


**To: YOU! Yes, I am referring to you!** Thank you for not believing me that I CAN and I will never make it, because your words of discouragements pushed me to strive harder and be whoever I am now and be at wherever I am. Thanks to you, I hope you will enjoy karma.

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xo, Anna Carmela P. Canoza

\*\* your future top model 

# **Lived Experiences of Father of Children with Autism: A Qualitative Study**

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An undergraduate Thesis presented to the faculty of the Department of Psychology,

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In partial fulfillment of

requirement for

the degree

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY**

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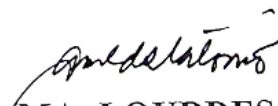


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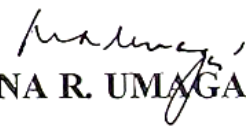


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*With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

*Matthew 19 : 26*

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## ABSTRACT

**CANOZA, ANNA CARMELA, P.**, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, July 2017, **LIVED EXPERIENCES OF FATHER OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM: A QUALITATIVE STUDY**

Adviser: Jan Vincent P. Abella

The present study aims to know the problems encountered, coping mechanisms, and lessons learned of fathers of children with autism. Using semi-structured interview data were gathered. Through Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA), the data gathered were analyzed. It was found that the most common problem that these fathers encounter is their child's hyper activeness and tantrums in which according to DSM-5 is caused by the possibility of having both Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyper-active Disorder (ADHD) at the same time. For coping mechanisms, family and social support were the most significant for these fathers whenever they are in trouble. Lastly, having a strong faith in God is the greatest lesson they have learned as they rear their child.

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