



LGBTQIA+ IN THE HOUSEHOLD

INTRODUCING THE PHILIPPINES

RELIGIOUS

A 2020 consensus presents that about **79% of Filipinos are Roman Catholics**. The study of Roggemans et. al. (2015) states that Christianity influence negative attitudes toward homosexuality as perceive such acts as a violation to their religious value system.



Although Pope Francis, through *Fiducia Supplicans*, allows Catholic priests to bless same-sex couples, former president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) **Archbishop Socrates Villegas** interprets this as the church's prayer for homosexuals' heterosexual conversion.

PATRIARCHAL

The 2022 action research of **Oxfam Philippines** reports that Filipinos still subscribe to the traditional gender roles (e.g., men as the provider of the household in which women manage).



Though traditional gender roles are not absolute in the Philippines, it is still considered as a foreign idea, which influences societal prejudices.

Patriarchal and religious ideologies validate each others' claim that homosexuality is wrong, which influences the household to be harsh on the LGBTQIA+ children

NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES

CHAINED BY RELIGIOUS DOGMA

Filipinos are banking on the idea that God only created man and woman, which is the fundamental basis of their abhorrence to the LGBTQIA+ community (Aperocho et. al., 2023).

The church perceived queerness as a psychological disease or a general disorder (Gregory, 2019).

A lot of LGBTQIA+ individuals disassociate themselves from the church due to its prejudiced nature (Masanda, 2017).

Filipino link the idea of homosexuality to the inevitable demise in hell (Libiran et. al., 2024).

The evidence of spiritual relationship with God is seen as a a cure to homosexuality (Domingo & Escobido, 2024).



INEXHAUSTIBLE MENTAL HEALTH TORTURE

UNICEF's first Philippine Baseline Study on Violence Against Children presents that 76% of LGBTQIA+ children reported that they experience physical abuse and 78.5% experiences psychological abuse.

Parents use verbal violence like shaming and shouting their disappointment to their queer children (Presto, 2020).

LGBTQIA+ children experiences physical violence from parents through tough beating, pushing in the stairway, and general corporal punishments, which causes them to have many bruises (Masanda, 2017).

There are LGBTQIA+ children who are accepted, but only to certain grounds such as not entering same-sex relationships, not cross-dressing, and being discrete with their non-heteronormative traits (Gregory, 2019).

NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES

STANDARDIZING THE ACCEPTABLE QUEER

Parents feel that it is easier to accept their queer children if they are able to hide non-heteronormative traits (Alibudbud, 2023).

There should be positive traits that LGBTQIA+ must have (e.g., being funny, talented, academic-achiever) in order to cover up the family's shame of having a gay family member (Presto, 2020).



EMBRACED BY VIOLENCE

Gender traumas are reinforced when they are met with discrimination, disapproval, and rejection (Domingo & Davis, 2016).

The LGBTQIA+ develops internalized homophobia due to negative parental attitudes (Tan, Reyes, & Davis, 2016).

The family's imposition of the idea that queerness is wrong causes heightened identity confusion, which influences anxiety (Gregory, 2019).

The inescapability of demarcation leads to depression, which eventually influences suicidal ideation (Reyes et. al., 2015).



POSITIVE EXPERIENCES

LIGHT WAITING OUTSIDE THE CLOSET

The LGBTQIA+ children who are struggling to accept themselves find it relatively easier to do so through their supportive parents (Ferrer et. al., 2021).

There are LGBTQIA+ individuals who did not feel the need to come out because their parents already accepted them and showered them with love (Domingo & Escobido, 2024).

Despite being persecuted by the church, some LGBTQIA+ individuals stay faithful to God because they only feel love and acceptance through Him (Libiran et. al., 2024).

SHIELDED BY PARENTAL ACCEPTANCE

Familial acceptance is associated with young adult positive outcomes (Reyes et. al., 2015).

The freedom that LGBTQIA+ individuals have makes it easier to forward causes that benefit the queers (Pinaga, 2023).

It is through parental acceptance that the LGBTQIA+ children have enough mental strength to combat the mental torture brought about by societal discrimination (Domingo & Escobido, 2024).



PROTECTIVE POLICIES

SOGIESC EQUALITY BILL

- The bill recognizes that it is a fundamental right of the people to be free from any form of discrimination.
- The bill protects the people, not just the LGBTQIA+, from gender-based discrimination.
- Here are some of the manifestations of gender-based discrimination as defined by the bill:
 - Mandatory disclosure of one's SOGIESC as a work-related requirement.
 - Denial of admission or expulsion of a person on the basis of their SOGIESC.
 - Imposing disciplinary sanctions to address one's SOGIESC.
 - Forcing a child to undergo medical or psychological examination that determine and/or alter their SOGIESC.
 - Preventing a child to express their sexual orientation and gender identity and inflicting physical and emotional harm against them.
- Here are some of the penalties that the bill wishes to impose:
 - Payment of fine amounting as low as PHP 5,000.00 to PHP 30,000.00 and as high as PHP 100,000.00 to PHP 300,000.00.
 - Short-term imprisonment ranging from 11 days to 30 days.
 - Long-term imprisonment for about 1 to 6 years.
 - Attendance to a Gender Sensitivity Seminar by the Commission on Human Rights.

POSITIVE PARENTING OF CHILDRENS' BILL

- The bill recognizes that physical and humiliating punishments to children affects their physical and psychosocial well-being.
- The bill declares that no child shall be subjected to any form of dehumanizing acts as a form of punishment such as physical and humiliating measures.
- The bill urges offenders to attend positive parenting seminars, anger management psychological sessions, and avail rehabilitative services.

