

**SOCIAL SUPPORTS OF IMPOVERISHED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF  
ANHUI, CHINA AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON VALUES**

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A Dissertation Presented to the  
Graduate Faculty of the College of Education  
University of San Carlos  
Cebu City, Philippines

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree of  
**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION**  
**MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

by

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October 2014

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## ABSTRACT

The study is on the extent of social supports of the impoverished undergraduate students (IUS) in the selected four universities in An Hui Province to enhance the current social support. This is focused on the relationship among the social supports and values of life, financial values, learning values and moral values.

Having been aware of higher education popularization in China, the impoverished undergraduate students (IUS) and their problems which would influence their values become the focal point of this study. The Anhui government ensures that each IUS would not drop-out of school by increasing financial investment and expanding funding channels, but there are not enough, more has to be done.

Both qualitative and quantitative research methods were used in this study for assessing the level of IUS' social supports. The questionnaire on the extent of IUS' Social Supports comprised 11 statements with assigned perspectives which were divided into three categories: subjective, objective and availability. The questionnaire on the IUS Values was consisted of 50 statements with assigned values. The respondents were asked to signify the degree by using the Likert Scale Five Spot Measurement. Finally, the data was analyzed to test the correlation between social support and values. The Interview Guide contains the series of questions which were raised during the focused group interviews that clarified some responses and enriched the gathered data.

The findings of study indicated that the level of social support was high. Specifically, the objective social support (OSS) level was low because students seldom got support from the other official and unofficial organizations. According to the interview, the students demanded more resources in job training and learning than financial support. The respondents have reasonable judgment about values. The IUS also had the other concerns such as the imbalance allocation between scholarships and grants as well as in financial support and spirit-caring. Further, there was an imbalance in identifying the IUS rights and obligations.

In order to fulfill the objective of enhancing the current social support system, there is a need of an organization to deal with the whole support affairs, primarily in identifying the IUS and intensifying the other official and unofficial organizations social support. Secondly there is a need to build the mutual assistance mechanism for learning, and paying attention to on-job training and employment. Thus some exact action plan for an enhanced social support system is produced to assist students in their quest for scholarships and grants that can inspire IUS to appreciate the support for their current situation, adjust their learning strategies and create a better future.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>APPROVAL SHEET</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENT</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>LIST OF FORMS</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1</b>	
<b>THE PROBLEM AND ITS SCOPE</b>	
Rationale of the Study	1
Theoretical Background	4
<b>THE PROBLEM</b>	19
Statement of Problem	19
Significance of the Study	19
<b>RESEARCH METHODOLOGY</b>	21
Research Environment	21
Research Respondents	22
Research Instruments	23
Research Procedure	26
<i>Gathering of Data.</i>	26

<i>Treatment of Data.</i>	26
<b>DEFINITION OF TERMS</b>	27
<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	
<b>SOCIAL SUPPORTS EXTENDED TO THE IMPOVERISHED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF ANHUI, CHINA</b>	29
Objective Social Support	29
Subjective Social Support	33
Social Support Availability	34
<b>CHAPTER 3</b>	
<b>SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE SOCIAL SUPPORTS AND THE DIFFERENT VALUES</b>	38
Values of Life	38
Moral Values	40
Learning Values	44
Financial Values	47
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	
<b>IMPOVERISHED UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS'(IUS) OTHER CONCERNS THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED</b>	53
Identifying the IUS	53
The Rights and Obligations of IUS	54
The Balance of Financial Support and Spiritual Concern	56
The Imbalance Allocation between Scholarships and Grants	57

<b>CHAPTER 5</b>	
<b>ENHANCED SOCIAL SUPPORT SYSTEM</b>	
<b>FOR IUS IN AN HUI PROVINCE, CHINA</b>	60
Linkages with the Unofficial Organizations	62
Stabilizing Organizational Structure	66
Mutual Assistance Mechanism for Learning	67
On-Job Training and Employment	69
<b>CHAPTER 6</b>	
<b>SUMMARY, FINDINGS, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	72
Summary	72
Findings	70
Conclusion	75
Recommendations	75
Appendix A	81
TRANSMITTAL LETTER	81
Appendix B 1	82
Appendix B 2	88
CURRICULUM VITAE	89

## THE PROBLEM

### Statement of Problem

This study sought to determine the extent of social supports to the impoverished undergraduate student (IUS) and their influence on values in Anhui, China in order to enhance the current social support system.

Specifically, this study answered the following questions:

1. What social supports are extended to the impoverished undergraduate students based on:
  - 1.1 objective social support (OSS);
  - 1.2 subjective social support (SSS); and
  - 1.3 social support availability (SSA).
2. What is the significant relationship among the social supports and the following:
  - 2.1 Values of Life;
  - 2.2 Financial values;
  - 2.3 Learning values; and
  - 2.4 Moral values.
3. What are the other concerns of IUS that need to be addressed?
4. How may the social support system be enhanced in order to address these concerns and set goals?

### Significance of the Study

The study is beneficial to Anhui Province government because it will provide a venue to reassess the present financial aid policy and the values formation program it is offering to the students vis-a-vis the social support system.