Philippines.

There is something very wrong in how the Philippines is raising its men, women, boys, and girls, where these hapless women victims fall prey to rapists and killers. It is a society, a culture, an educational and justice system that raises rapists and killers. The country has failed as a society to make women and young girls free from such violent acts.

The entire country has fallen short of addressing the issue of rape. Based on 2015 PNP statistics, at least one Filipino woman was raped every 58 minutes. One in 3 adult deaf women are victims of rape. Although rape and rape-slays in our country are persistently reported, many cases filed by rape victims are still dismissed by prosecutors and judges, denying justice to the women and girls.

Part of prevention is going back to the basics and teaching in schools and communities respect for women, upholding the human rights of women, informing women and girls about schemes used by rapists, and impressing upon the community the importance of accountability and laws penalizing offenders.

It focuses on how frequent rape is in this nation. Based the interview with the victims, all of them are still seeking

justice, while this misogynistic institution remains intact and free of a criminal offense. This just shows how broken our system truly is. By searching "rape" it leads you to reported rape cases that are merely days apart. One is a report of a 9-year-old child getting abducted by his rapist in Cainta from last week, while a tourist in Cebu was raped by a motorcycle taxi driver last Sunday (Padilla,2017).

Rape Declines but Numbers Do not Tell the Story Sexual Violence Still Pervasive

The prevalence of rape and sexual violence in the Philippines remains a significant concern, as highlighted by the Philippine National Police (PNP). Between July 2022 and January 7, 2023, rape was among the most commonly reported crimes, alongside theft and physical injury. PNP Chief Gen. Rodolfo Azurin Jr. revealed that these crimes have remained prevalent since the beginning of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s administration. The Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) further emphasized that sexual violence against women and children is one of the most pervasive issues in the country, with one in 20 girls and women (aged 15 to 49) having experienced such violence in their lifetime.

The National Baseline Study on Violence Against Children (NBS-VAC) found that 17.1 percent of Filipinos aged 13 to 17 had experienced sexual violence, while 3.2 percent had been subjected to forced consummated sex (anal, oral, or vaginal) during their childhood. Child sexual violence is defined as any sexual act committed against a minor without their consent, while forced consummated sex refers specifically to acts of penetration. Among the reported cases,

14.1 percent occurred while dating, 13.7 percent took place at home, 7.8 percent in the community, 7.1 percent in the workplace, and 5.3 percent in schools.

The NBS-VAC also identified common perpetrators of sexual violence within various settings. In the home, perpetrators included brothers, cousins, fathers, stepbrothers, stepsisters, and stepmothers. In the community, offenders were often neighbors, strangers, gang members, drug addicts, online chat mates, female friends, and acquaintances of the victim's brother. The study further explored the methods of sexual coercion used by perpetrators, with verbal insistence (33.9 percent) and sweet talk (33.9 percent) being the most frequently reported. Other coercive tactics included verbal deception (23.2 percent), bribery (17.9 percent), threats of exposure or public humiliation (17.9 percent), and the use of drugs or alcohol (14.3 percent). Physical force was also reported, including slapping, kicking, and hitting (10.7 percent), threats with a weapon (5.4 percent), and cases where victims were "sold or given as a gift" by their parents or relatives (3.6 percent). Additional instances of verbal blackmail (1.8 percent), sudden attacks in public spaces, and incidents occurring in malls or public transportation were also recorded.

Senator Risa Hontiveros has stressed that sexual violence inflicts lifelong psychological and emotional trauma, particularly on children, calling it a cruelty that should no longer be tolerated. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) supports this claim, highlighting the severe consequences victims face, including increased risks of

sexually transmitted diseases, chronic pain, illness, unwanted pregnancy, social isolation, and lasting psychological trauma. These findings underscore the urgent need for comprehensive prevention programs, stronger legal frameworks, and support systems to protect vulnerable individuals and ensure justice for victims of sexual violence in the Philippines (Dela Peña, 2023).

Offender-Centric Policing in Case of Rape

This study explores the concept of "offender-centric" policing, which focuses on the statements and actions of both suspects and offenders in rape investigations. Traditional approaches often prioritize victim testimony, but an offender-centric approach shifts the focus to the behavior, patterns, and strategies of offenders. This approach aims to enhance investigative outcomes while ensuring victim care remains a priority. By examining 11 cases, the study highlights how an offender-centric perspective influences accusations, convictions, and the challenges encountered by complainants, suspects, and law enforcement personnel. It also sheds light on the missed opportunities that arise when investigations focus solely on a suspect's behavior without considering broader offender patterns.

The study analyzes 11 cases selected from a larger sample of 441 police case files related to rape investigations involving complainants aged 14 years and older, both male and female. The selection process aimed to highlight different aspects of offender-centric policing rather than represent broader trends. Nine cases that led to prosecution or conviction were chosen to illustrate offender behavior and

investigative techniques. Additionally, one case was selected to showcase a missed opportunity for implementing offender-centric tactics, and another was included to demonstrate the complexities and challenges that can arise when applying this approach. The research was approved by the university's ethical committee, ensuring that all qualitative data were anonymized. The analysis was conducted in the context of existing research on sex offender behavior and the guidelines outlined in the Crown Prosecution Service Toolkit for prosecutors.

The findings indicate several factors influencing rape offenses, including trauma, substance use (medication, drugs, or alcohol), offender strategies, and target selection. Offenders often create or exploit opportunities based on their occupation or frequent locations where potential victims are present. Some offenders plan their crimes in advance, ensuring they have control over the setting, such as a residence or workplace, where they can manipulate victims. Due to their status and position, these offenders may appear non-threatening, allowing them to build trust with victims and establish relationships through calculated manipulative tactics. Additionally, they engineer situations where they can be alone with potential victims, increasing the likelihood of offending. The study underscores the significance of offender-centric policing in rape investigations. By focusing on the offender's behavior and patterns rather than solely on victim testimony, law enforcement can strengthen cases against perpetrators and improve prosecution outcomes (Rumney & McPhee, 2021).

The Effect of Stigma on Criminal Offenders' functioning: a Longitudinal Mediational Model

Research has rarely considered criminal offenders' psychological responses to stigma, but these responses may significantly influence behavior. Perceived stigma would predict poor adjustment in several domains (i.e. recidivism, substance dependence, mental health symptoms, community adjustment) through anticipated stigma. Results showed that perceived stigma predicted worse community adjustment through anticipated stigma, and this varied by race. Results are explored from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Research across non-correctional stigmatized groups (e.g. people with mental illness, people living with HIV; people who use illegal drugs) shows that the more individuals perceive that their group is devalued by the public, the more they experience negative psychological and social outcomes such as depression. Participants were 163 inmates recruited from June 2002 to May 2007 as part of a larger longitudinal study (Tangney, Mashek, and Stuewig 2007) at an urban adult detention center. Data were collected after entry into the jail (Time 1), again just before release to the community (Time 2), and then one-year post-release (Time 3). Inmates were informed that participation was voluntary and that data were confidential, protected by a Certificate of Confidentiality from DHHS. Pre-release assessments (Time 2) were collected from 2002–2010, depending on inmates' release dates.

As a result, this study aims the reason why perceived stigma causes maladaptive functioning could be explained by the expectation of encountering prejudice that may lead for a

person to commit crime. Perceived stigma refers to perceptions that society currently holds negative views of one's group; anticipated stigma focuses on the future, and more importantly, specifies what an individual personally expects to experience as a result of stigma. Therefore, individuals who are highly prone to experiencing shame may be more likely to experience negative outcomes after perceiving or anticipating stigma. The current paper uses structural equation modeling to test a significantly expanded multivariate theoretical model of how perceived stigma impacts offenders post-release functioning. The primary aim of this study is to examine whether perceived stigma predicts functioning in several domains (i.e. substance dependence, community adjustment, and mental health in addition to employment and recidivism)

The result of this study is understanding how stigma affects criminal offenders' functioning in various areas. Research has yet to examine offenders' perceived stigma with longitudinal data, and has not yet examined potential mediating or moderating factors of the relationship between perceived stigma and indices of functioning. Further, research with correctional and non-correctional groups has yet to include anticipated stigma in models of the stigma process.

The Factors that influenced Individuals to Commit Sexual Offenses in Gauteng Province

This literature review focuses on the factors that influence perpetrators to commit sexual offenses. The study utilized in-depth interviews to gather information from respondents, employing purposive sampling to select 34

participants who were serving sentences in prison for sexual offenses.

Research on sexual offending often hesitates to examine the characteristics of adult victims, likely due to concerns that such inquiries might be perceived as victim-blaming or as shifting responsibility away from the perpetrator. However, there appears to be less resistance when analyzing child victim vulnerabilities, as children are rarely viewed as culpable agents. Studies have identified several factors that may increase a child's vulnerability to sexual abuse, including father absence, living in a blended family (as children are at greater risk from stepfather figures than from biological fathers), lower-income households, and other family stressors. Additionally, loneliness, social isolation, and peer rejection have been linked to increased susceptibility to sexual victimization.

Similarly, research has identified characteristics that may increase an adult's vulnerability to sexual offenses. These include being female, having a history of childhood or adolescent sexual abuse, and being under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the offense. Such vulnerabilities can be categorized into historical or trait factors (e.g., being female) and situational or state factors (e.g., being under the influence of alcohol or drugs) (Seto, 2017).

The study conducted by Da Silva, Woodhams, and Harkins (2017) revealed that 48% of participants cited the influence of others as a key factor in committing sexual offenses. This influence was categorized as either direct or indirect. Direct influence occurred when participants were

explicitly ordered, instructed, or invited by a co-offender to take part in the crime. However, such direct coercion was observed in only a few cases. In some instances, it manifested as a clear command, as reflected in court records of the offenders' case files (Da Silva et al., 2017).

On the other hand, indirect influence was more common. Participants who experienced indirect influence stated that they were not explicitly told to engage in the offense but chose to do so because of the presence and actions of others. Some offenders reported that merely witnessing their co-offenders commit the crime made them feel aroused or compelled to participate (Da Silva et al., 2017). These findings highlight the significant role of peer influence in shaping offender behavior, emphasizing the need for preventive strategies that address group dynamics in sexual offenses.

Criminal Expertise and Sexual Violence: Comparing the Crime-Commission Process Involved in Sexual Burglary and Sexual Robbery

Chopin, Reale, and Beauregard (2022) emphasized the role of a sophisticated modus operandi in predicting the use of detection avoidance strategies, such as destroying or removing evidence and concealing identity. This study explores the correlation between an offender-centric policing approach and the behavioral patterns of sexual offenders, highlighting the significance of forensic strategies in crime prevention and investigation.

The study employed a mixed-methods research design, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The study analyzed case files, conducted in-depth interviews, and utilized behavioral profiling to assess the crime planning and forensic awareness of adult rape offenders. The researchers examined offenders' strategies from the pre-crime phase to the post-crime stage, focusing on their ability to manipulate crime scenes, perform varied and intrusive sexual acts, and evade law enforcement detection.

The findings revealed that offenders with a sophisticated modus operandi were more likely to employ detection avoidance strategies, such as eliminating forensic traces, altering crime scenes, and minimizing the risk of identification. The study also demonstrated that expertise in sexual offending is characterized by meticulous planning, complete control over the offense, and strategic forensic awareness. These factors collectively enhance an offender's ability to evade justice.

The study highlights the need for law enforcement agencies to adopt offender-centric policing methods in rape investigations. Understanding the level of planning and forensic awareness among offenders can aid in developing more effective investigative techniques and preventive measures. Additionally, they emphasize that the ability to predict and counteract detection avoidance strategies can significantly improve the prosecution and conviction of sexual offenders.

Recognizing sexual violence as a public policy issue.

This study examines the representation of sexual violence survivors and perpetrators in American newspapers, revealing saturated media representations with euphemisms,

sympathetic language, and confusing language. Public support is crucial for change, alongside political and legal willpower.

The goal of qualitative research is to develop concepts that allow us to better understand certain social issues, focusing on experiences of a group or situations by extracting meanings of texts or objects. This study employs a qualitative content analysis to analyze newspaper articles.

To answer the research questions and form categories and themes, the articles were read thoroughly and in detail using a qualitative method to code each of the chosen articles. The results show that reporters continue to inappropriately and inaccurately describe sexual violence and also use sympathetic words towards the perpetrator. However, after the movement and Harvey Weinstein's case, more stories used a social science frame.

Is There an "Expert" Stranger Rapist?

This study examines the decision-making processes of stranger rapists and their use of forensic awareness strategies. It aims to determine whether offenders with a more sophisticated modus operandi—indicative of criminal expertise—are more likely to engage in tactics that help them avoid detection. Understanding the connection between expertise in sexual offending and forensic awareness is crucial in preventing and addressing such crimes effectively.

The study utilized a combination of behavioral analysis and case studies to examine the characteristics of individuals involved in sexual crimes. The researchers may have assessed variables such as exposure to pornography, offender networking, frequency of deviant fantasies, and

masturbation habits to understand how these factors contribute to the development and execution of sexual offending behaviors. Through data collection and analysis, the study sought to determine whether repeated engagement in such behaviors could lead to a form of "expertise" in sexual offending.

The findings indicate that criminal expertise in sexual offenses can be developed through rehearsal and repetition, similar to how skills are refined in prosocial or professional fields. Exposure to pornography and interactions with other offenders provide offenders with knowledge and strategies that influence their criminal behaviors. Furthermore, frequent masturbation to deviant sexual fantasies can serve as a mental rehearsal, reinforcing these harmful behaviors. This aligns with the expertise and expert performance literature, suggesting that repeated exposure and practice can make someone more adept at committing crimes (Nee & Ward, 2015).

In the Eyes of the Rapist Meanings and Perceptions of Rape Sex and Women of Convicted Male Filipino Rapists.

In the Philippines, rape is one of the most common crimes. It has been perceived as a feminist topic over time, despite empirical data focusing more on the victims of rape than on the perpetrator.

The aim of this study was to find out how convicted male Filipino rapists felt about rape, sex, and women. Four people who had recently been convicted of rape but had not been released from prison for more than five years were asked to write one story based on an example of rape and another

story based on an example of sex. The stories of the respondents were then used as vignettes in a semi-structured interview.

The use of drugs and alcohol, the belief that rape is organized and deliberate, and the belief that women are raped because they are available were among the major trends discovered using thematic research on the attitudes of convicted male Filipino rapists. On the other hand, there is evidence that victim blaming, masculinity, and objectification of women are present (Baloloy, 2014).

The Pragmatic Paradigm of The Language of Rape

The study entitled *The Pragmatic Paradigm of The Language of Rape* by Vallejo (2021) examines how self-disclosure plays a crucial role in revealing the personal relationship between the rape victim and the rapist. Self-disclosure in rape cases can be an essential tool in identifying offenders, as victims often provide key details about their assailants during investigations. The study also highlights that some instances of rape result from miscommunication, especially when victims are unconscious during the act. By analyzing the language used in rape cases, this study aims to provide deeper insights into how rape victims disclose information and how their statements contribute to the legal process.

To analyze the language of rape in decided court cases, this study retrieved 47 decided rape cases from the Supreme Court of the Philippines covering the years 2015 to 2020. A random sampling technique was used to select the cases, ensuring a representative sample. The study identified the gender of the victims, revealing that female victims were predominant. Each case was coded with a Decided Rape Case (DRC) number to facilitate tracking and analysis. The study primarily focused on the interrogations conducted by lawyers during legal proceedings, examining how victims described their experiences, the perpetrators, and the circumstances of the crime. By analyzing transcripts of these court proceedings, the study aimed to uncover linguistic patterns, interrogation strategies, and social dynamics surrounding rape cases.

The findings indicate that several key elements are commonly found in the victims' statements, which help define the nature of the crime. These include force, threat, intimidation, influence of moral ascendancy, penetration, rape through sexual assault, and giving or receiving benefits. Victims often disclosed details about the perpetrators, including physical appearance, activities before and after the assault, the time and place of the incident, and the nature of their relationship with the rapist. The study also found that most victims had prior knowledge of their perpetrators, allowing them to provide descriptions that helped in prosecution.

The study highlights the language of rape, particularly focusing on the illocutionary acts, linguistic strategies, and social patterns that emerge from victim testimonies. The results suggest that linguistic cues in victim statements can provide valuable insights into the dynamics of power and coercion in rape cases. Additionally, the study underscores the importance of interrogation techniques used by legal professionals in eliciting crucial details from victims.

The analysis further supports the theory that language plays a vital role in legal proceedings, influencing how rape cases are understood and prosecuted.

Patterns and Trends of Rape Cases in Ifugao Provinces

The rise in reported rape incidents in Ifugao province, particularly in residential areas, has become a pressing concern for law enforcement and community leaders. This study investigates the patterns and trends of rape cases from 2016 to 2020, examining factors such as victim and perpetrator demographics, the relationship between victims and suspects, the time and place of occurrence, and the effectiveness of rape prevention programs. By analyzing these aspects, the study aims to provide insights for developing targeted interventions and strengthening crime prevention strategies.

The study employed a descriptive research approach, utilizing documentary analysis and surveys to examine reported rape cases from 2016 to 2020. Data collection focused on identifying trends in victim and perpetrator demographics, the time and location of occurrences, and the impact of prevention programs. Additionally, surveys were conducted among barangay officials and police personnel to evaluate the implementation of rape prevention initiatives. To support the analysis, relevant foreign and local literature on sexual offenses, particularly those involving young offenders, were reviewed.

The findings revealed that victims aged 1 to 12 were the most commonly targeted, with 117 cases reported between 2016 and 2020. Perpetrators were predominantly adults aged 18 to 64, accounting for 199 cases. Most victims had no prior relationship with their offenders, while boyfriends, acquaintances, and neighbors were the least reported perpetrators. The study also found that rape incidents occurred most frequently in residential areas. Regarding the time of occurrence, cases were reported between 5:00 AM and 11:00 AM in 2016 and 2020, whereas from 2017 to 2019, incidents were more common between 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM. Furthermore, police community relations programs for rape prevention were rated as highly implemented by barangay officials, while police personnel also expressed confidence in their execution. However, a disparity was noted in how barangay officials and police personnel assessed the effectiveness of these programs, suggesting potential gaps in coordination and implementation.

The study highlights critical patterns in rape cases, emphasizing the vulnerability of young children, the prevalence of adult offenders, and the tendency for these crimes to occur in residential areas. The findings suggest that targeted interventions should focus on high-risk locations and vulnerable hours to enhance crime prevention efforts. Additionally, the identified disparity in program assessment calls for better collaboration between law enforcement agencies and community officials. Insights from related literature further underscore the importance of addressing individual risk factors, developmental pathways, and societal influences that contribute to sexual offending (Paliha & Donato, 2023).

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter contains a detailed description of the method and procedures that the researchers utilize to pursue the objectives of the study.

Research Method and Design

This research used a mixed research method. Mixed methods research is the type of research in which a researcher or team of researchers combines elements of qualitative and quantitative research approaches for the broad purposes of breadth and depth of understanding and corroboration (Johnson et al., 2007).

Further, this study uses explanatory sequential design in order to identify the classification of young sexual offenders according to their experiences. Stebbins, R. A. (2001), Explanatory sequential design is a mixed-methods research approach where quantitative data is collected and analyzed first, followed by qualitative data collection and analysis to explain or expand on the initial quantitative findings. This design helps researchers gain a deeper understanding of the results by exploring contextual or underlying factors that cannot be captured by numbers alone (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2018).

Population and Locale of the Study

The participants that were chosen in this study are called in this study as young sexual offenders. The participants were minors when they committed rape and were not aware of the consequences. There are 10 participants who willingly cooperated in the study. The participants came from the different municipalities in Ilocos Norte, particularly in Batac City (2 participants), Piddig (3 participants), Sarrat (2 participants), Pagudpud (2 participants), and Laoag City (1 participant).

The researchers use purposive sampling as a sampling method to gather in-depth data and understand their experiences from the chosen participants. Purposive sampling refers to selecting a participant based on their experiences and knowledge, and it allows researchers to focus on specific areas of interest and gather in-depth data regarding the study. Etikan, I., Musa, S. A., and Alkassim, R. S. (2016). Purposive sampling is effective when researchers aim to study specific traits or conditions. It allows the researcher to focus on cases that are rich in information and central to the study.

Data Gathering Tool

In this study, the researchers used a survey questionnaire for quantitative data and an interview guide for qualitative data. For the quantitative data, the survey includes identifying the participants actions in committing the crime, specifically the factors, strategies, means, and effects on their psychological and sociological state. For qualitative data, the interview guide was used to understand the lessons learned of the participants after the commission of the crime.

Creswell (2017) argues that surveys provide measurable and generalizable data. Utilize closed-ended questions to collect numerical data for statistical analysis. Further, Kvale (1996) highlights the value of qualitative interviews in uncovering complex phenomena. Structured, semi-structured, or unstructured interviews are used to collect

in-depth insights into participants' experiences, opinions, and motivations.

To ensure the accuracy, reliability, and validity of the data collected, the researchers conduct pilot testing as a preliminary test of the tool with a small representative sample of the target population, particularly in the City of Batac and Laoag with 1 participant each. This helps identify any issues with the tool's design, clarity, and usability. The researchers created a questionnaire and interview guide consisting of different questions regarding the typology of young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte, particularly the factors, the strategies, means, the psychological, social effects and the lessons they have learned.

Data Gathering Procedure

After the validation of the interview guide, questionnaire, and informed consent, the researchers gathered data from the participants with approved data-gathering tools. The researchers asked for the consent of the participants and explained the importance of their response to the study.

Next, the participants were held in a secure and private setting based on their preferences. The researchers provided a questionnaire to the participants for them to answer the quantitative data and then conducted follow-up questions for clarification regarding their answers. Then after, interviews were conducted as the last method of the study with a recording device to ensure the accuracy and exact documentation of all information. Lastly, the gathered data and recorded responses are treated with statistical tools and transcribed for interpretation and analysis so that the

researchers can use the structured interview guide to obtain the data required for the actual interview. The actual interview followed the same procedure as the interviews for validity and reliability.

Treatment of Data

The data gathered in the quantitative part was treated through frequency and rank. Frequency refers to the number of times a particular value, response, or event occurs in a dataset. It is often used to identify the most common or least common occurrences within a variable (Neuman, 2014). Rank it refers to the process of ordering data based on a specific criterion, such as importance, magnitude, or frequency. Ranking provides a clear visualization of the hierarchy within the data (Creswell, 2014).

Further, thematic analysis was used in this study to know the lesson that they learned after committing sexual acts by the young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte, a method of analyzing qualitative data usually used in relation to a collection of texts, such as recordings or interviews. Thematic analysis is the study of patterns to uncover meaning. In other words, it's about analyzing the patterns and themes within your data set to identify the underlying meaning (Crosley, 2021).

Ethical Consideration

Research on young sexual offenders addresses sensitive issues and discusses how a young sexual offender lives in the present, for which ethical guidelines must be established. This part of the research shows what is important to consider ethically and how to preserve the participants'

rights and goods while maintaining the research's genuineness. This ensures that participants understand what participation entails and can make an informed decision (Sieber, 2009). In this study, informed consent was obtained from all participants, ensuring they were fully aware of the research's purpose, procedures, potential risks, and benefits. Participation was entirely voluntary, with individuals free to withdraw at any stage without repercussions. Confidentiality and anonymity were strictly maintained by anonymizing personal information and securely storing data to prevent unauthorized access. Efforts were made to minimize harm by addressing potential risks and providing support resources for sensitive topics.

Applying ethics in data gathering is essential for ensuring the integrity, credibility, and fairness of research. It involves respecting the rights, privacy, and dignity of participants while adhering to principles of honesty, transparency, and accountability. Researchers must obtain informed consent, protect confidentiality, and ensure that participation is voluntary and free from coercion.

CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION, AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter presents, interprets and analyzes the typology of young sexual offenders using Thematic Analysis, identifying recurring themes in their behavior and motivations. The study aims to provide insights into the factors contributing to offending behaviors among young individuals, focusing on

Ten Young Sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte. The findings can inform treatment and intervention strategies, shedding light on the characteristics, motivation, and environmental influences that contribute to these behaviors.

The factors that influence Young Sexual offenders to commit the sexual act.

Sexual behavior, like all human actions, is influenced by a complex interplay of biological, psychological, social, and environmental factors. Understanding these factors is vital for addressing the root causes, fostering empathy, and creating effective interventions to prevent such acts.

Table 1. The factors that influence the Young Sexual offenders to commit the sexual act.

N=10

Factors that influence to commit crime	Frequency	Rank
a) Alcohol	8	1
b) Pornography	6	2
c) Curiosity	6	2
d) Peer Influence	5	3
e) Digital Influence	4	4
f) Drugs	1	5
g) Parenting Issues	0	6

Table 1 indicates that alcohol ranks first as a contributing factor to offenses, with a frequency of 8. Pornography and curiosity follow, both ranking second with a frequency of 6, while peer influence is third with a frequency of 5. Digital influence ranks fourth with a frequency of 4, and drugs rank fifth with a frequency of 1. Parenting issues hold the lowest rank, with a frequency of 0.

This data highlights alcohol as the most influential factor, while parenting issues appear to have no recorded influence. The significant presence of pornography, curiosity, and peer influence suggests that external environmental and social factors play a crucial role in shaping behaviors.

The highest-ranked factor, alcohol, is further supported by the statements of Participant 1, who stated:

"Idi nag sho shot kami kadagijay barkada na ken barkadak ag aammo da ngamin tapos idi mabartek kamin naubrak diyay nga krimen ta napigsa met tama min."

(When we had the drinking session where my friends and her friends met, we got drunk, which led me to commit the crime.)

Participant 3 also supported the claim and said:

"naibarbarkada nak iti mas natataengan ngem siyak isu nga naisungsung nak pay iti aldaw aldaw a panaginom iti arak"

(I became part of an older peer group, which heavily influenced me to drink alcohol almost every day.)

Participant 4 also mentioned:

"naubrak ngamin ta idi nabartekak ken nabartek met isuna ket isu tay naawanan nak kontrol ti sarilik isu nga naubrak ti kasjay a banag"

(I committed the crime because I was drunk, and she was also intoxicated. I lost control of myself in that moment.)

Participant 6 supported the claim that and said:

"permit bartek ko nga jak ammo ububraekon ken jak ammo mapspasamak ti aglawlawkon kasla na blanko nak

idin su siguro jak nateppelanen nga naubrak dejay nga banag"

(I was extremely drunk to the point that I no longer knew what I was doing or had any awareness of my surroundings. It was as if my mind went blank, and maybe that's why I lost control and ended up committing the crime.)

Participant 7 also said:

"napan kam nagiinom kadwa mi dagitay barkada na sa idi medyo nabartek kamin ket iyar arit da met kenyak tay mesa nga barkada nan idi kwan napan ko inabayen ta kursonadak met"

(We went out drinking with her friends, and when we were already drunk, they started teasing me with their other friends. I went near her because I liked her.)

Participant 9 further expressed:

"Gapu ka dayta arak gamin napaalistok nga naaramid detoy balak ko"

(Because of the alcohol, I was able to act on my plans quickly.)

The findings of this study indicate that alcohol ranks as the highest contributing factor to committing the sexual act. Alcohol consumption alters social dynamics and situational contexts, creating an environment where boundaries may become blurred. Many perpetrators justify their actions by attributing their behavior to intoxication, believing that being under the influence lessens their responsibility for their actions. Another key aspect of alcohol-related offenses is the influence of

peer pressure and social settings. Drinking sessions often occur in groups, where individuals may feel encouraged to behave recklessly due to the normalization of excessive alcohol consumption. In such settings, perpetrators may feel emboldened by their peers, leading to situations where they act without considering the consequences of their actions. Furthermore, mutual alcohol consumption between perpetrators and victims can complicate issues of consent and accountability. Victims who are intoxicated may be less able to resist or clearly communicate non-consent, while perpetrators may exploit the situation.

This aligns with previous research, such as Testa & Livingston (2009), which highlights the strong correlation between alcohol consumption and an increased likelihood of coercive sexual behaviors. Alcohol significantly impairs cognitive functioning, reducing an individual's ability to make rational decisions and recognize social and moral boundaries. This impairment often leads to poor impulse control, making individuals more likely to engage in aggressive or inappropriate sexual behaviors.

The strategies used by the Young Sexual offenders before committing the sexual act.

Understanding the strategies employed by young individuals who commit acts of molestation is a crucial step in addressing and preventing such behaviors. It is essential to approach this sensitive topic with the aim of promoting awareness and prevention. This segment revealed the strategies used by the participants in committing their crime.

Table 2. The strategies used by the Young Sexual offenders before committing the sexual act.

N=10

Strategies used	Frequency	Rank
1. Intoxication	8	1
2. Taking advantage of the environment	7	2
3. Impulsivity	5	3
4. Taking advantage of feelings	5	3
5. Stalked the Victim	4	4

Table 2 presents the ranking of strategies employed by young sexual offenders before committing the act. The findings indicate that intoxication ranks first, with a frequency of 8, followed by taking advantage of the environment, which ranks second with a frequency of 7. Impulsivity and taking advantage of feelings share the third rank, each with a frequency of 5. The lowest-ranking strategy is stalking the victim, with a frequency of 4.

Further analysis of this section reinforces the prominence of intoxication as the most frequently used strategy, as it holds the highest rank. Meanwhile, stalking the victim remains the least employed approach.

The dominance of intoxication as a strategy is supported by Participant 1, who stated:

"Isu gamin meysa gapu na nu apay naubrak detuy nga krimen ta idi nakainom kami isu ti naubrak nga pampaitured ko nga agubra ti madi."

(It is one of the reasons why I committed the act. I got drunk, and it gave me the courage to do it.)

Participant 4 also supports this and said:

"Idi nabarteken ket kinalkallabay ko nga intulod diyay kwarto ti barkadak ta paturogen isuna dijay ngem idi naipaidda kon ket sabali met ti napan panunot kon nga awan nak iti sarilik isu nga naubrak iti banag nga kasjay kenyana''

(When she got drunk, I accompanied her to my friend's room so she could sleep. However, when I put her on the bed, I lost control of myself and did what I was not supposed to do.)

Participant 6 also said:

"Nabartek isuna nga nagawid sapela nairana nga nabartek nak isu inusar ko dejay nga gundawayen tapno maaramid ko diyay nga banag kanyana''

(She went home drunk, and I was also drunk, so I used that opportunity to do the act.)

Participant 7 additionally shared:

" Iyaw awatak latta inumen na tapno mabartek ko isuna sa idin ket nagpakada isuna nga mapan umisbo isu met diyayen nakastrek nak jay cr'n ken dagos ko inrikep jay ridaw na tapno duduwa kam la diyay uneg''

(I continued pouring her drinks to get her drunk. Then, when she went to the comfort room, I followed her and closed the door so that we could be alone.)

Participant 9 further expressed:

"Agbarkada kami okay lang nga agkakainoman kami ken naasideg rikna na kanyak isu napaalistok nga naubra diyay kayat ko''

(We are friends, so it was okay for us to drink together. We are very close, which is why I quickly acted on what I wanted.)

It is evident that intoxication played a significant role in their decision-making, lowering their inhibitions and leading to actions they might not have committed while sober. The offenders took advantage of the victims' vulnerability, often manipulating the situation to ensure the victims were intoxicated and unable to resist. This pattern highlights how alcohol can be used as a tool to facilitate offenses, emphasizing the need for awareness and preventive measures to address such behaviors.

Recognizing these tactics is vital for prevention, as it empowers individuals, families, and communities to identify potential risks and take proactive measures to safeguard vulnerable individuals. Educating society on these behaviors and fostering an environment that prioritizes consent, respect, and accountability can significantly reduce the prevalence of molestation.

Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assault (AFSA), studies showing how alcohol lowers inhibitions and impairs judgment. Research into the deliberate use of alcohol to make victims more compliant. This study proves that intoxicated individuals are often targeted and also the effects of intoxication on memory, awareness, and physical resistance.

Perpetrators of molestation often use alcohol as a tool to increase their chances of exploitation, emphasizing the calculated nature of these acts. The deliberate use of

intoxication in molestation strategies reveals a premeditated approach by offenders to manipulate and control their victims.

Preventing AFSA requires a multi-faceted approach, including raising awareness about these tactics, fostering safe environments, implementing bystander intervention programs, and encouraging open conversations about consent and personal boundaries. Empowering individuals to recognize and mitigate these risks is crucial in reducing the prevalence of such crimes. Studies show that alcohol is involved in 50-70% of sexual assault cases on college campuses (Abbey, 2011).

The means used by the Young Sexual offenders during the commission of the sexual act.

Understanding the "means" is crucial for identifying, preventing, and addressing molestation, as it sheds light on how perpetrators manipulate circumstances or individuals to carry out such acts.

Table 3. The means used by the Young Sexual offenders during the commission of the sexual act.

N=10

Means used	Frequency	Rank
1. Strength	8	1
2. Verbal Threat	5	2
3. Physical Threat Through Instruments	0	3

Table 3 shows that strength ranks first with a frequency of 8, verbal threat ranks second with a frequency of 5, and the lowest rank is physical threat through instruments, with a frequency of 0.

Furthermore, this section highlights the means used by young sexual offenders during the commission of the act. Strength ranks highest with a frequency of 8, while physical threat through instruments has the lowest frequency of 0.

The highest-ranking method is further supported by the statements of

Participant 1, who stated:

"Idi nabartek ngaminen , binagkat kon ta maul ulaw idin tas idi iggamak tay dwa nga ima na kasla lumaban idi isu nga pwinersaak''

(When she was drunk, I carried her and held both of her hands. She tried to resist, but I forced myself to hold her tightly.)

Participant 2 also supports this and said:

"Idi lumaban suna, pinawilak nga umadayo''

(When she fought back, I never let her go.)

Participant 3 also said:

"Pinilit ko nga inggawid tapos sinubbot nak nga tinungpa tapos medyo bimmara toy panonot ko isu nga naubrak nga nadanog iti boksit na nga rason a nagkapsotan na sako intuloy iti panagrames ko''

(I held her tightly, so she slapped me. Because of that, I got angry and punched her in the stomach, which caused her to weaken, allowing me to continue the sexual act.)

Participant 5 further expressed:

"Idi naalak tiyempo kon dagos ko tinengngel jay ima na sako inikkat dagitay arwaten na''

(When I got the opportunity, I immediately grabbed her hands and removed her dress.)

Participant 6 also supports this and said:

"Pilpiliten na nga maka takas ken lumaban isuna ngem pwinersak nga inarakop sako intali jay badok dejay ima na tapno madi maka pigsa idi''

(She tried her best to escape and fight, but I forcefully hugged her and used my shirt to tie her hands so she would be restrained.)

Participant 7 further stated:

"Dagos ko met nga binagkat sako inpatugaw isuna diyay lababo ti cr''

(I immediately carried her and placed her on the sink in the restroom)

Participant 8 additionally shared:

"'Inggawid ko iti duwa nga ima na sako tinakoban ngiwat na tapno han nga agiryak tapos idi malmalpasen ket napan nak induron isu nga nagtartarayak''

("I restrained her hands and covered her mouth to prevent her from screaming. However, when I was nearly finished with the act, she pushed me away, so I quickly ran away.)

Participant 9 also mentioned:

"Kinallubak bado diyay ngiwat na sako iniggaman tay duwa nga ima na kasi medyo lumaban pela idi''

(I covered her mouth with my shirt and held her hands because she was trying to resist.)

Participant 10 further stated:

"Iniggamak isuna inarakop sako inyidda isuna''

(I held her and hugged her, then laid her down)

The findings revealed that physical strength was the most commonly used means during the commission of the act, emphasizing the perpetrators' use of force to overpower their victims. Molestation is often a calculated act where perpetrators employ various means to manipulate, overpower, or exploit their victims. These means are tailored to the victim's vulnerabilities and the circumstances, ensuring the abuse is carried out with minimal resistance and a lower risk of detection.

The means used during molestation refer to the tools, methods, or strategies that perpetrators employ to carry out and conceal their abusive actions. Recognizing these methods is crucial for identifying abuse and implementing safeguards. By understanding these tactics, individuals and communities can become more vigilant and proactive in protecting vulnerable individuals and ensuring accountability for perpetrators.

DeKeseredy (2011), this book explores how abusers use physical strength to exert power in both domestic and sexual violence contexts. DeKeseredy highlights that perpetrators often rely on their physical attributes to intimidate or overpower their victims, making it harder for the victim to escape or resist. Further, physical force or restraint is sometimes employed to overpower the victim. Conte. (1989) found that physical coercion is less common than psychological tactics but still used in certain cases.

The psychological effects to the Young Sexual offenders after committing the sexual act

Understanding the psychological consequences of molestation is essential for providing adequate support and care to survivors. By recognizing the mental health challenges they face, society can better address their needs, reduce stigma, and promote healing through therapeutic interventions, social support, and advocacy.

Table 4. The psychological effects on the Young Sexual offenders after committing the sexual act.

N=10

Psychological effects	Frequency	Rank
1. Shame	9	1
2. Remorse	8	2
3. Fear	7	3
4. Suicidal	3	4

Table 4 reveals that shame ranks highest, with a frequency of 9, followed by remorse at 8, fear at 7, and suicidal tendencies ranking the lowest at 3. This section highlights the psychological impact experienced by young sexual offenders after committing the act. Among the reported emotions, shame emerged as the most prevalent, while suicidal thoughts were the least common.

These findings are further supported by the statements of Participant 1, who expressed deep feelings of regret and self-reproach."

"Ada pay tay time idi nga mababainak nga rumwar ta naamwan tao idin''

("There was even a time when I felt ashamed to go out because people in the community knew what I did.)

Participant 2 also supports this and said:

'Mabainnak permi iti bagbaggik ta diyay naka aramidak iti krimen''

(I felt ashamed because of the crime I had committed.)

Participant 3 also said:

"Mabainak iti ubrak ta nairamraman pay nagannak ko nga naibabainen gapo laeng kanyak"

(I felt ashamed of what I did because my parents were also affected.)

Participant 4 further expressed:

"Gapo kadetay kinabartek ko ket naawanan nak kontrol iti bagbagik isu nga gapo na nga permi babain ko pay gapo iti inubrak nga pinangrames''

(Because of my drunkenness, I was not able to control myself, which is why I felt ashamed of what I had done.)

Participant 5 further stated:

''Permi babain ko pay gapo iti inubrak nga pinangrames''

(I felt ashamed because of the crime I committed.)

Participant 7 also mentioned:

''Permi bain ko idi ken mabuteng nak kadiyay barkadak ta naubrak kasjay ken barkada na''

(I felt ashamed and was even afraid of my friends because of what I had done to their friend.)

Participant 8 additionally shared:

''Maysa pay iti panagbain aglalo ta naamwan iti barangay

mi a kasjay iti inubrak''

(I felt ashamed because the people in the barangay found out about what I had done.)

Participant 9 also said:

''Permi unay babain kon insardeng ko pay nagbasan ta

kanayun dak luklukwen''

(I felt ashamed and even stopped schooling because they always teased me about what I had done.)

Participant 10 further stated:

''Haan nak rumrumwar idin mababainakon umiwiwas nak

pay nukwan kadagiti tattaon gapu diyay nga aramid ko''

(I no longer go out; I felt ashamed and avoided mingling with people because of what I had done.)

The findings reveal that shame is the most prevalent psychological effect experienced by young sexual offenders, often leading to social withdrawal, avoidance of community interactions, and even discontinuation of schooling. Additionally, the offenders expressed remorse and fear, particularly due to the reactions of their family, friends, and community, highlighting the long-term emotional consequences of their actions.

Freeman (1998), discussed how perpetrators who feel guilt and shame may engage in self-punishment, either emotionally or physically, in an attempt to cope with their internal turmoil. Shame, a psychological reaction to social and moral wrongdoing, can cause intense distress and guilt for perpetrators, especially those with a moral conscience. Factors like cognitive dissonance, empathy, self-justification, and the cycle of abuse influence how shame manifests in offenders.

Understanding how shame affects perpetrators is critical for developing more effective therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation programs. It can also help in understanding the complex psychological landscape that offenders navigate, contributing to better strategies for preventing reoffending and promoting recovery. Molestation affects young offenders psychologically due to early life experiences, emotional development, and cognitive distortions. Some may display guilt or confusion, while others rationalize their actions. Many offenders come from abusive or neglectful backgrounds. However, with proper intervention, therapy, and support, they can be rehabilitated, leading to healthier relationships, boundaries, and appropriate sexual behaviors. Early intervention is crucial for breaking abuse cycles.

The social effects to the Young Sexual offenders after committing the sexual act When a young individual engages in molestation, it can disrupt their social development, hinder the formation of healthy relationships, and often result in social isolation or stigmatization.

Table 5. The social effects on the Young Sexual offenders after committing the sexual act.

N=10

Social effects	Frequency	Rank
1. Self-Isolation	10	1
2. Family Dynamics	6	2
3. Loss of Community Trust	4	3

Table 5 shows that self-isolation ranks first with a frequency of 10, family dynamics ranks second with a

frequency of 6, and the lowest rank is third, which is the loss of community trust, with a frequency of 4.

The highest-ranking effect is further supported by the statement of

Participant 1, who stated:

"Immadayo nak idin napan nak nagyan sabali nga lugar, nagsardengak pay nga nagbasa idin nagubra nak lattan aginggana nga nailiw liwak ken naiyaw awan ko diyay nga napasamak."

(I moved out and went to another place. I stopped schooling and worked until I was able to distract myself and somewhat forget what I had done.)

Participant 2 also supports this and said:

"Nag isolate nak idi tapnu haan nga madlaw nga ada madi nga naaramid ko"

(I isolated myself so that people would not find out what I had done.)

Participant 3 also said:

"Jak pulos rumrumwar idi sa iyad adayok pay bagbagik iti tattaon"

(I never went out and distanced myself from other people.)

Participant 4 also supports this and said:

"Siyak mismo nangiyadayo iti bagik kanyadan ta ammok nga didak kaya ituring a barkadan gapo tay naubrak"

(I distanced myself from them because I knew they could no longer consider me their friend because of what I had done.)

Participant 5 also stated:

"Idi ngamin kalpasan diyay nga inubrak ket agpuppupuk nak latta ayan ti kwarto kase mabain nak"

(After what happened, I just stayed in my room because I felt ashamed of what I had done.)

Participant 6 further expressed:

"Ket adda ak latta diyay kwartok idi agtaka pag dagijay pamilyak idi nu apay nga haan nak unay rumrumwar ta sanak la rumwar jay kwartok idi nu mangan nak"

(I isolated myself and stayed in my room. My family was even puzzled because I didn't go out often, only leaving my room to eat.)

Participant 7 also mentioned:

"Ket adda ak latta ti balay mi kasla iti mapanpanunot ko ket baka nu rumwar nak ket adda mang bales kanyak gapo kadiyay nga naubrak"

(I always stayed at home because I thought that if I went out, someone might retaliate against me for what I had done.)

Participant 8 also supports this and said:

"Inyadayok iti bagik idi ta permi nak mabain"

(I distanced myself from others before because I was ashamed of what I had done.

Participant 9 additionally shared:

"Detan a permi nga nagkulkulong nak lattan rumwar nak met ngem kitkitan dak unay kasla nakla matudtudok dagiyay pinangkitkita da kanyak"

(I locked myself in my room. I sometimes went out, but people stared at me, and I felt as if they were judging me by the way they looked at me.)

Participant 10 further stated:

"Haanak rumrumwar idin mababainakon umiwiwasak py nukwan kadagiti tataon gapu diyay nga aramid ko''

(I never go out anymore because I feel ashamed of what I have done. I even distance myself from people.)

Briere and Elliot (2003) found that self-isolation was a key coping mechanism for adult survivors of molestation, contributing to the difficulty they face in maintaining healthy relationships.

The results indicate that self-isolation is the most common social effect experienced by the participants, as many chose to withdraw from their communities due to shame and fear of judgment. These effects ripple outward, impacting the offender's family, peers, and the broader community. Addressing these social consequences requires a holistic approach that includes rehabilitation, therapy, and community support systems. By addressing both the offender's needs and the broader social implications, it is possible to foster healing and reduce the risk of reoffending, while promoting healthier, more supportive social environments.

This behavior can be a response to feelings of shame, guilt, or anxiety, particularly for individuals who have committed harmful actions or faced trauma. For a young sexual offender, self-isolation may be a coping mechanism in response to overwhelming feelings of guilt, fear of judgment, or social rejection. They may withdraw from friends, family, and peers to avoid facing the consequences of their actions or because they feel unworthy of social connection.

Self-isolation refers to a state where individuals withdraw from social interactions, either voluntarily or as a result of external circumstances. In the context of sexual offenders (Hanson & Harris, 2001). Self-isolation is a pervasive social effect of molestation, driven by the trauma, shame, and trust issues that victim's experience. Social withdrawal in survivors can hinder recovery, limit access to support networks, and worsen mental health issues. Understanding social dynamics leading to self-isolation is crucial for effective interventions. Safe spaces, social support, and open dialogue are essential for re-engaging with social environments and rebuilding lives.

The lesson learned by the Young Sexual offenders after committing the sexual act

This section unfolds the themes formulated from the data gathered based on the lesson learned of the Young sexual offenders from the commission of the crime:

Setting Boundaries

Cloud and Townsend (1992), emphasized that boundaries help individuals take responsibility for their own lives while allowing others to take responsibility for theirs. In this study, boundaries refer to the physical, emotional, and psychological limits established to protect oneself from being manipulated, overwhelmed, or drained by others.

The theme setting boundaries around social media, friendships, and alcohol is supported by the statements of the participants,

Participant 1 said that:

"Iwasan ti maki barkada ken bisyo aglalo nu ubing tayo, isu detuy ti dakkel nga rason nu apay naubrak detuy nga krimen dapat nga kontrolen ti marik rikna tayo aglalo nu barka barkada kasjay"

(Avoid hanging out with friends and engaging in vices, especially at a young age, as these were the main reasons I committed such a crime. We must learn to control our emotions, particularly when influenced by our peers.)

This is further supported by Participant 2 and stated:

"Kitan tayo dagiti adding tayo, dagiti ubbingnu anat mabuybuya da ta cellphone kase isu iti mesa nga nang-allukoy tapnu maubrak detoy"

(Pay attention to our younger siblings, as the content they see on their phones can influence them and encourage them to engage in illegal acts.)

Participant 3 further expressed:

"Sumurot iti usto a barkada ken iwasanagitay barkada nga agisungsung iti pangita bisyo ta deta bisyo iti mangiturong iti pangit a dalan iti maysa a kinatao tayo"

(Choose friends wisely and avoid those who influence you to engage in bad habits or vices that can lead you down the wrong path.)

Participant 4 additionally shared:

"Permi nga panagarak ket madi ta detoy mismo mangpukaw iti kontrol yanti bagbagi ta di ammo nukwan iti ub ubraenen nu permi nga nabartek ti taon"

(Excessive drinking of alcohol can lead to a loss of self-control, making you unaware of your actions due to intoxication.)

Further, according to Participant 6:

"Haan yu pela unay panpanunuten dagita nga banbanag ta mauray latta ken haan kay pela agbisbisyo aglalo deta arak ta perdien nakayo ta dakkel ti epekto na ta panunot yo nu masobraan yo"

(Do not dwell on "that" thing because it can wait. Avoid engaging in vices, especially drinking alcohol, as excessive consumption can have a significant negative impact on your life.)

Additionally, as stated by Participant 7:

"Iwasan yo pela ti agbisbisyo ta dakkel epekto na kinyayo eta nga agaramid ti madi ken iwasan tay ti makibarkada aglalo nu isungsong dakayo ti madi"

(Stay away from vices, as they can greatly impact your actions and lead you to commit something wrong. Refrain from joining peers who may influence you to do things you are not supposed to do.)

Further supported by Participant 8 and states that:

"Saan nga dapat maad adik iti pornngamabuybuya aglalo ayanti social mediata adot ited na nga kinadakes aglalo kaagitay babbarito"

(Don't become addicted to pornography, especially those found on social media, as it can influence you to do bad things, particularly affecting young individuals.)

Participant 10, further stated:

"Awan maited na ti pinag buybuya ti porn kada kina uttog aglalo tatta detoygaminhenerasyon tayo ket sabsabali aggressive tayon"

(Nothing good will come from watching pornography and indulging in lust, especially in this generation where people have become increasingly aggressive.)

Setting boundaries around social media, friendships, and alcohol is crucial for maintaining a balanced and healthy lifestyle. These boundaries help protect your mental, emotional, and physical well-being, allowing you to engage in relationships and activities in a way that supports your values and needs. By clearly defining your limits and learning to communicate them assertively, you can create an environment where you feel empowered, respected, and in control of your interactions and behaviors.

Research highlights that setting boundaries involves clearly defined rules and limits that govern interpersonal interactions. According to Chapman and Linehan (2019), boundaries are crucial for maintaining personal integrity and preventing emotional burnout. They ensure individuals can balance their needs with the demands of relationships or social roles.

Setting clear boundaries in areas such as social media, friendships, and alcohol consumption plays a critical role in protecting individuals from situations that may increase their vulnerability to molestation. These boundaries empower individuals to maintain control over their environments,

interactions, and personal safety. Setting boundaries is a fundamental aspect of maintaining healthy relationships and personal well-being. It involves defining and communicating personal limits in a clear and respectful manner to protect emotional, physical, and mental health. Boundaries help individuals navigate relationships, balance responsibilities, and assert their needs while respecting others' autonomy.

Impulse Control

Baumeister (1994) defines impulse control as a vital component of self-regulation, necessary for maintaining discipline and achieving goals. In this study, impulse control refers to the ability to resist urges, temptations, or impulses that may lead to harmful or undesirable behavior.

The theme reflecting on impulse control is supported by the statements of the participants, as

Participant 1 said that

"Dapat nga kontrolen ti marik rikna tayo aglalo nu barka barkada kasjay"

(We have to control our emotions, especially when surrounded by friends who may influence us to do the wrong things.)

Further supported by Participant 2 and stated:

"Haan tay agpadalos dalos iti ububra ken haan tay agpadpadala iti emosyon kasi datayo metla agsagrap iti maudi"

(Don't be hasty in making decisions, and don't let your emotions overwhelm you, as they can lead to negative consequences.)

Participant 5 further expressed:

"Dapat ammo tay nga teppelan dagiti marikrikna tayo ken agbasa tay nalaing pelang ken haan yo pela panpanunuten dagita nga banag"

(We should learn to control our emotions and focus on studying for the time being instead of thinking about such things.)

Participant 9 further stated:

"Pagpanunutan yo nga nalaing no ana ti ubraen yo haan nga tay padalus dalus kau gapu laeng ti kina curiosity yo adu ti maperdi gapu ka deta nga banag"

(Think carefully before taking any action. Don't be hasty, and don't let curiosity lead you down the wrong path.)

Impulse control involves specific, measurable actions taken by an individual to evaluate and improve their ability to regulate impulsive behaviors. It includes observing and identifying moments when they feel an urge to act impulsively. Noting the situations, emotions, or thoughts that lead to impulsive actions. Reflecting on the outcomes of previous impulsive behaviors to understand their impact.

Gross and Thompson (2007) define emotional regulation as the process of influencing which emotions one has, when they are experienced, and how they are expressed. Reflecting on impulse control helps individuals assess how emotional states influence impulsive actions and develop strategies to manage these emotions. By reflecting on their impulses, individuals can better understand the role of emotional triggers and create healthier coping mechanisms to manage stress, anger, or excitement.

Reflecting on impulse control involves examining one's capacity to regulate immediate desires, emotions, or behaviors to achieve long-term goals and maintain social harmony. This reflective process is essential for personal growth, effective decision-making, and mental well-being. Reflecting on impulse control is a dynamic process that requires commitment, self-honesty, and a willingness to change. By engaging in this practice, individuals can develop greater self-discipline, make more thoughtful decisions, and lead more fulfilling lives.

Informative Video Output:

"May Alak, May Balak"

Typology of Young Sexual Offenders Informative Video
RATIONALE

Alcohol is a prevalent factor in sexual assault cases, often lowering inhibitions, impairing judgment, and distorting perceptions of consent (Abbey, 2011). While many individuals assume that drinking with friends provides a layer of security, research indicates that alcohol can create risks even within trusted social circles. Although friends may offer support, their own intoxication can hinder their ability to recognize potential dangers or intervene effectively (Krahé, 2016). This false sense of security can leave individuals vulnerable to perpetrators, including acquaintances or even friends, who may exploit an intoxicated state (Testa & Livingston, 2009).

Furthermore, alcohol consumption has been shown to heighten misinterpretations of social cues. Intoxicated individuals are more likely to mistake friendliness for sexual interest, increasing the likelihood of boundary violations and non-consensual encounters. This distortion of judgment underscores the need for proactive awareness and risk-reduction strategies.

Given these concerns, it is essential to promote education on personal responsibility and self-protection. Effective strategies include monitoring one's own drink, establishing firm personal boundaries, having a safety plan, and recognizing that while friends can be supportive, they are not always a guaranteed safeguard against harm. By fostering a culture of awareness and accountability, individuals can make informed decisions, minimize risks, and contribute to the prevention of alcohol-related sexual assault.

Objectives:

- To raise awareness about the dangers of relying solely on friends for safety in alcohol-influenced environments.

- To educate individuals on how alcohol impairs judgment, distorts boundaries, and increases vulnerability to sexual assault.

- To emphasize the importance of personal vigilance and proactive self-protection in social drinking settings.

- To provide practical strategies for setting firm boundaries, monitoring alcohol consumption, and identifying potentially risky situations.

- To empower individuals to make informed choices, exercise caution, and take proactive measures to safeguard themselves and others from potential harm.

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CHAPTER V

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SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter provides a summary of the investigation undertaken, the conclusions drawn and the given recommendations forwarded based on the findings.

Summary of the Findings

This study explores the typologies of young sexual offenders in Ilocos Norte using thematic analysis to identify patterns and influences contributing to their actions. The findings highlight alcohol as the most significant influencing factor, while parenting issues had minimal impact.

Among the strategies used, intoxication ranked the highest, with a frequency of 8, while stalking the victim ranked the lowest, with a frequency of 4. In terms of means, physical strength was the most common, ranked first with a frequency of 8, whereas physical threats using instruments ranked the lowest, with a frequency of 0.

Psychologically, shame had the most significant impact, ranked first with a frequency of 9, while suicidal thoughts ranked the lowest, with a frequency of 3. Socially, self-isolation was the most prevalent consequence, ranked first with a frequency of 10, while loss of community trust ranked the lowest, with a frequency of 4.

The lessons learned by young sexual offenders range from recognizing the importance of setting boundaries and self-impulse control.

These findings underscore the need for targeted interventions, including education on impulse control, boundary-setting, and the risks of substance abuse. Rehabilitation programs that address shame, remorse, and dependency issues are essential to preventing reoffending and supporting offenders in reintegrating into society.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

Alcohol significantly contributes to sexual offenses among young offenders, impairing judgment and lowering inhibitions. Contrary to common assumptions, parenting issues had little to no impact on the commission of the act.

Young offenders primarily rely on physical strength to commit their actions, while the use of weapons or external threats is minimal. Feelings of shame and remorse are prevalent among offenders, often leading to self-isolation.

Addressing the root causes of these offenses, such as substance abuse and peer influence, is essential. Educational programs, counseling, and rehabilitation services should be strengthened to prevent reoffending and promote responsible social behavior.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are based on the findings and conclusions of this study;

- The Philippine National Police (PNP), particularly the Women and Children Protection Desk (WCPD), should conduct awareness campaigns in collaboration with schools and local organizations. These campaigns should educate teenagers about the risks associated with alcohol consumption, including its negative effects on health, impaired decision-making, and long-term consequences on their future.

- The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) should develop school-based programs aimed at addressing the misuse of physical strength in peer interactions. These programs should emphasize respect, accountability, and the importance of consent in relationships while discouraging the use of dominance and aggression.

- The Women's Crisis Center (WCC) should promote self-defense training programs tailored for vulnerable groups, including women, children, and individuals at higher risk of molestation. These programs should equip participants with essential skills to protect themselves while fostering confidence and awareness in potentially dangerous situations.

- The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) should implement individual therapy and counseling programs to support young offenders in managing feelings of guilt, shame, and social isolation. Therapeutic interventions, such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), can help them process

emotions, reframe negative thoughts, and develop healthier
coping mechanisms to reintegrate into society.

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