

Part-Time Job: Students' Difficulties In Studying And Working Amidst Of Covid-19 Pandemic

Eliza Joyce M. Balderrama, Sofia Kaye P. Dela Vega, Shiela May Templado, Arabella O. Trinidad, Christopher DC. Francisco

Barcelona Academy, Marilao, Bulacan, Philippines
christopher.francisco004@deped.gov.ph

Abstract: *The aim of the study is to know the difficulties of working students during the time of CoVid-19 pandemic. The research method for this study was a qualitative phenomenological approach. This approach focuses on describing the lived experiences of people. Also, it explores how they have suffered these experiences. This study found that some of working-students are having a hard time to do study and working at the same time. A working student requires having time management skills to balance study and work at the same time and being able to prioritize things. Being a working student during a pandemic became more difficult. Having no time to sleep takes away your energy to study and also to work. It's hard to focus on your school and work that will eventually make you stress. Having patience is important to improve their status. Time will come and working students will successfully finish their studies and will have better jobs in the future.*

Keywords— Part-time job, Students difficulties, Covid-19 Pandemic

1. INTRODUCTION

Students face different difficulties that might affect their academic performances. This may include factors like working while attending school. Many students force themselves to work while studying. One of the causes of this is not being able to support their education financially. Yet it seems like other working students don't really have a problem financially. They do part-time jobs related to their future career to help them enhance their skills [1]. Nevertheless most of the students work because of financial complications.

Working while studying isn't a simple task, especially for those students who work for more hours than their studying hours. Working while studying full time can be a challenging situation. This can require a lot of effort and time between studies and work. Attending school and working at the same time is hard enough. It will bring a high probability of repeating or dropping out of the students who are unable to focus on their studies while doing part time jobs [2].

This makes it more challenging for those who are working students since Covid-19 affects us all. In order to adapt to the new normal the use of online learning reveals that it is very helpful in this time of pandemic [3]. Even though it is very helpful and useful to some of the students. There are still some of the learners who weren't able to adapt in this new learning system. Since we are facing this epidemic many students are struggling. Mostly those who are studying while working. Some may also experience job loss that may affect their education [4].

Many families can't afford their child to have access to education due to lack of financial support. Forcing a student to work while studying to continue and support their education. Regardless of students who have part-time job their GPA is better than expected. However, many of the working students took longer to finish their studies than those who don't have part-time jobs [5]. This makes it more difficult for them since the pandemic continues.

2. RELATED WORK

Part time job is a form of employment with less time per week than the full-time work. Workers or laborers are generally considered as part-time if they work for more than 30- 35 hours a week. For some students, taking work is not a matter of personal opinion but a requirement or necessity. Students define part-time job as a practical opportunity or chance to reach the main goal to have a good job that may align to their own will after graduation [6]. On the other hand some other findings reveal that being a working student has a positive effect in career development and job experiences [8].

A study shows that students who are working have a difficulty to balance sleep, study and work. That they disregard their sleep to study more or extend their work. Lower GPAs recorded by participants with low sleep scores [15]. Having a complete 7-9 hours of sleep will help in different factors. It is important for a student because it will improve their academic performance. It is a major factor that a student have a complete sleep to focus in their studies, improve immune function, and improve you as overall as an individual.

Since the pandemic affect us all including those students who have part-time jobs. A result show that Covid-19 confinement has a major positive impact on students.

Containment has shifted the learning strategies of students to a more continuous habit, improving their effectiveness [14]. However, in the study revealed that pandemic causes anxiety for the students that having online classes [11]. Even before this pandemic working students pressured to do part-time jobs to get extra income. This make it tougher as the pandemic start. It is difficult to balance work and studying. Another study stated that in this time of Pandemic workloads does not really affect the student's mental wellbeing [9].

Most of the students do part-time jobs because their parents cannot support their education financially. A study found that having experience in doing part-time jobs helps graduate applicants to convince their employer to hire them. Being a working student helps them to develop their skills [13]. Studying while working is a difficult task. Being exhausted in work and having tons of school work will make you feel more tired. A study shows that having a lot of workload will increase the chance of a student possible retake [7]. It will require a lot of effort, time, and discipline being a working student. It shows that students who decide to work while studying since their family cannot support their education should be ready, committed and disciplined [12] [10].

3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study aims to determine the students' difficulties in studying and working during a pandemic. The study seeks to answer the following questions:

1. What is being a working student?
2. What are the issues and problems encountered by the working students?
3. What coping mechanism do they employ in facing their issues as a working students?
4. What do the respondents recommend in order to improve their status?

4. METHODOLOGY

Design

The research method for this study was a qualitative phenomenological approach. This approach focuses on describing the lived experiences of people. Also, it explores how they have suffered these experiences. In the phenomenological research design, it concerns the lived experiences of people [17]. The researchers explicated the data gathered instead of analyzing it. The explication process referred to has five phases or steps: (1) bracketing and phenomenological reduction, (2) delineating units of meaning, (3) clustering of units of meaning to form themes, (4) summarizing each interview, and (5) extracting general and unique themes from all the interviews and making a composite summary in the form of a grounded theoretical framework. Researchers used interviews and evaluation to

collect the data. This is to obtain the information need for the study. The researchers interviewed the respondents. The investigators also sent a letter of request to the participants. This letter indicates their contract with the interview.

Participants

The respondents of the study involved seven (7) working students from chosen senior secondary schools in the region of Marilao, Bulacan. They are studying in different schools in Marilao, Bulacan and working from different job sectors. The researchers used purposive sampling to select the respondents of the study. Purposeful sampling is broadly utilized in qualitative research for distinguishing and choosing people or gatherings of people that are particularly proficient about or experienced with a wonder of revenue [16]. Although there are a few diverse deliberate purposeful sampling strategies, measure inspecting gives off an impression of being utilized most ordinarily in implementation research.

Instrument

In this paper, the researchers present various ways to deal with the utilization of purposeful sampling strategies in usage research. The researchers composed four (4) questions who will be answered by each participant through google forms, messenger or email. This signifies their agreement in the interview and these questions describe how difficult for the students to study and work at the same time. The guide questions served as upgrades in getting the impression of the respondents on the issues.

The questions were:

1. For you what is being a working students?
2. As a working student, what are the issues or problems you face?
3. What coping mechanism do you employ in facing some issues as a working students?
4. What do you recommend to improve your status?

Data Analysis

The researchers will utilize thematic coding in analyzing data. Various respondents to a similar question, normally, will react diversely by utilizing words or expressions that don't coordinate yet are still thoughtfully related. The open codes, made by the initial pass through the information that focuses on identifying, labeling, and classifying, might be joined into one overall idea. Regardless of whether in the field making observations or conducting interviews, qualitative data analysts utilize a wide range of sorts of coding categories, including those connected to context, circumstance, perspectives, points of view, measures, exercises, occasions, methodologies, and connections, among others [18].

Data Collection Procedures

The researchers properly followed the following procedures to have a systematic way in collecting data: First, The researchers sent the participants a message about the

agreement and their topic to make sure that the participants are aware on what they are talking about. Second, the researchers provided a questions focusing on how Working students handle their status and what are their opinions.

5. RESULTS

I. Meaning of Working Student

A. Time Management skills

The participants accept the fact that becoming a working student is very tough and they fail to balance their time in juggling work and learning. Actually Respondent no.1 stated that "Working while studying is difficult. Being a working student is an extra effort for everything from how to manage your time for work and school as well as the personal life." A corollary to the preceding statement, Respondent no.2 indicated that "Being a working student is hard, you need to have a time management for you to perform in both in work and in school. "Time was precious for every working students. We shouldn't waste our time because we need to fight and grind every day" (Respondent no.4). In addition, some of the respondents don't have difficulties in managing time as Respondent no. 3 and 5 indicated because their school hours are limited especially now that we're adapting the new normal in education as the Pandemic arise.

B. Self-support

Some of the Respondents stated that they struggle in "financial aspects- the need of money for extra income to support their education especially now that Pandemic hits us" (Respondent no.6). This was supported by respondent no.7 as he/she define that being a working student is a self-supporting.

II. Issues Encountered by Working-Students

A. Lack of Sleep and Energy

Respondent no.1 stated that "One of the challenge of being a working student is lack of sleep because it is tough to manage your time between works and school it became tougher because it's hard to commute this time of pandemic. Going to work takes most of my time. When it should be my time resting or doing my school work. It is stressful because it's hard to learn in this type of online schooling." This was supported by respondent no. 2 as she/he finds the difficulty in having no time to rest even if he/she only work and studied at home. Therefore, respondents assume that all of the working students face this kind of difficulties especially now that the Pandemic is not yet over and this made them to suffer more a lot.

B. Stress

Some answers focused on the struggles in to their mental health issues. Respondent no. 4 added that "My mortal enemy is my mental health. This Pandemic triggered my anxiety and it getting worse as the day passed. This kind of issues lead me in to an unhealthy lifestyle."

III. Coping Mechanisms Employed in Facing Some Issues as a Working Student

A. Prioritization of Tasks

Five of the participants, which are respondents 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 answered having time management is very important as a working student. Knowing what to prioritize and being able to divide your time appear to be the coping mechanisms of respondent 1,2,3,4 and 6. Respondent 4 stated that "Time management for me is the key to be able to adapt in this new normal because as a working student time is very important". Respondents 4, 6 and 7 also indicated that having determination, hard work discipline, patience and being a brave individual is what helps them to face difficulties as working students who balance work and study at the same time in this time of pandemic.

IV. Recommendation to Improve Status

A. Patience

According to respondent no. 7 to improve his/her status as a working student he stated that "I believe that I just need to be patient and have faith to be able and successfully finish my studies and have a better job in the future". This was supported by Respondent no. 6 who believes that having patience in things will have a better outcome. Time is very important to Respondents no. 1, 3 and 4. Don't waste time and manage it very well to improve your status as a working student who faces different challenges and difficulties while working and studying in this time of Pandemic. They also stated that they endure back-breaking work at school and to their own duties but for them it is very difficult if you don't have dreams and they added that don't forget to take rest and don't abuse yourself.

6. DISCUSSION

In this chapter, every one of the outcomes from the instrument that is used for this study outlined in Methodology are introduced and analyzed in detail. The impacts of the significant factors on the performance of the students are clarified, and different implications for design are discussed.

This study found that some of working-students are having a hard time to do study and working at the same time. The respondents inspected in this investigation were exact in their understanding about the struggles and difficulties of being a working-student. Notwithstanding, consenting to the hardships of students in education improvement is not quite the same as having the ability to improve their job performance.

7. CONCLUSION

A working student requires having time management skills to balance study and work at the same time and being able to prioritize things. They study and work to support themselves and their education. Being a working student

during a pandemic became more difficult. This is answer question number one. To answer question number two, experiencing lack of sleep and energy and also stress is the most common issues and problems encountered by working students. Having no time to sleep takes away your energy to study and also to work. It's hard to focus on your school and work that will eventually make you stress. This even makes it more stressful as the pandemic starts. Knowing how to prioritize is the common answer of the respondents on their coping mechanisms answering question number three. Being able to prioritize your time is important to balance work and study. Lastly to answer the last question, respondents answer that having patience is important to improve their status. Time will come and working students will successfully finish their studies and will have better jobs in the future. Furthermore respondents say that having financial problems is one of the reasons why they are working. Respondents work in order to also help their family and support their education. In addition they also include that it is a good experience for the future.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Base from the findings and conclusions, the researchers recommend the following for future: (1) Working students must support their self especially now in our new normal. (2) Working Students must have Time Management between working and studying. In order also to keep themselves healthy and away from stress, they must set a time for his/her mental health. (3) The working-students should know what are their priority tasks in able to divide their time too and to avoid any confusion on what are their going to do. (4) In order to become better and successful working students, they must have a patience especially in their situation that they are facing now. Because patience will help them to wait for a better outcome from what they have do.

For the limitations of the study: First the researchers must have an extra respondents to participate when there's a chosen respondent who's not able to answer. Second the researchers must do their interview with the respondents via online meeting like zoom because this research is an open-ended questions and also to have a more reliable findings. Lastly, the researchers also suggest to use the code and theme in finding the results in order to easily collect the common answers of respondents, so that they can find a most reliable answers for findings.

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