

## Original Research Article

### **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ANTI – DRUG PROGRAM TO DRUG REFORMIST OF BARANGAY BATO AND ITS EFFECT TO THEIR HUMAN WELL – BEING**

#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of the anti – drug program and its effect to their human well – being of 35 Drug Reformists from Barangay Bato, Toril Davao City. The Anti-Drug programs namely: Livelihood program, Spiritual program and Educational program were the indicators to determine its effectiveness to drug reformists. The variables namely: Financial aspect, educational aspect and Spiritual aspect were being determined if they have bearing in their well-being. Using quantitative data collected through the structured questionnaires with the descriptive statistics and regression analysis (stepwise), results revealed a high relationship between the variables (effectiveness of anti-drug program and human well-being) in the study. It was found out that the indicator educational program was not included after stepwise regression which implies that this indicator does not significantly influence human well-being.

*Keywords: Livelihood program, Educational program, Spiritual program*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

##### **Background of the Study**

The persistent global challenge of drug dependence and its profound repercussions on individuals and society has catalyzed the development of diverse rehabilitation programs. These programs, ranging from medical interventions to psychosocial support, seek to restore individuals' well-being and facilitate their reintegration into society. Yet, the efficacy and depth of rehabilitation efforts within these drug-related programs remain a subject of scholarly exploration, prompting inquiries into the extent to which these initiatives address the multidimensional complexities of addiction recovery.

The challenge posed by drug-related concerns in the Philippines has predominantly been perceived through the lens of law enforcement and criminal activity. The government's approach has centered on enforcing

punitive measures and criminal sanctions as a means to address this complex issue.

The World Health Organization (WHO) emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive approach that encompasses biological, psychological, and social aspects in rehabilitation (WHO, 2019). This holistic perspective highlights the need for programs that not only address the physiological components of addiction but also tackle the psychological and social underpinnings that perpetuate substance use (McLellan et al., 2018).

Moreover, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) underscores the significance of tailored rehabilitation interventions that recognize the diverse pathways to addiction and recovery (NIDA, 2020). This recognition has spurred the development of individualized approaches encompassing cognitive-behavioral therapies, motivational enhancement, and familial involvement, acknowledging the profound influence of personal and social contexts on the rehabilitation journey (SAMHSA, 2018).

The United Nations Offices on Drugs and Crimes promotes drug use prevention and youth empowerment in many countries around the world through the Drug Abuse Prevention Center, they mobilize communities and raise funds. Since 2012, the Drug Abuse Prevention Center grants have benefitted 133 projects in 55 countries, reaching low- and middle-income countries from all regions of the world.

In Manila, Philippines, more than 8,000 barangays in the country are plagued with the drug menace, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) said. Methamphetamine hydrochloride, or shabu, and marijuana remain the most abused illegal drugs in the Philippines based on 2018 arrest data, 88.78 percent involved the seizure of shabu, while 8.86 percent covered the confiscation of marijuana. Dangerous drugs such as cocaine, ecstasy, ephedrine, 'fly-high', and others constitute 2.36 percent of drug-related arrests (Philippine Star, 2018).

The Anti-Drug Program has been implemented by the government because of the rapid increase of drug abusers in the Philippines. A number of seminars were conducted to prevent them from engaging in any drug substances. Preventive Education and Advocacy Programs, *Barkada Kontra Droga* Launching Seminar, National Youth Forum on Drug Abuse Prevention, and Kids Against Drugs Program are just examples of the said seminars.

In Barangay Bato, located within the Toril District, there exists a cohort of 92 individuals who have undergone the drug reform process. Within this group, only 35 individuals remain actively engaged in the Anti-Drug Program. It is noteworthy that Barangay Bato ranks 6th in population size within the Toril District, and there exists documented evidence that highlights the presence of committed advocates for drug reform within this specific community. Effective anti-drug programs have been put into action in an effort to not only deter initial drug use but also provide assistance to individuals who are already ensnared by drug use,

guiding them toward a path of improvement. This situation brought interest to the researcher in conducting the study.

Additionally, we aim to comprehensively explore the impact of these programs on the overall well-being of individuals across various dimensions of human life.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The study seeks to find the effectiveness of the Anti-Drug Program to the reformists in the enhancement of their human well-being. Specifically, the study aims to answer the following questions:

1. What is the level of the effectiveness of Anti-Drug Programs in terms of:
  - 1.1 Livelihood program,
  - 1.2 Spiritual program, and
  - 1.3 Educational program?
2. What is the level of rehabilitation to the enhancement of human well-being of drug reformists in terms of:
  - 2.1 Financial aspect,
  - 2.2 Educational aspect, and
  - 2.3 Spiritual aspect?
3. Is there any significant influence of the Anti-Drug Program and Rehabilitation on the human well-being of drug reformists?

### **The Null Hypothesis**

**Ho:** There is no significant influence of the Anti-Drug Program on the human well-being of drug reformists.

### **Review of Related Literature**

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the pertinent literature and studies that have been incorporated into this research, illuminating the foundational knowledge upon which this study is built.

#### **Livelihood program**

Drug use and related harms continue to increase in West African countries despite efforts to reduce drug trafficking and use through legal prohibition. The UN General Assembly Special Session (2018), outcome document enables flexibility in policy interpretation and implementation, which provides an opportunity for governments to prioritize national needs in drug policy. West African countries should prioritize and support research and data collection, prevention, treatment and harm reduction, and sustainable livelihoods.

World Bank Organizations (2018), finances different programs provided by the government. One of these programs was those drug-related programs - a livelihood program for the reduction of poverty by

generating employment among poor households and by moving highly vulnerable households into sustainable livelihoods and toward economic stability.

Attempts to lower drug trafficking and usage through enforcing legal prohibition have not stopped the rise in drug use and its associated consequences in West African nations. The UNGASS (2018), conclusion paper allows for freedom in the interpretation and application of policy, giving states the chance to give national needs in drug policy priority.

City Social Welfare and Development Office (2018), said the government has allotted a budget for the livelihood program but not all of the amount was utilized because the remaining amount will be for their capability building. This program encourages drug reformists to manage their own business. They also need to submit their project proposal provided they are qualified for the after-care program. This means that that they have completed the required days of the rehabilitation program, finished their chosen skills training and had a medical certificate to prove that they are fit to work. They will not just focus on the livelihood provision but they wanted to have a holistic intervention. The program included one-day courses like balloon decor-making, candy-making, soap-making, meat processing, and home bread-making.

Cited by Smith, et al. (2019), the Integrated Livelihood Program (DILP), also known as the "*Kabuhayan Program*," was executed by the DOLE as part of its rehabilitation and reintegration program and was acknowledged as one of the National Government's Agencies Best Practices. With this initiative, countless drug surrenderees were given the chance to reclaim their lives through employment possibilities. It includes a program which they can build their own business like a *sari-sari* store where they can sell different goods and due to its low capital requirements and simple setup, this business can be established quickly. It's also a good starting point for them. Making of salted egg, *habal habal* where they drove a highly improvised two-wheeled single motorcycle usually ridden beyond its passenger capacity. It is used as public transportation especially in areas with narrow roads, and steeper, rougher terrain, it could possibly carry up to 6 passengers, at the least. Another one is *gulayan sa barangay*. Flora (2022), GDB or *gulayan sa barangay* aims to encourage individuals, families and communities especially those drug reformists to implement community gardening activities that will eventually promote food production at the household and community level and ensure provision and access to fresh, organically produced and nutritionally rich foods to the family members, especially children, towards nutrient sufficiency and food security. They can also sell it in their *barangay* and put up a mini-store that's full of vegetables.

### **Spiritual program**

The integration of spiritual programs within drug reduction efforts recognizes the profound impact of spirituality on an individual's overall well-being and sense of purpose. This approach acknowledges the benefits, and potential challenges associated with integrating spiritual programs into drug reduction strategies, aiming to shed light on how this holistic approach can engender more comprehensive and sustainable outcomes in the journey towards recovery.

Faith-based programs (FBS) give reformists a space to either embrace a newly discovered spirituality through religion or to practice their religious views without worrying about being judged or stigmatized as they may be in traditional worship sessions. Faith-based programs are frequently referred to as "intentional religion," which is the exposure to religion for a specific purpose at a specific time to meet a specific need. Faith-based programs can also be understood as social programs or services that fall under organizations with religious ties. One of them is drug or alcohol addiction. 13 of these FBS programs are wholly based on the Bible and other religious texts. Others offer the same or comparable rehabilitation services and programs while incorporating the Twelve Steps. That's why the government supports the spiritual approach in terms of the rehabilitation for the drug addicts. Dangerous Drugs Board (2019), Spiritual Approach uses the Bible as the primary source of inspiration to change. It views drug addiction as a sin and encourages the patients to turn away from it and renew their relationships with the Lord (Dodson, et al. 2020).

Spiritual Rehabilitation is an act of restoration, renewal, and repair. Getting back on course and finding the way back to a life free of addiction is often more fulfilling through this. It gives them the strength to pick themselves up after falling apart and the optimism to keep moving toward a life without addiction. With the help of spiritual rehab, issues like lack of direction, feelings of being out of control, reaching rock bottom, having no purpose, and being exhausted of the energy to make a difference can all be resolved. The approach done by rehabilitation centers has always been scientific in nature, generally employing psychological and encouraging tactics to get the person to turn away from the thing he or she is addicted to. Rehabilitation centers often incorporate the role of family members in helping addiction victims, not only in the beginning of the treatment but until the recovery phase.

The Archdiocese of Manila officially launched a drug rehabilitation program with a heavy emphasis on spiritual formation. The Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Manila, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle celebrated Mass for addicts who surrendered as part of "Sanlakbay Para Sa Pagbabagong Buhay" (A Journey to Starting Life Anew). The program is for those drug surrendeers and for their families to receive "healing, rehabilitation and restoration" through the church. Some spiritual programs include meditation, Rehab Spot (2018), Meditation has been

used in spiritual and religious practices, such as Buddhism, for hundreds of years (National Catholic, 2018).

Traditionally, practitioners sit and focus intently on a word or mantra to alter their focus. Guided meditation therapies involve a trained facilitator inviting practitioners to focus on pleasant emotions. Meditation inspires a healthier outlook towards life, decreases depression, and increases euphoric feelings of wellbeing. Meditation helps keep patients grounded and centered and enhances self-awareness. The program was applied and implemented to analyze data from 506 prisoners in Colombia and South Africa. It was found that completion of TPJ increased religiosity, which in turn fostered motivation for identity change, the perception of meaning and purpose in life, and the virtues of forgiveness, accountability, and self-control. In addition, the increased perception of meaning and purpose in life and two virtues (forgiveness and self-control) decreased negative emotions and the risk of interpersonal aggression. The implications and limitations of our study are discussed (National Catholic, 2018).

### **Educational program**

The educational program helps the drug reformists to start anew by studying most especially for those who are still in school age and minors.

Department of Education, a non-formal and informal Alternative Learning System (ALS) are some of the government agencies that help drug reformists to be educated and gain new skills and knowledge. Mellejor (2018), revealed the Enhanced ALS will include modules on scientific literacy with lessons on medicinal drugs, physical, economic, and social symptoms of drug addiction, preventive and rehabilitation, and effects of prohibited drugs. She said the curriculum was comprised of five strands. The curriculum would now be part of the ALS and the formal education. Rivera (2018), stated that Enhanced ALS was an initiative of the city government of Davao to help not only drug reformists but the whole population to understand illegal drugs and drug addiction.

The Enhanced ALS was approved by DepEd Secretary Leonor Briones following the request of the city government to include scientific addiction curriculum in ALS and the formal education. Rivera (2018), commended that there were 20 drug reformists who pioneered the enhanced ALS curriculum offered for the first time by a Catholic school - the University of the Immaculate Conception. It will be an incentivized program by providing meals to students to encourage them to continue going to school for five months. Rivera said CADAC thought of educating the children on drug addiction as a strategy rather than advocacy strategy because the drug reformists or the youth would be able to retrieve all information.

The Enhanced ALS is aligned with the city governments TARA NA (Tabangan Atong Reformist Aron Naay Asenso), a Davao City Community Based Rehabilitation Aftercare Program (CBRAP) to start rehabilitating the

lives of the drug surrenderers. Macatangay (2021), 42 persons who used drugs (PWUDs) and 50 persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) in Camarines Sur province recently completed a series of community-based training organized by the TESDA and its partners amid the pandemic. TESDA said the training will help alleviate the living conditions of the PWUDs and PDLs and allow them to re-integrate in the mainstream society. The training enhanced the PWUDs' skills in urban container gardening and that of PDLs in fermented juice production. The RPSI trainers guided the participants from the actual preparation of the materials up to the processing, utilizing the institute-provided training supplies and video material as a guide (DepEd, 2018).

Aside from providing various training and services and technical-vocational education to its clients, TESDA also promotes agriculture-related programs to achieve food sustainability in the country. The activity was also part of the after-care program of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) of Ragay and its partners: the station of Philippine National Police in Ragay and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

On the other hand, China has been using a correctional system where discipline and punishment go hand in hand with rehabilitation promotion for the past seven decades. Chinese rehabilitation programs are designed to reshape one's mind and behavior through education, labor, and vocational training, driven by the conventional notion that everyone may be reformed. However, mounting evidence indicates that the State's new obsession with monitoring and risk management has seriously weakened the reformation concept. Risk identification, evaluation, and minimization have evolved into a dominant pattern of managing convicted wrongdoers in both classic and novel correctional measures. The crucial issue of how to balance risk reduction and risk control in punitive sanctions at the legislative as well as the operational level would then need to be addressed in any future reform initiatives.

Reformers have long called for a complete overhaul of the criminal justice system in America. Advocates have focused their emphasis in particular on two points. First, a lot of activists stress how crucial it is to put an end to abusive prison labor in order to lower recidivism rates and treat prisoners with more compassion. A second issue that worries progressives is the movement toward health-based addiction treatment as opposed to jail. The unsettling connection between unpaid labor and treatment centers is underexamined in many communities with all the programs designed by government and non-government organizations to alleviate financial, educational, and spiritual aspects of reformists.

### **Financial aspect**

Finance is managing one's finances as well as saving and investing. It includes financial planning for retirement, taxes, and estates, as well as banking, insurance, mortgages, and investments. Even to those drug

reformists, finance is really important for them especially when they have just established a business. If the business is successful and they earn a lot of money, most likely, they will prevent things that would affect it like using drugs. Gaerlan (2022), connotated that some 24 drug reformists in Rosario, La Union received P400 thousand worth of *Kabuhayan* Starter Kit (KSK) assistance from the Department of Labor and Employment-Regional Office I. The beneficiaries are former drug dependents who have undergone the LGU's Community-Based Rehabilitation Program in coordination with the Philippine National Police.

The program consists of counseling sessions, spiritual nourishment, community service, skills training and provision of livelihood opportunities that aim to gradually wean the beneficiaries from drug dependence and eventually put them in the mainstream of society. The *Kabuhayan* Starter Kit (KSK) aims to enable the beneficiaries to plan and operate livelihood undertakings through the provision of a quick roll-out self-employment package of services consisting of short gestation training, start-up kits, business counseling and technical marketing assistance services. By these trainings and programs, drug reformists are living more comfortably running their businesses smoothly and not worrying on how to get money because they have businesses.

### **Educational aspect**

Nobody can ever take away from you the stability that education brings to your life. You boost your chances of finding better employment possibilities and widen your career options by being well-educated and obtaining a college degree. The most effective tool you could possibly own is education, and you can achieve all of your goals with it. Of course, there are certain exceptions depending on your goals, but in general, an education will get you as far as your willingness to go will allow it. There are drug reformists who continued to study and decided to go back to school to get the degree that they wanted. Schmidt (2021), in the US, after struggling with drug addiction for most of her life, Burton got clean in 2012. And now she graduated at University of Washington with her degree in political science.

Burton said she was introduced to drugs by her mom when she was just 7 years old and by 14, she started smoking crack. By the time she was 15, Burton said she was a "full-blown crack addict." Even though she had loved school as a child and had wanted to become an attorney, Burton said the last grade she finished was the sixth grade. She said she was in and out of seventh and eighth grade – doing classwork when she was in juvenile hall. By ninth grade, Burton "officially quit school. "But now, look how far she had achieved. She graduated in college and got the degree she wanted (Esconde,2018).

In the Philippines, 64 drug reformists are here after they completed training on courses accredited by the TESDA. Felicito Payumo, president of the University of Nueva Caceres (UNC)- Bataan, congratulated the

graduates as they received their training certificates during the graduation rites. They can use whatever they have learned in case they want to apply for work as skilled laborer. If they want to put up small business, it is also applicable. TESDA are offering courses which the drug reformists want for the start of their new meaningful lives.

Brown and Williams (2020), conducted qualitative research investigating the impact of education on the holistic development of drug reformists. The study revealed that educational engagement led to enhanced critical thinking skills, improved communication abilities, and greater empathy among participants.

However, it is essential to acknowledge potential challenges faced by drug reformists engaged in education while undergoing rehabilitation. Balancing personal recovery with advocacy commitments can be demanding, and further research is needed to understand the long-term effects of educational involvement on the well-being of drug reformists.

In a study by Smith and Johnson (2019), the effects of educational programs on the well-being of drug reformists is overwhelming. Participants reported increased self-efficacy and a sense of accomplishment as a result of engaging in educational activities related to drug policy and advocacy. Smith (2019), stated that educational empowerment within the context of drug reform efforts has been recognized as a catalyst for both personal development and effective advocacy.

Studies have demonstrated that educational engagement within drug reform efforts enhances self-efficacy and resilience among reformists. As they acquire a deeper understanding of the multifaceted challenges of drug-related issues, they report feeling more capable of contributing meaningfully to policy discussions (Brown & Miller, 2020). This increased self-efficacy not only bolsters their confidence in advocacy but also contributes to improved mental well-being and a sense of accomplishment (Green et al., 2019).

Engaging in educational activities within the context of drug reform is associated with holistic personal development. Reformists often report improved critical thinking skills, greater empathy, and enhanced communication abilities as a result of their educational endeavors (Jones et al., 2021). These attributes not only contribute to their efficacy as advocates but also positively impact their overall well-being by fostering personal growth (Davis & White, 2020).

While the positive effects of educational engagement on the well-being of drug reformists are evident, challenges also exist. Balancing the demands of personal recovery with advocacy commitments can be complex and potentially overwhelming (Anderson & Brown, 2019). Moreover, limited research exists on the long-term effects of educational involvement on the psychological and emotional well-being of drug reformists (Robinson et al., 2021). The educational dimension of rehabilitation for drug reformists presents a promising avenue for fostering both advocacy

effectiveness and personal growth. Empowerment through education equips reformists with the knowledge and skills needed for impactful advocacy efforts, while also contributing to their overall well-being.

### **Spiritual aspect**

Spirituality has many benefits for a person's life, especially during addiction recovery. Addiction recovery acts as a leap of faith to challenge harmful thoughts, and spirituality can help replace those thoughts with uplifting, motivating thoughts. It can provide guidance for all-around better ways of living. Bella Monte (2022), a person's sense of power can be severely weakened by addiction, but when they turn to spirituality, their attention is drawn to the outside world rather than their concerns. Even though these techniques might be challenging, they can also be reassuring and inspiring, providing people the courage they need to persevere throughout the healing process. Spirituality can help drug reformists around the world to recover from past mistakes and practice forgiveness, re-establish connections with others, and feel a sense of belonging. All of these helps those individuals in regaining the strength they may have felt they had lost. They can continue to advance through the challenging recovery phases because of this strength.

A lot of drug reformists were able to change their lives because of the strong relationship that they had built with the Lord. They are able to identify right from wrong and what's better is that they are able to share the good news with others about how the Lord transformed and reshaped their lives to a better one. Brookshire (2021), In Leyte, the inmates who had been involved with drugs were required to undergo a program called the Moral Recovery Program. It was conducted jointly with the police, the regional government, and a local church run by Living Rock Ministries, an ANM partner. Pastor Nestor Jaropojop, one of Living Rock's team, led the program. Pastor Nester prayed and stuck with Samuel throughout his journey and his struggles in fighting addiction. Pastor Nester assured him. After a while, Samuel accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, his chains of addiction finally broke. He was free from drugs for the first time in decades. Pastor Nestor disciplined Samuel and trained him to be a carrier of the Gospel.

It is amazing how can someone promoted his life-changing testimony and news about everlasting life found only in Jesus. A lot of people saw his transformed life and readily confessed their sins, asked Christ into their lives, and gave up their wicked ways.

### **Theoretical framework**

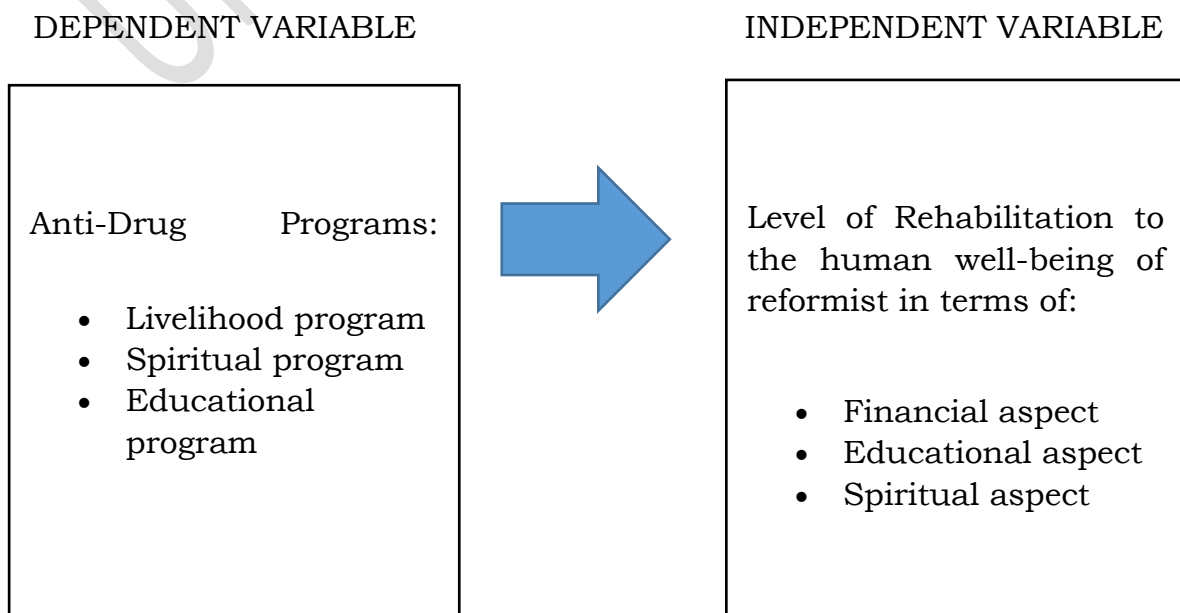
This theory is anchored on Social Learning Theory. This theory suggests that people learn behaviors and attitudes by observing and imitating others (Bandura, 1997). In the context of drug reformists, it can explain how exposure to anti-drug programs and their outcomes might shape their understanding of the efficacy of rehabilitation efforts.

Reformists may learn from the experiences of individuals who have successfully overcome addiction through rehabilitation, potentially strengthening their advocacy for policies that support rehabilitation as an effective solution.

Zimmerman's Empowerment Theory emphasizes how individuals gain knowledge, skills, and confidence to take control of their lives (Zimmerman, 1995). Applied to drug reformists, engagement in anti-drug programs may enhance their sense of empowerment by equipping them with insights into addiction recovery challenges, empowering them to advocate for improved rehabilitation options.

### **Conceptual Framework**

The study consists of two variables the Independent Variable and the Dependent Variable. Independent variable is the effectiveness of the Barangay Bato anti-drug programs in terms of livelihood programs, spiritual program, educational program and the dependent variable denotes the level of rehabilitation to the human well-being of drug reformist in terms of financial aspect, educational aspect and spiritual aspect. Thus, the effectiveness of the Barangay Bato anti-drug program will determine the level of enhancement of the human well-being of the reformist. The relationship between the two variables shows a cause and effect.



*Figure 1. Schematic Diagram of the conceptual framework of the study.*

### **Scope and Limitation of the Study**

The study aims to assess the effectiveness of the Anti-Drug Program in Barangay Bato concerning its impact on the human well-being of drug reformists. The respondents for this research are individuals who have successfully completed the Anti-Drug Programs administered by Barangay Bato Officials. These officials have been responsible for conducting assessment and intervention initiatives for the benefit of drug reformists. It is important to note that this study does not encompass other barangay officials who are not directly involved in the rehabilitation programs.

### **Definition of terms**

For a better understanding of the study, the following terms are defined herein:

**Effectiveness.** It refers to the effect of the programs implemented by Barangay Bato officials on drug reformists. This includes livelihood, education, and spiritual programs.

**Barangay Bato officials.** It pertains to the leaders who persons help people in particular areas who have personal problems or drug addiction.

**Drug reformist.** It pertains to drug offenders who completed Anti-Drug interventions.

### **Significance of the study**

The study is conducted to determine the effectiveness of the Anti-Drug Program of Barangay Bato in drug reformist effects of their human well-being. The study is significant and beneficial to the following:

**The Barangay Bato Officials.** The barangay leaders can assess the strengths and weaknesses of the programs implemented. From there, they can modify enhance, or eliminate if the outcomes yielded positive or negative effects.

**Drug Reformist.** This study can motivate them to pursue their goals. They can even influence those who have a negative outlook regarding projects implemented, thus gaining multiple effects on many.

**Household Members.** They will exhaust all moral support to redeem the confidence and load self-esteem of the respondents.

**Government Officials.** They can propose a budget to finance programs that they think can alleviate the life of reformists.

**Community Member.** They are individuals residing in Barangay Bato. Community members often serve as the most effective advocates and messengers within their own neighborhoods. Their support for anti-drug programs can enhance program visibility, acceptance, and engagement. By investigating the relationship between community member advocacy and program success, this study can inform strategies to leverage local influencers and grassroots efforts for broader program reach and impact.

**Future Researcher.** The study on the anti-drug program of the barangay Bato into the drug reformist in their human well-being will give future researchers a background and overview of the study. Future researchers may use as crossed reference or to test the validity of related finding.

UNDER PEER REVIEW

## **METHODS**

This chapter presents the outline of the research design, data collection methods, and data analysis techniques utilized in the study. By employing a rigorous research methodology, the study aims to provide reliable and valid findings regarding the effectiveness of the anti-drug program and its impact on the well-being of drug reformists.

### **Research Design**

This study adopts a descriptive research design to comprehensively assess the effectiveness of anti-drug programs among drug reformists in Barangay Bato. Through a quantitative descriptive methodology, the study prioritizes objectivity by employing data, statistics, structured analyses, and stringent control measures. This approach offers a rigorous foundation for investigating the impact and outcomes of anti-drug initiatives within the context of the drug reformist perspective.

### **Research Locale**

This study was conducted in Barangay Bato, Toril, Davao City, Philippines. Barangay Bato is known to have a significant problem with drug abuse and related issues. Barangay Bato was selected as the research locale due to its significant drug problem and the implementation of an anti-drug program in the community. The prevalence of drug abuse and addiction in the barangay has been a pressing issue that has affected the well-being and overall development of its residents.

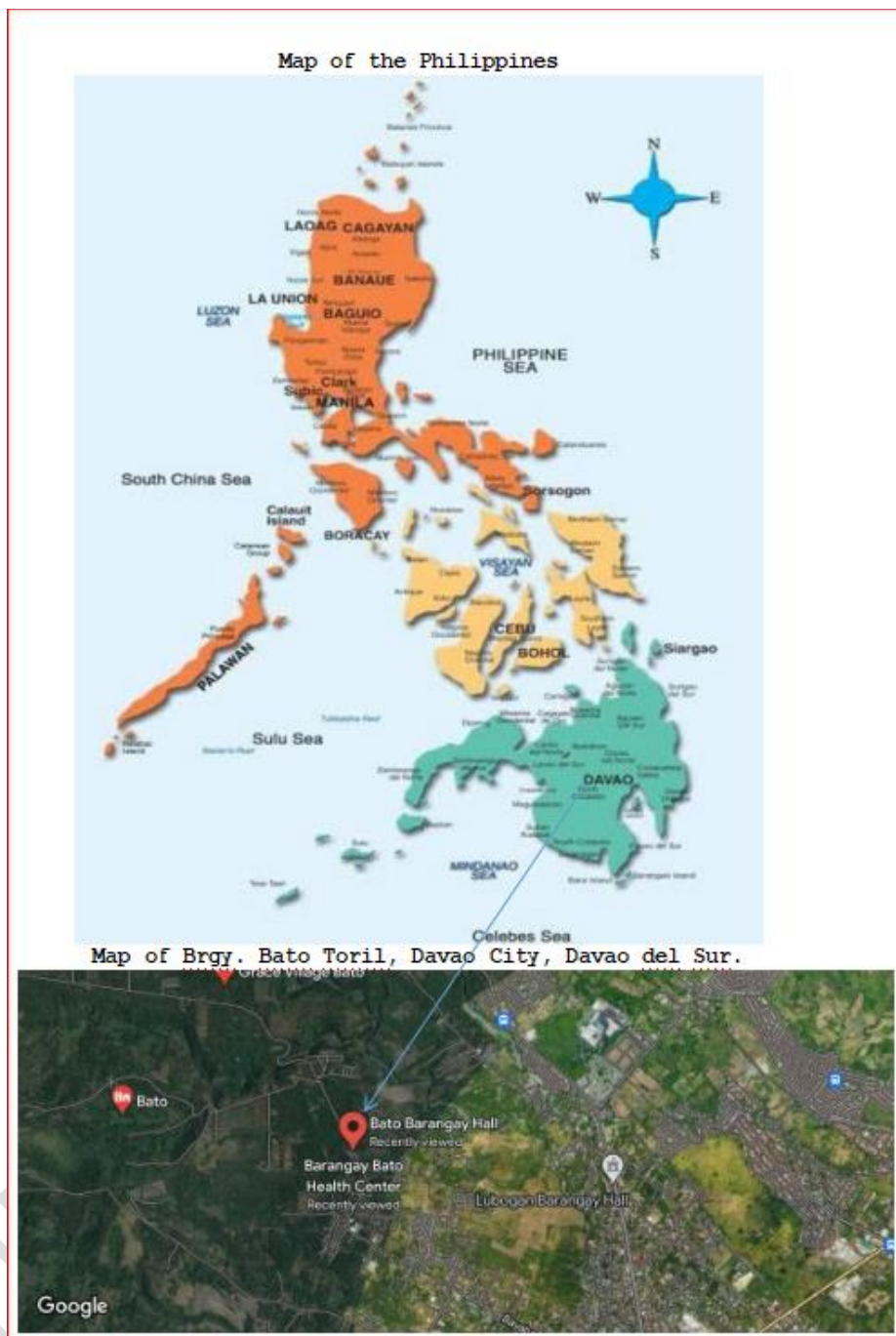


Figure 2. Map of the Study

### Research and Sampling Techniques

The respondents of the study are the 35 drug reformists from Barangay Bato, Toril, Davao City who underwent the process of the Anti-Drug Program. Purposive sampling was used as a sampling technique. According to Creswell, (2018), this sampling design is preferred when researchers intentionally select individuals, cases, or elements from a

larger population based on specific criteria, expertise, or judgment to fulfill the research objectives.

### **Research Instrument**

The study used a survey questionnaire to collect, measure and analyze data. The questionnaire is made and designed with closed-ended questions to properly measure and analyze the data on the anti-drug program on drug reformists of Barangay Bato and its effect on their human well-being. Moreover, the survey questionnaire consists of three (3) parts. Part 1 dealt with their demographic profile. Part II on the effectiveness of the Anti-Drug Program and Part III on the program to the human well-being.

To determine the effects and influence, a 5-point Likert scale was derived wholly. 5 points as strongly agree 4 agree 3 as moderate 2 disagree and 1 strongly disagree. These are interpreted from very high to low as their descriptive equivalent.

Range	Descriptive	Interpretation
4.50-5.00	Very high	The perception of criminology students in fire safety precautions is very highly perceived.
3.50-4.49	High	The perception of criminology students in fire safety precautions is highly perceived.
2.50-3.49	Moderate	The perception of criminology students in fire safety precautions is moderately perceived.
1.50-2.49	Low	The perception of criminology students in fire safety precautions is less perceived.
1.00-1.49	Very low	The perception of criminology students in fire safety precautions is very less perceived.

### **Data Collection Procedure**

The survey questionnaire was used to collect data. The respondents were surveyed to obtain data. The survey questionnaire was developed and sought approval from the adviser and panel of validators. Communication through letter were drafted to obtain permission from concerned authorities. The participants will be surveyed through one-on-one interviews.

Prior to the survey, complete consent from the respondents was solicited. The study's purpose will be sufficiently explained to the respondents, and researchers will guarantee that they won't put any pressure on them or otherwise compel them to participate in the study.

The participants in the study won't be in any way harmed. The researchers promise to maintain the individuals' identities' privacy. When

creating the questionnaire, the researchers will refrain from using offensive, discriminatory, or other improper wording.

### **Data Analysis**

The following tools were used to process the information obtained from the questionnaire:

**Mean.** This was done to determine the effectiveness of Anti-Drug Programs for Drug Reformists of Barangay Bato.

**Frequency.** This was used to determine the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents.

**Regression Analysis.** This was used to determine the relationship between the target and the independent variable.

**Standard Deviation.** This was utilized to see how widespread, far from the, or close the citizens responses were in comparison to the mean.

### **Ethical considerations**

Ethical guidelines will be followed throughout the research process to ensure the protection and well-being of every drug reformist. Informed consent will be obtained from each drug reformists, ensuring their voluntary participation, confidentiality of their responses, and anonymity of any personal information. Drug reformists will be informed about their right to withdraw from the study at any time without any consequences. Furthermore, the researchers will provide a waiver given to every drug reformist indicating a confidentiality agreement wherein every researcher agrees to keep the information shared confidential. This waiver guarantees every drug reformist's dignity and human rights without worrying about being judged.

## **RESULTS**

This chapter presents the results of the findings of the study, which include: the level of effectiveness of the anti-drug program, and the influence of human beings on respondents.

Table 1

### **The Overall Perceived Level of Effectiveness of Anti-Drug Program**

Variable	Mean	Std Dev	Description Level
Livelihood Program	3.78	0.48	High
Spiritual Program	4.00	0.51	High
Educational Program	3.77	0.52	High
Overall	3.85	0.43	High

Shown in Table 1 is the overall respondent's perceived level of effectiveness of anti-drug program. Overall results revealed that the

respondent's level of effectiveness is *high* as reflected by the overall obtained mean score of 3.85 with std dev = 0.43. This overall high level was brought about by the high scores generated by the three indicators of the study namely: livelihood program, spiritual program, and educational program with obtained mean scores of 3.78, 4.00, and 3.77 respectively.

The first indicator of level of effectiveness is livelihood program which was described to be high and can be attributed generally to the high mean score obtained by the five (5) item questionnaire which include: *I learned on how to start a business like gulayan sa barangay because of various trainings given by the government; I am earning good in my sari-sari store/mini mart; I made use of the vegetables we planted in the gulayan sa barangay to earn money; I am earning good in fetching and dropping off passengers in riding my habal-habal; and I can live comfortably running my businesses smoothly and not worrying about how to get money* with obtained mean scores of 4.03, 3.54, 3.89, 3.69, and 3.74 respectively.

Moreover, the second indicator of level of effectiveness is spiritual program which was also described to be high as a result of the high mean scores generated by the five (5) item statements which include; *I undergone FBS (faith-based programs) where we read the bible and have a sharing time with other drug reformists; Through meditation I have renewed my spiritual life; FBS have helped me realize how the Lord transformed and reshape my life into a better one; I embrace a newly discovered spirituality through religion or to practice their religious views without worrying about being judged; and By the help of meditation, I have found the courage to pick myself up after falling apart* with obtained mean scores of 4.14, 3.97, 4.02, 4.04, and 3.71 respectively.

Finally, the last indicator of level of effectiveness is educational program which was also described to be high as a result of the high mean scores generated by the five (5) item statements which include; *I completed training on courses accredited by the TESDA; I am enrolled in a school where I undergone ALS (Alternative Learning System); I enrolled in technical-vocational education/agriculture-related programs accredited by TESDA; As I started schooling, I acknowledge possibilities and widen my career options by being well-educated and starting to obtain a degree; and I realize that drugs are barriers to learning* with obtained mean scores of 3.69, 3.49, 3.71, 3.43, and 4.51 respectively.

### **Level of Effect on Human Well-Being**

Table 2

#### **The Overall Perceived Level of Effect on Human Well-Being**

Variable	Mean	Std Dev	Description Level
Financial Aspect	3.87	0.57	High
Educational Aspect	3.92	0.53	High
Spiritual Aspect	4.19	0.55	High
Overall	3.99	0.44	High

Shown in Table 2 is the respondent's overall level of perception on effect to human well-being. Overall results revealed that the respondent's perceived level of effect on human well-being is *high* as reflected by the overall obtained mean score of 3.99 and std dev= 0.44. The high level of description was due to the high mean scores generated by the three (3) indicators namely: financial aspect, educational aspect, and spiritual aspect with obtained mean scores of 3.87, 3.92, and 4.19 respectively.

The first indicator of effect on human well-being is financial aspect which was described to be high as a result of the high mean scores generated by the five (5) item statements which include; *I can manage my finances well; I can save money because of the business I have; I am starting to invest my money; I can buy now not only my needs but also my wants; and I can travel wherever I want because of the money I earned* with obtained mean scores of 4.23, 3.89, 3.71, 4.09, and 3.43 respectively.

Moreover, the second indicator of effect on human well-being is educational aspect which was described to be high as a result of the high mean scores generated by the five (5) item statements which include; *I am starting to achieve my goals because of the degree I have; I realize that drugs can take my goals away from me; I understand that quitting from school because of drugs is a huge downfall of life; I believe that I can go back to school even after my addiction; and I am thinking of looking for a job related to my degree and making it as my source of income* with obtained mean scores of 3.57, 4.02, 4.28, 4.26, and 3.29 respectively.

Finally, the last indicator of effect on human well-being is spiritual aspect which was also described to be high as a result of the high mean scores generated by the five (5) item statements which include; *I always find time going to church with my family; I spend more time reading the bible; I share to others how the Lord helped me in the most difficult times of my life; I can now determine right from wrong; and I have build a strong relationship with Lord by praying everyday and always thank Him for His goodness* with obtained mean scores of 4.14, 4.06, 4.06, 4.37, and 4.34 respectively.

### **Influence of Effectiveness of Anti-Drug Program on Human Well-Being**

Table 3

#### **Regression Table on the Influence of Effectiveness of Anti-Drug Program on Human Well-Being**

Effectiveness of Anti-Drug Program	B	t-value	p-value
Constant	0.948	2.220	0.034
Spiritual Program	0.481	3.977	0.000
Livelihood Program	0.298	2.344	0.025
F Value	26.158		
p-value	0.000		

df	34
R	0.788
R <sup>2</sup>	0.620

Presented in table 3 is the statistical results using regression analysis (stepwise). Results revealed a high relationship between the variables (effectiveness of anti-drug program and human well-being) in the study as indicated by the R value of 0.788. The obtained  $r^2$  value from the model summary is 0.620 which signifies that 62.00 percent of the variation in y (human well-being) is explained by the obtained regression model. The  $r^2$  of the regression which is the coefficient of determination is the fraction of the variation in the human well-being (dependent variable) that is accounted for (or predicted by) effectiveness of anti-drug program (independent variable). It is the proportion of variability in a data set that is accounted for by the statistical model. It provides a measure of how well future outcomes are likely to be predicted by the model.

Statistical result for the value of F statistics in the study model is 26.158 with df 34 and is significant at 0.05 level of significance. This means that the derived model is statistically significant. F statistics test the null hypothesis that the regression coefficients are equal to zero.

Shown also in the table is the result that a regression model  $y = 0.948 \text{ constant} + 0.481 \text{ spiritual program} + 0.298 \text{ livelihood program}$  was derived to show the relationship of the variables using stepwise regression. The model specifically revealed that indicator spiritual program and livelihood program significantly influences human well-being leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. The model suggests that a one (1) unit increase in spiritual program will lead to 0.481 increased in human well-being. Similarly, a one unit increase in livelihood program will also lead to 0.298 increase in human well-being. It can be noted that indicator educational program was not included after stepwise regression which implies that this indicator does not significantly influence human well-being.

## DISCUSSION

This chapter presents a discussion of the results of the study. The discussion is organized in the following order of presentation: the perceived level of effectiveness of anti-drug programs, the perceived level of rehabilitation to human well-being, and the significant influence of program and rehabilitation on the well-being of drug reformists.

### **Perception of the Level of Effectiveness of Anti-Drug Program**

The study assessed the general perception of the effectiveness of anti-drug programs, and the findings indicate a high level of effectiveness. This suggests that officials in Barangay Bato are actively implementing

and enforcing programs designed to assist individuals who have been involved with drugs.

The first indicator of the study focused on the livelihood program, which yielded a high perception of effectiveness. The study indicated that respondents believe the government and barangay officials in Barangay Bato have highly effective programs for drug reformists. Respondents who received training on starting small businesses, such as "gulayan sa barangay" (backyard vegetable farming), reported the highest mean score among all statements. This implies that participants in the anti-drug program gained valuable skills through training. The choice of the "gulayan" program is based on the favorable soil conditions in Barangay Bato, which are suitable for farming. Additionally, backyard vegetable farming is a visible option for all reformists to grow their own produce, which they can sell within their community. Furthermore, reformists are trained to establish their own "sari-sari" store as part of the livelihood program. However, this aspect received the lowest mean score among the provided statements, indicating that it may not be as effective as other livelihood programs. This could be due to the saturation of sari-sari stores in many households, leading to challenges in profitability.

These findings are congruent with some studies already done. Livelihood programs enhance economic well-being by providing individuals with skills, resources, and opportunities to generate income. These programs can empower participants to achieve financial stability, which is an important component of overall well-being (World Bank, 2018).

Livelihood programs, which equip individuals with skills and opportunities for employment or income generation, play a vital role in improving overall well-being. Financial stability and the ability to meet basic needs directly impact an individual's sense of security and well-being (Bandura, 2019)

The second indicator of the study examined the spiritual program, which also received a high perception of effectiveness. Respondents indicated that this program was effective in developing the faith and spiritual aspects of reformists, which is crucial for their rehabilitation. The program included activities like Faith-Based sessions where participants read Bible verses and shared their life experiences, boosting their self-confidence. Additionally, meditation programs helped reformists find the courage to mend their lives after addiction. These activities provided an outlet for self-expression and fostered respect and understanding among group members. Overall, spiritual and meditation activities strengthened the faith of individual reformists and motivated them to continue their rehabilitation journey.

Research has consistently shown that engagement in spiritual or religious activities is associated with improved well-being and mental health. Spiritual programs often provide individuals with a sense of purpose, meaning, and connectedness to a higher power or community,

all of which contribute to an enhanced sense of well-being (Koenig et al., 2022).

Many individuals in recovery experience significant spiritual growth as they embark on their journey toward sobriety. They often explore and strengthen their spirituality through practices such as prayer, meditation, and engagement with religious communities (Krentzman et al., 2022).

The third indicator of the study focused on the educational program, which also received a high perception of effectiveness. Respondents believed that the educational programs offered by the government were beneficial for reformists. These programs helped reformists understand that drug abuse hindered their education and career prospects. Education programs instilled the belief that, despite their circumstances, they still had the opportunity to pursue a degree through initiatives like TESDA, ALS, CHED, and DEPED. This inspired reformists to enhance their skills through TESDA, seek jobs aligned with their abilities, and provide for their families. Education programs also enlightened reformists about the career and job opportunities available within the community.

These findings are congruent with some studies already done. Studies have shown that education is often considered a powerful preventive tool against drug abuse. Studies have consistently found a positive correlation between educational attainment and a reduced likelihood of drug involvement (Hawkins et al., 2018). Anti-drug programs that emphasize the importance of education can contribute to long-term drug prevention efforts.

In summary, the study revealed a high overall perceived effectiveness of the Anti-Drug Program. Among the three indicators, the Spiritual Program received the highest mean score, indicating its effectiveness in strengthening family bonds and faith in God. While the other indicators also yielded high results, there were variations in the perceived effectiveness of the livelihood and educational programs. Nonetheless, these findings suggest that the programs are beneficial for drug reformists in terms of reintegration, reformation, and rehabilitation.

### **Perception of the Level of Rehabilitation to Human Well-Being**

The research explored the general perception of a high level of human well-being. This indicates that the efforts directed towards rehabilitating human well-being have been well-executed and are perceived as successful.

In the initial indicator, focusing on the financial aspect, the respondents demonstrated significant improvement in their financial management skills. This positive change has allowed them to comfortably acquire both their essential necessities and personal desires. Additionally, they have reached a point where they can adequately support their families

by ensuring access to basic provisions such as food and medicines, and they can even provide financial allowances to their children.

These findings are congruent with some studies already done. Drug rehabilitation programs often include components focused on financial education and responsibility. Individuals in recovery learn budgeting skills, financial planning, and the importance of saving. As they progress in their recovery, they are more likely to make responsible financial decisions and avoid spending their resources on drugs or harmful behaviors (Magura et al., 2022).

Successful recovery can lead to increased employment opportunities and income stability. As individuals in recovery regain their sobriety, they are better equipped to pursue and maintain steady employment. This not only provides them with a source of income but also enhances their self-esteem and financial independence (Hser et al., 2018).

In the second indicator, which pertains to the educational aspect, there has been a notable shift in the understanding of the detrimental effects of drugs on individuals' lives. Respondents have gained insight into how drug abuse can disrupt their educational pursuits, potentially leading to dropping out of school. However, what is particularly encouraging is that they have developed a strong belief in their ability to return to education even after battling addiction. Some respondents have already taken affirmative steps toward this goal by successfully completing vocational training, specifically in shielded metal arc welding, provided by the government. Additionally, they have acquired practical skills in vegetable gardening, including pest management techniques, further enhancing their educational and vocational prospects.

These results align with prior research in the field. Anti-drug initiatives often encompass elements of vocational and skill development. These programs are designed to empower individuals with the expertise and know-how needed to attain jobs and create lawful sources of income. Existing research has indicated that such programs have the potential to be successful in diminishing drug-related engagement and enhancing the financial prospects of individuals who were previously entangled with substance abuse (e.g., Petersilia, 2020).

Many individuals with substance use disorders have experienced interruptions in their education due to their addiction. Successful drug reformists often express a renewed desire to pursue educational goals. They recognize the importance of education and are determined to overcome the barriers that substance abuse may have posed to their academic aspirations (Hawkins et al., 2022). Recovery from drug addiction can lead to cognitive improvements, including enhanced memory, problem-solving abilities, and concentration. This cognitive enhancement can aid individuals in their pursuit of educational goals (Harris et al., 2018).

In their spiritual aspect, they have learned to distinguish between good and bad actions. They have also become closer to God by praying

every day and showing gratitude for the good things in their lives. Additionally, they gather every week in the reformist house to read and talk about the Bible. During these meetings, they share their personal experiences, especially those related to their struggles with drugs.

These findings are consistent with previous research in the field. Recovery programs frequently promote introspection regarding personal values and behaviors, resulting in an enhanced sense of morality and ethics among participants. This process often leads to a more distinct grasp of what is right or wrong, and individuals in recovery actively endeavor to align their actions with these newly embraced principles. (Miller & C'de Baca, 2021).

Many individuals in recovery experience significant spiritual growth as they embark on their journey toward sobriety. They often explore and strengthen their spirituality through practices such as prayer, meditation, and engagement with religious communities (Krentzman et al., 2022).

It is important to note that the outcomes of drug rehabilitation programs can vary among individuals, and success is often influenced by factors such as the intensity and duration of treatment, individual commitment, and support networks. However, the overall pattern is that many individuals who successfully complete rehabilitation programs experience significant positive changes in various aspects of their lives, including financial, educational, and spiritual dimensions.

### **Influence of Program and Rehabilitation on the Well-Being of Drug Reformists**

The study revealed a high relationship between the variables of the effectiveness of anti-drug programs and human well-being. This means that the indicator of spiritual program and livelihood programs significantly influences human well-being. Additionally, it mentions that the educational program was not found to have a significant influence on human well-being, based on the results of a stepwise regression analysis.

Numerous studies have explored the impact of spiritual and livelihood programs on human well-being. Spiritual programs often focus on aspects of personal growth, self-reflection, and building a sense of purpose. Such programs may include meditation, prayer, or participation in faith-based communities. Research has shown that engagement in spiritual practices can lead to improvements in psychological and emotional well-being (Koenig et al., 2022). On the other hand, livelihood programs aim to enhance economic well-being by providing individuals with skills, resources, and opportunities to generate income. These programs can empower participants to achieve financial stability, which is an important component of overall well-being (World Bank, 2018).

While education is generally considered a crucial determinant of human well-being, the specific relationship between participation in an educational program and well-being may depend on various factors. The absence of a significant influence of the educational program on well-being

in this study could be attributed to several possibilities like the high level of educational attainment or access to education outside of the program, reducing the potential impact of additional educational interventions. The effectiveness of educational programs can vary depending on their design and content. Some programs may focus more on skill acquisition for employment, while others may emphasize personal development and self-efficacy.

The mention of stepwise regression in the statement implies a statistical analysis that identifies which variables (in this case, programs) are most strongly associated with the outcome variable (human well-being). Stepwise regression can be a valuable tool for variable selection, but its results can be influenced by the choice of criteria for including or excluding variables. Additionally, the significance of a variable may depend on the specific context and sample.

In conclusion, the findings of this study highlight the significance of spiritual and livelihood programs in influencing human well-being. The absence of a significant influence of the educational program may be due to various factors, including sample characteristics, measurement, and program design. Further research and exploration of the specific mechanisms through which these programs impact well-being could provide valuable insights.

### **Conclusion**

In general, it can be concluded that anti-drug program activities and expected outcomes were evidently manifested. The same goes true also to the effects on human well-being which were also evidently manifested by the reformists. Indicators Spiritual programs and livelihood programs are the indicators that were found to have a significant influence on reformists' human well-being. However, the education program is not included because it does not have a high influence on the drug reformist's human well-being.

### **Recommendation**

The following recommendations are highly recommended for consideration:

1. To develop a sustainable Anti-Drug Program, the government and other concerned agencies should prioritize educational programs, as this indicator has been found to be insignificant. They can offer training and seminars on pest control, considering that "gulayan sa barangay" (community gardening) is a viable livelihood option. The success of these three programs relies on their interconnection and cooperation.

2. Further research should be conducted to explore the potential impact of other variables not included in this study on the well-being of reformists. Factors such as social support, mental health services, and community engagement could be investigated to gain a comprehensive understanding of the determinants of well-being among individuals.
3. To assess the long-term effectiveness and sustainability of the anti-drug program, it is advisable to conduct follow-up studies. Monitoring the progress and well-being of reformists over an extended period can yield valuable insights into the program's lasting impact and help identify areas that may require improvement or adjustment.
4. To ensure a comprehensive and integrated approach to anti-drug programs, it is essential to encourage collaboration and coordination among various stakeholders, such as government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community-based groups. By working together, these entities can pool their resources, expertise, and networks, maximizing the effectiveness and reach of interventions aimed at supporting individuals in recovery.

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