

FACTORS INFLUENCING GEN Z'S DECISION TO DELAY PARENTHOOD AMONG THE FACULTIES IN BESLINK COLLEGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

ABSTRACT

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This study aims to investigate the factors influencing the decision of Generation Z senior high school (SHS) faculty members at Bestlink College of the Philippines to delay parenthood. With shifting societal norms and growing career demands, Gen Z professionals face complex choices regarding family planning. The research focuses on understanding how financial, personal, professional, and social factors affect their decision to postpone parenthood. This quantitative study employs a descriptive research design and purposive sampling. A total of 17 childless Gen Z SHS faculty members were surveyed using a structured questionnaire. The instrument gathered data on respondents' demographic profiles, perceived advantages and disadvantages of delaying parenthood, and key personal considerations influencing their decision to remain childless. The results indicate that financial stability (Weighted Mean = 3.66) is the most influential factor behind the decision to delay parenthood, primarily due to the high cost of child-rearing and the desire for financial security. Career advancement (3.36) follows closely, as faculty members aim to establish professional stability before embracing parental roles. Personal freedom (3.19) also influences the decision, reflecting the value placed on independence and self-directed living. Social norms (2.99) were reported as the least influential factor, suggesting that respondents prioritize personal and career goals over societal expectations. In terms of perceived advantages, respondents identified achieving financial security (3.36), capitalizing on career opportunities (3.34), and gaining emotional maturity (3.32) as key benefits of delaying parenthood. A commonly noted disadvantage was the decline in physical energy associated with aging (2.79), which could impact their ability to cope with parenting demands later in life. Additional key considerations for remaining childless include financial concerns, the cost of raising children, desire for autonomy, and lifestyle flexibility (Composite Mean = 2.95). The study concludes that a combination of personal priorities, professional aspirations, and financial considerations influence Gen Z faculty members' decision to delay parenthood. These findings underscore the importance of institutional support programs that address career development, financial planning, and personal well-being. Providing access to these resources may empower faculty members to make informed, intentional decisions regarding family planning and future parenthood.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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