

Honing the Lives of the Elderly Towards Successful Aging Based On their Live Experiences as Recipients of Social Services: For Human And Social Capital Development

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ABSTRACT

The world is graying, as its elderly population is. There is a growing public concern expressed, both in print and broadcast media that are research-based on in their fast growing in number and its implications. In this phase of their lives wrought with “kratus” (a season of plenty) or “kairus” (a season of want), how can their lives be honed towards successful aging through social service and their deliveries? The present study formulates and firms up a theory that, “Successful aging is also a function of social services and their deliveries, based on the live experiences of the elderly at this phase of their lives”. It aims for a high level of “awareness”, on the present status of both the human and social capital, for the purposes of development. The researcher subscribed to both the quantitative and qualitative methods of research. Specifically, the statistical treatment and the phenomenological interpretation of data. Research instruments in the forms of questionnaire and narrations were used. There were 100 elderly who served as respondents of the questionnaire and some as narrators and recipients of social services and their deliveries. The questionnaire underwent validation before it was administered to the final elderly – respondents. Narrations, were both from written and interview sources. The data from the questionnaire revealed that the elderly respondents considered their lives as successfully led at this age due to the benefits they have experienced from the social services (GSIS, SSS, Pag-IBIG, Philhealth, OSCA, etc.). The benefits afforded them answers to their wants and needs. However, there were instances in the delivery of services that contributed some disatisfactions disappointments in their lives. The same have been found in the narrations of the elderly. In sum, the social services as systems, contribute to their live experiences of successfully aging. However, speaking of some factors in the delivery of services some provisions have to be done. In this instance, both the recipients of and the people delivering the services have to be supervised because the behavioral and attitudinal aspects of the delivery system are important and significant factors in meeting the needs of the elderly towards their live experiences of successfully aging. The results of the study highlighted the fact that the elderly state of experiencing the benefits of social services are highly related to their successful aging, in as much, as they provided for their wants and needs in their old age. Both the statistical and qualitative data supports to the same. However, there is room for the delivery of the social services systems to be improved. The behavioral and attitudinal aspects of the delivery personnel have to be developed, because they affect the live experiences of the elderly in their development towards successful aging.

Keywords: live experiences, successful aging, social services, social services delivery, human capital, social capital development