The Antisocial Personality of Fraternity and Sorority Members of the University of Northern Philippines

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ABSTRACT

This study looked into the antisocial personality of fraternity and sorority members of the University of Northern Philippines. It made use of the 203 fraternity and sorority members of the 11 recognized fraternities/sororities in the University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur.

The study made use of the descriptive-correlational method of research. The profile of the respondents in terms of fraternity/sorority affiliation, course, age, and sex was correlated with their antisocial personality.

Based on the findings of the study, the age of the respondents is a significant factor that influenced their antisocial personality along social capacity and their overall antisocial personality. The overall antisocial personality of the respondents is average, while the social involvement and social responsibility dimensions were low. The social capacity and social relations of the respondents, on the other hand, is average.

As a result of the study, topics on fraternity/sorority operations should be included in the orientation program of the Office of Student Affairs to expose the students about the existence and operation of fraternities/sororities in the university; the some office should conduct regular activities like sports and cultural competitions where the fraternity/sorority members can toke port in order to eliminate their antisocial personality; it should set a menu of activities from which the fraternities/sororities can choose to implement on the basis of their capacity; and it should be ready to provide all the necessary assistance needed by the fraternities.

Keywords: fraternities, sororities, involvement, responsibility, capacity, relations, antisocial personality

INTRODUCTION

Fraternities and sororities are often erroneously associated with troubles because of the activities that are oftentimes unpleasant – like hazing. Throughout the years, incidents of hazing have been recorded. "Several deaths by hazing have occurred over long period of time, and the practice remains prevalent despite the passage of the Anti-Hazing Law more than a decade ago. Indeed hazing has developed into a culture of violence" (David, 2012). This is also the reason why, many schools ban the operation of fraternities and sororities. Or, if there be any, incidents related to fraternities are not reported. "Colleges and Universities sometimes avoid publicizing hazing incidents for fear of damaging institutional reputations or incurring financial liability by the victim" (Sweet, 2001). In a survey conducted in US involving over 60,000 student athletes from 2,400 colleges and universities, it was found out that 79 percent of college athletes experienced some form of hazing to join their team, yet 60 percent of the student-athlete respondents indicated that they would not report incidents of hazing" (Hoover, 2012).

In the University of Northern Philippines (UNP), Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, in the early 80s, a neophyte shot to death his senior for the insult he got in an initiation rite. Consequently, he was shot to death inside the comfort room of the commerce building of the University as he refused to surrender to authorities.

Incidents like this give negative perception on fraternities and reinforce the notion that fraternity/sorority members are individuals who need to shape up. It may not be true to all, but generally, it causes the fraternity members to alienate themselves from the mainstream society.

In UNP, 11 fraternities/sororities operate. They operate within the mainstream of the organizations as they are given recognition and their existence is vouched by the school's laws. They formed the Peaceful, Responsible, Organized Fraternities (POR-Frat) to show the community that fraternities are no longer social liabilities; instead, they can also be productive partners in institutional development.

In spite of the legalized operation of fraternities in the university, students still seem to shun away from recruitment and members are still very reserved in their dealings with other students. It is likewise observed that the fraternity/sorority members of UNP still have the antisocial behavior as evidenced by their hesitation to attend meetings and participate in community activities other than those that their own groups sponsor.

By identifying the degree of antisocial personality of the fraternity/sorority members, the Office of Student Affairs can design programs to improve the attitudes, behaviors, and the total personality development of these students to make them better citizens. As David (2012) pointed out "schools must (also) encourage an environment wherein students are afforded various modes of coping with stress from academic demands."

This study is geared towards that end, and fraternity and sorority members would benefit from it, more particularly, in their pursuit of acceptance and understanding. By identifying the degree of their social personality, appropriate measures can be initiated to make them feel that they can live as normally as any student can be.

Results of this study may also be helpful to administrators as they serve as guide in designing programs to improve the personality of the fraternity and sorority members.

This study aimed to find out the level of antisocial personality of the fraternity/sorority members of the University of Northern Philippines.

Specifically, this study looked into their profile in terms of fraternity/sorority affiliation, course, age, and sex; determined their antisocial personality along social involvement, social responsibility, social capacity, and social relations; and determined the relationship between their profile and level of antisocial personality.

Antisocial behavior is defined as "behavior that lacks consideration for others and may cause damage to the society, whether unintentionally or through negligence" (Berger, 2003). It is, therefore, the "others" who are always the measure of whether or not the behavior is anti or pro social. Given this context, participation in social activities can be a factor that determines that (antisocial) personality. Although it is difficult to measure, and other factors may also be attributed to the variations in individual levels of involvement, it is nonetheless important to know that social involvement greatly affects antisocial personality. As O'Keefe (1990) explained, "the high-involvement participants had more extreme attitudes than the low-involvement participants."

The working relationship may also be a factor that determines the antisocial personality of an individual. This is encapsulated in social capacity which is defined as "levels of leadership, empathy, listening skills, negotiation and persuasion skills, conflict management skills, and other interpersonal skills are critical to the

establishment and maintenance of effective working relationships with others." The personal (intellectual, physical, and psychological) as well as economic capacities of people determine their capability to negotiate, participate, and to the very least, understand the kind of support that they could give to an organization. And this could affect the extent of their involvement in such organization thereby influencing their social or antisocial personality.

On the other hand, the commitment that actions do not adversely affect other people around is considered social responsibility. It is aptly described in Wikipedia as "it is morally binding on everyone to act in such a way that the people immediately around them are not adversely affected" (Wikipedia, 2012). It is a responsibility that holds true to everyone, irrespective of organizational affiliation. Social responsibility may be contributory to the development of an antisocial personality because of the vulnerability to commit something that might hurt other people, and eventually forces people to isolate themselves.

There are factors that contribute to a child's antisocial behavior, most of which are attributed to family orientations. Marital discord, harsh or inconsistent disciplinary actions or actual child abuse, frequent changes in primary caregivers, learning disabilities, or health problems are just some of the identified causes of antisocial personality. In some instances, a child's antisocial personality may be a response to a specific stressor (like death of parents or divorce).

There are indicators of antisocial personality among adults. An adult with antisocial personality disorder displays at least three of the following behaviors:
1. Failure to conform to social norms with respect to lawful behaviors as indicated by repeatedly performing acts that are grounds for arrest;
2. Deception, as indicated by repeatedly lying, use of aliases, or conning others for personal profit or pleasure;
3. Impulsivity or failure to plan ahead;
4. Irritability and aggressiveness, as indicated by repeated physical fights or assaults;
5. Reckless disregard for safety of self or others;
6. Consistent irresponsibility, as indicated by repeated failure to sustain consistent work behavior or honor financial obligations; and
7. Lack of remorse, as indicated by being indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another (American Psychiatric Association, 2000).

In a nutshell, the antisocial personality of the fraternity/sorority members of the University of Northern Philippines may be explained with the interplay of the factors presented as reinforced by the various ideas and views of experts in the field. The inclusion of the fraternity/sorority members in the study is brought about by the fact that these students have gone through traumatic experiences and have developed antisocial personality as a means to protect themselves from the pressures of their environment.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher developed a 20-item questionnaire that tests the antisocial personality of the respondents with the following indicators:

a) Social Involvement. This refers to the discharge of duties of the Fraternity/Sorority member with respect to organizational activities.
b) Social Responsibility. This refers to the personal compulsion to perform civic actions.
c) Social Capacity. This refers to the extent of personal ability to perform social functions and duties.
d) Social Relations. This refers the ability to relate with other people.

The instrument was constructed using both the positive and negative statements. In the processing of data, the positive items were inversely recorded since this study is looking into the antisocial personality of the respondents.

The questionnaires were floated to all members of the recognized fraternities and sororities in the University of Northern Phillipines. The information gathered were tabulated and statistically processed which served as data for the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As shown in Table 1, the Phi Beta Rho has the biggest number of respondents constituting 29 (14.3%) of the total population of the study. This is followed by the Samahang Ilocano (26 or 12.89%), Kappa Epsilon (22 or 10.89%), Alpha Kappa Rho (21 or 10.34%), Elite Northern Youngster (20 or 9.9%), United Ilocandia (18 or 8.9%), Alpha Phi Sigma (17 or 8.4%), Genuine Ilocano (15 or 7.4%), Alpha Phi Omega (15 or 7.4%), Gamma Kappa Rho (15 or 7.4%), and Beta Sigma (5 or 2.5%).

Table I. Distribution of the respondents according to fraternities.

Fraternity/Sorority	f	%
Samahang Ilocano (SI)	26	12.8
Beta Sigma (B)	5	2.5
United Ilocandia (UI)	18	8.9
Kappa Epsilon	22	10.8
Genuine Ilocano	15	7.4
Phi Beta Rho	29	14.3
Alpha Phi Sigma	17	8.4
Elite Northern Youngster	20	9.9
Alpha Phi Omega {APO)	15	7.4
Gamma Kappa Rho (GKR)	15	7.4
Alpha Kappa Rho (AKR)	21	10.3
Total	203	100

As shown in Table 2, the College of Criminology has the biggest number of fraternity/sorority members, constituting 52 (25.6%) of the total number of the respondents. It is followed by the College of Business and Administration and Accountancy (49 or 24.1%), College of Engineering (23 or 11.3%), College of Communication and Information Technology (13 or 6.4%), College of Technology (11 or 5.4%), College of Nursing (4 or 2%), College of Fine Arts (3 or 1.5%), College of Architecture (2 or 1%), and College of Social Work (1 or 0.5%).

Table 2. Profile of the respondents according to college of enrolment.

College	f	%
Criminology	52	25.6
Engineering	23	11.3
Business Administration and Accountancy	49	24.1
Arts and Sciences	5	2.5
Communication and Information Technology	13	6.4
Teacher Education	8	3.9
Nursing	4	2.0
Health Sciences	10	4.9
Architecture	2	1.0
Fine Arts	3	1.5
Social Work	1	0.5
Technology	11	5.4
Not Indicated	22	10.8
Total	203	100

Notably, 22 (10.8%) of the respondents did not indicate their college of enrolment, which may be attributed to the traditional notion that fraternities are social taboos and, therefore, membership is not socially acceptable. It might also mean that the respondents who did not indicate their college was done to lessen the threat of being identified because they are afraid of the repercussions in case the family will come to know about their membership to such organizations. These might explain this finding of the study.

The profile of the respondents according to college of enrolment would indicate that being a male-dominated course, the College of Criminology is the most potential course where fraternity/sorority membership may abound. This might be strengthened by the fact that the College of Engineering is the third college which is dominated by fraternity/sorority members. The status of the Colleges of Architecture, Fine Arts, and Social Work as thinly populated academic units would explain the few fraternity/sorority members coming from them.

Table 3. Profile of respondents according to age.

Age	f	%
16	15	7.4
17	39	19.2
18	48	23.6
19	41	20.2
20	30	14.8
21	13	6.4
22	6	3.0
23	3	1.5
24	4	2.0
25 above	1	0.5
Not indicated	3	1.5
Total	203	100

According to age (Table 3), many of the fraternity/sorority members are aged 18 (48 0r 23.6%); 41 (20.2%) are 19 years old; 39 (19.2%) are 17 years old; 30 (14.8%) are 20 years old; 15 (7.4%) are 16 years old; 13 (6.4%) are 21 years old; six (3.0%) are 22 years old; three (1.5%) are 23 years old; four (2%) are 24 years old, one (0.5%) is 25 years old and above. There are also three (1.5%) who did not indicate their ages.

The findings would attest to the fact that most of the fraternity/sorority members are already of legal ages. They are old enough to understand the repercussions of their involvement in fraternities/sororities. They are already mature to discern and come out with intelligent decisions as to whether being involved in fraternities/sororities would be beneficial or not.

As shown in Table 4, 165 (81.3%) of the respondents are males while 38 (18.7%) are females. Needless to say, fraternities are for male and while they have their female counterparts, the sororities, they are still outnumbered. This findings also attests to the fact that membership to such organization is more attractive to men than to women.

Table 4. Profile of the respondents according to sex.

Sex	F	%
Male	165	81.3
Female	38	18.7
Total	203	100

Level of Antisocial Personality of the Respondents Along Social Involvement

The members of the fraternities/sororities showed dislike to sharing their time for the fraternities/sororities' activities as an indicator of antisocial personality along social involvement as indicated by the mean rating of 2.62 at an average level (Table 5).

Table 5. Level of antisocial personality of fraternity and sorority members of UNP along social involvement.

Indicators	$\bar{X}$	DR
I want to participate in activities only if I have friends in the fraternity/sorority.	2.49	Low
I am not comfortable participating in activities because of what others may say regarding our fraternity/sorority.	2.28	Low
Whether a member of the fraternity/sorority or not, I love sharing my time for its activities.	2.62	Average
I want to participate in the activities of the fraternity/sorority only if it is done outside the campus.	2.40	Low
I want to join activities only if my fraternity/sorority does not identify itself as the sponsor.	2.34	Low
Overall	2.42	Low

The result indicates that the fraternity/sorority members have a somewhat innate dislike to activities of fraternities. Irrespective of whether they are members of fraternities or not, they have manifested a dislike to share their time for the activities of the fraternity or sorority. However, this antisocial behavior is only noted to be at average level. In other words, this behavior of the respondents can still be reversed to develop their social involvement and participation.

It is also noted that the items *"I am not comfortable participating in activities because of what others may say regarding our fraternity/sorority"* (=2.28), *"I want to join activities only if my fraternity/sorority does not identify itself as the sponsor"* (5=2.34), *"I want to participate in the activities of the fraternity/sorority only if it is done outside the campus"* (5=2.40), *"I want to participate in activities only if I have friends in the fraternity/sorority"* (5=2.49), are indicators of the respondents' antisocial personality along social involvement. However, these indicators are noted to be "low" sources of such behavior.

The overall mean rating of social involvement as indicator of the respondents' antisocial personality is 2.42 at "low" level. This finding shows that the fraternity/sorority members demonstrate positive attitude towards social involvement. They have developed a desirable attitude towards other people which means that their affiliation to fraternities/sororities is never a hindrance in the performance of their duties as members of fraternities/sororities.

This is supported by the common observation and experience that frat men are oftentimes frontliners in students' extra-curricular and co-curricular activities by performing functions like errands, peace officers, prompters, put-away officers, and others.

Table 6. Level of antisocial personality of fraternity and sorority members
of UNP along social responsibility.

Indicators	5	DR
I may or may not be a fraternity/sorority member but I love helping others.	2.25	Low
I am motivated to care for others because of the inspiration that I draw from my fraternity/sorority.	2.33	Low
I am constrained to help others because they might not accept my being a fraternity/ sorority member.	2.69	Average
It becomes easier to perform a civic function with the fraternity/sorority behind you.	3.03	Average
My fellow fraternity/sorority members do not share the same enthusiasm that I have in helping others.	2.37	Low
Overall	2.5	Low

As shown in Table 6, the respondents considered *"difficulty in performing civic action with the fraternity/sorority behind you"* (=3.03), and " *I am constrained to help others because they might not accept my being a fraternity/sorority member"*

⟵2.69), as average indicators of antisocial personality along responsibility. This means that the fraternity/sorority members have a feeling of anxiety whenever they are exposed to situations that demand their performance of responsibilities. They probably feel the stigma that is attached to fraternities that is why they reveal such feelings as indicators of antisocial personality along social responsibility.

However, the respondents manifested that "dislike to help others" (5=2.25), "lack of enthusiasm from other fraternity/sorority members ⟨=2.25), and "lack of inspiration from the fraternity/sorority" (⟵=2.39) are low indicators of antisocial personality along social responsibilities irrespective of whether or not they are members of fraternity/sorority. These findings show the innate desire from the respondents to perform social responsibilities because they are motivated by their fraternities, they love helping others, they have the same level of enthusiasm, and they are secured in their feeling that other people will not hesitate to be assisted by them just because they are members of fraternities/sororities. This finding is further strengthened by the overall mean rating of social responsibility as an indicator of antisocial personality which is 2.55 at low level.

Table 7. Level of antisocial personality of fraternity and sorority members of UNP along social capacity.

Indicators	5	DR
I am capable of doing everything that my fraternity/sorority plans to undertake.	2.74	Average
Every activity that my fraternity/sorority plans to initiate is meant to draw from me the best that I can be.	2.82	Average
I am restricted to give the best that I can because it might be misinterpreted by others as boastfulness.	2.79	Average
My fraternity/sorority considers the members' capability when planning for its activities.	2.69	Average
It is expensive to become a fraternity/sorority member because of the projects that we undertake.	2.52	Low
Overall	**2.71**	**Average**

The respondents manifested an average level of antisocial personality along social capacity in the following: *plans are not meant to draw from me the best that I can be* (5=2.82), *I am restricted to give the best that I can be because it might be misinterpreted by others as boastfulness* ⟨=2.79), *I am not capable of doing everything that my fraternity/sorority plans to undertake* (5=2.74), and *the fraternity/sorority does not consider the members' capability in planning for its*

activities (5=2.69). These findings indicate that the respondents, on the other hand, feel that the activities of their fraternity/sorority are meant to develop them; whatever others may say, they are still willing to give their best activities; they are capable of doing everything that their fraternity/sorority plans to undertake, and their capabilities are considered in planning the activities.

The respondents also considered the cost of being a member of the fraternity/sorority as a low source of antisocial personality along social capacity (8=2.52).

The overall mean rating of the respondents' antisocial personality along social capacity is 2.71, which is at the average level. This means that the respondents are aware of their limitations. The respondents, being students, have very limited capacity to finance the projects of the organizations or to contribute something for the organization. However, they do not find this as deterrent in their performance of responsibilities.

These findings also show that the respondents are capable of performing their responsibilities because they are well-planned, and they are meant to develop them into wholesome individuals.

Table 8. Level of antisocial personality of fraternity and sorority members
of UNP along social relations

Indicators	5	DR
I gained confidence because of the feeling that others are ready to come to my rescue anytime I need them.	3.17	Average
I am restricted in my dealings with others because they might not understand me as a fraternity/sorority member.	2.74	Average
The stigma of being a fraternity/sorority member is very strong in the university and in the locality	3.17	Average
I can feel the discrimination in the classroom, in the campus, and even in the communities because of my membership in fraternity/sorority.	2.38	Low
I gained more friends for being a fraternity/sorority member.	2.24	Low
Overall	2.74	Average

It can be gleaned from Table 8 that the respondents considered the following as average sources of antisocial personality along social relations: absence of others

in times of needs (5=3.17), the stigma of being a fraternity/sorority members is very strong in the university and in the locality (=3.17); others might not understand me as a fraternity/sorority member (=2.74). However, the following are low sources of antisocial personality along social relations: discrimination (5=2.38) and less friends (5=2.24). The overall level of antisocial personality of the respondents along social relations is average as evidenced by the mean rating of 2.74

These findings show that being a fraternity or sorority member is not a hindrance in gaining friends. It is not also discriminating to be a member of a fraternity or sorority. On the contrary, the knitness of relationship and friendship that is developed in the fraternity considering the spirit of "brotherhood" strengthens the social relation skills of the members. The "compulsory" friendship that is developed at the outset of membership is eventually translated into a strong feeling of belongingness and develops in the fraternity/sorority members their self-confidence.

The overall level of antisocial personality of the fraternity/sorority members is average as evidenced by the mean rating of 2.61 (Table 9). This means that the fraternity/sorority members are not socially inclined. The average antisocial personality of the respondents may be due to the fact that they do not possess an entirely antisocial behavior but they are also capable of meeting and adjusting to given social situations.

Table 9. Summary of the level of antisocial personality of the respondents.

Indicators	5	DR
Social Involvement	2.42	Low
Social Responsibility	2.55	Low
Social Capacity	2.71	Average
Social Relation	2.74	Average
Overall	2.61	Average

This study also determined the relationship between the profile of the respondents and their level of antisocial personality (Table 10).

Table 10. Relationship between the level of antisocial personality
of the respondents and their profile.

Variables	Antisocial Personality of the Respondents				
	Social Involvement	Social Responsibility	Social Capacity	Social Relations	Asa Whole
Fraternity	.027	-.029	.162°	.144	.101
College	-.106	-.015	-.143	-.072	-.114
Age	-.114	-.104	-.185°	-.064	-.162
Sex	.104	-.010	.083	.094	.089

•• correlation is significant at the .01 level

• correlation is significant at the .OS level

As shown in Table 10, fraternity/sorority affiliations are significantly related to social capacity and social relations of the respondents as evidenced by the r values of .162 and .144, respectively. This means that the social capacity and social relationship of the members of various fraternities are significantly related. Some fraternities/sororities have significantly higher level of antisocial personality along social capacity, which means that the APO, GKR, and AKR members have significantly higher level antisocial personality than the SI, BZ, and UI.

The members of the APO, GKR and AKR probably have lower level of self-confidence and are discriminated against the members of SI, BZ, and UI, who probably have higher level of self-confidence, braver, and more definite and resolved in joining fraternities. It might also be implied that members of the fraternities whose level of antisocial personality is higher are probably the ones who are ostracized or who have experienced being outcast in their groups, which explains the significant relationship.

As shown also in Table 10, age is inversely related to social capacity as an indicator of antisocial personality as evidenced by the computed r value of -.185 which is significant at .01 level. This means that the younger members of fraternities and sororities have higher level of antisocial personality. This could be due to the fact that the younger members are still observing the activities of the organizations and are still dependent on the orders of their older brothers. Their being young and probably new members of the fraternity/sorority leads them to develop a feeling of dependence and, therefore, limits their display of their full potentials. This might explain the significant relationship.

As a whole, the age of the respondents also have an inverse significant relationship with their overall antisocial personality as evidenced by the computed r value of -.162 which is significant at .OS level. This means that the younger members of fraternities/sororities have higher level of antisocial personality than the older members. This is understandable as the young members are dependent on superior orders. As such, they are afraid to initiate actions. Their participation to organizational activities are probably controlled because of fear that their actions might go against the more senior members of their group. This probably explains this findings.

CONCLUSIONS

The male-dominated courses are primarily the sources of fraternity/sorority memberships. The fraternity/sorority members have average social capacity and social relations while the fraternity/sorority members have low social involvement and social responsibility, their overall level of antisocial personality is average. The older members of fraternity/sorority are more capable of meeting their responsibilities as members than the younger ones.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Topics on fraternity/sorority operations should be included in the orientation program of the Office of Student Affairs to expose the students about the existence and operation of fraternities in the university. The office should conduct regular activities (like sports, cultural, and other extra-curricular and co-curricular activities) for fraternity/sorority members to totally eliminate their antisocial personality, particularly the younger members. Further, the office should set a menu of activities from which the fraternities/sororities can choose to implement on the basis of their capacity, and be ready to provide all the necessary assistance needed by the fraternities/sororities.

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