



## **Describing the Family- Academic Life Balance of Parents Taking Bachelor of Science in Accountancy**

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### **ABSTRACT**

As parents in the BSA program, it shares a lot of experience of juggling family life with studies. The study was held in Zamboanga del Sur and its target respondents were the parent-graduate of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy Program. This study seeks to examine the experiences of parent-students balancing these competing roles. The research itself is a qualitative study of semi-structured interviews of five parent-students on their responsibility, difficulties, motivations, strategies, and values gain in balancing both roles. Using purposive sampling, the researchers include single mothers who persevered with their academic pursuits. The researchers are able to delve into the complexities of parent-students, examining their challenges and responsibilities as well as their motivations and the strategies employed through case study. The study found that many parent-students reported high levels of stress because of time and financial constraints while balancing school with family responsibilities. But participants also specified ways they found of coping effectively in this situation, including developing set schedules and using support networks. Many also emphasized communication with family and children. The results shine a light on the intricate give and take between family life and academic obligations for parent-students. Though challenges are significant, the strategies these parents adopt indicate resilience and adaptability. This study highlights the importance for educational institutions to understand their parent-students in a unique way and offer them targeted support services, such as flexible class hours, childcare support, counselling to aid their studies, and more.

Keywords: Responsibilities, Motivations, challenges, Strategies, Values

### **1. Introduction**

BSA students are also parents, and being a parent is not always compatible with doing research and publishing. The study is conducted at Zamboanga del Sur and the participants target were parent-graduates of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy Program. In this study, how parent-students experience balancing a role as a parent and as a student will be explored. This research is qualitative research, using semi-structured interview with five parent-students to describe the responsibilities, problems, motivations, strategies, and values obtained in processing the dual roles. The researchers purposively select participants of single mothers who have continued to study. The organized pattern of the archetypes can help the researchers to identify the upkeep of the challenges and responsibilities of parent-students, and the motives and strategies employed can be used by him through the case study method. Many of the parent-students were under a tremendous amount of stress, the study revealed, dealing with time and financial constraints as they balanced coursework with family responsibilities. Yet, participants also highlighted ways in which they coped successfully — with strategies such as devising structured schedules and leaning into social networks.

Many highlighted the role of family and children and without communication with their family, many expressed that it is the most important. The results from this research underscore the mutually re-enforcing way prevalent family life interacts with the academic demands of a parent-student. Yet, the challenges are large, and the response of the parents shows resilience and adaptability. This research highlights the importance of educational institutions acknowledging the specific needs of these parent-students by offering relevant support systems, such as flexible class schedules, childcare options, and academic advising.

### **2. Review of Literature**

#### **Challenges and Resilience of Parent-Students in Accountancy Programs**

Both parenting and schooling are challenging pursuits individually, but together, they complicate the responsibilities of parent-students (Nolasco, 2019). On parent-students in particular, among which student mothers include, they balance the challenge of raising children with higher learning education and often face struggle in time management and financial (Syuraini, 2020). Also, these students have been motivated by their children, support of family and the fact that they want a better career (Visick, 2019). Nonetheless, immigrant students tend to do worse academically than their

peers and have added pressure from financial stress, emotional stress, and lack of adequate institutional support (Padilla & Munoz, 2019; Tejada, 2019). In spite of these challenges, many student mothers show resilience and persistence (Farrell, 2021) typically using personal tactics such as time management and prioritization (Peterson, 2019). Yet, more institutional support is required, as flexible schedules and reliable childcare services, for example, are crucial for the academic success of student-mothers, and their well-being (Richardson & Harrington, 2022; Sullivan, 2018). Few studies have explored the experience of student parents in accountancy programs, and this study attempts to fill that gap by examining the challenges they face, their coping mechanisms, and their support strategies (Padilla & Munoz, 2019).

Moreover, the odyssey of parent-students, especially those who belonged to the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy program, is characterized by a perpetual juggling of academic commitments and familial duties. In addition, these students, particularly mothers experience major challenges including financial difficulties, time management issues, burnout, and absent institutional support (Syuraini, 2020; Tejada, 2023). Nevertheless, their motivation, resilience and determination empower them to face and excel in dual roles (Farrell, 2021). The research also identifies ways in which broader help from institutions could specifically ease such stress felt by the parent-student population, such as flexible class times and dependable childcare services (Richardson & Harrington, 2022; Sullivan, 2018). One prominent gap concerns research on parent-students at accountancy programs, which this study sought to address, delving further into parent-students' unique challenges and coping strategies. As such, also addressing these needs will allow educational organizations to foster more inclusive environments that facilitate the academic success and well-being of parent-students in accountancy (Padilla & Munoz, 2019).

### 3. Methodology

The research environment focused on Zamboanga del Sur, an area noted for the variety of government and private institutions, public and private colleges, and workplaces where the parent-students who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy program work. Indeed, this setting is particularly salient to its vibrant cohort of single mothers; many of which went on to have children during their tenure as undergrads.

The researcher served as the key instrument of the study, conducted by interview question that's fixed and approved by the panelist and advisers to cater the idea in sharing the perspective of church-goers in fiscal management. The researcher's actual instrument used by the participants in the interview guide questions: What are the responsibilities of parent-students as parents? What are the responsibilities of parent-students as students? What motivates the parent-students to pursue the accountancy program despite being a parent? What challenges do parent-students encounter? What strategies do parent-students use to balance their role as a parent and student who has taken a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy? What values did the parent-students develop due to their experiences and continued to live up to? The researchers recorded the whole discussion to get the group's answers and specific experiences. In analyzing the data gathered, the researchers used thematic analysis to examine data in which the researchers' identified themes and patterns from participants' discussions.

### 4. Findings and Conclusions

The research findings from churches reveals sources of cash, church expenses, challenges and strategies in addressing those financial problems in meeting its financial management.

The following are the key findings of the study, derived from the interviews with participants:

#### 1. What are the responsibilities of parent-students as parents

The study reveals that responsibilities of parents-students include supporting the child's psychological growth, providing the child's basic needs, and promoting the child's physical well-being.

#### 2. What are the responsibilities of parent-students as students?

The study found that all the participants had a particular responsibility that they faced as students such complying with academic requirements and fulfilling financial obligations in school.

#### 3. What motivates the parent-students to pursue the accountancy program despite being a parent?

The results of the study indicate that parent-students pursuing the accountancy program despite being a parent are motivated by factors such as kids as a source of inspiration, support from family and friends, and earning a degree and getting a better job.

#### 4. What challenges do parent-students encounter?

The study's findings cover the challenges and has shown results that the study's respondents have experienced childcare-education time Conflict, financial constraints, child getting sick, and emotional exhaustion & burnout.

#### 5. What strategies do parent-students use to balance their role as a parent and student who has taken a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy?

The study found that parent-students who also pursued a degree in accountancy used various strategies to balance their dual responsibilities effectively. These strategies included proper time management, watching motivational videos, self-encouragement, and prioritizing financial obligations.

#### 6. What values did the parent-students develop due to their experiences and continued to live up to?

In the course of the study the researchers found out that the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy program is indeed demanding and challenging, both academically and in their parental responsibilities. They care for their children's day-to-day needs and juggle financial responsibilities on a shoestring budget. A primary reason are their children, along with family support and hopes for career advancement, even in the face of tuition bills and other school costs. They are resourceful and determined, but also position themselves in situations where they must meet deadlines when their kids are sick, and navigate chronic fatigue. Thus, to cope with them, they adopt methods of time management, self-discipline and financial aid, along with the acquisition of values like responsibility and economic prudence to become more successful students and parents.

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