

# The Implication COVID-19 Pandemic on the KALIPI Members of Alaminos City

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**Abstract:** *The pandemic brought about by COVID-19 and the worldwide lockdowns created various responses. The differing levels of restrictions on economic activities, school closures, and public mobility added extra layers of economic pressure, especially in the lives of women. This study reported on the implication of COVID-19 Pandemic to the 167 KALIPI (Kalipunan ng Liping Pilipina) Members of Alaminos City. It aims to determine the different challenges faced by the KALIPI members during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns and the effect on their lives. Results showed that there are 116 or 69.46% respondents selected the indicator stating that "I changed my lifestyle due to low earnings", 103 or 61.67 % of the respondents selected the indicator which states that "I have a hard time teaching and helping my children in answering their modules", 98 or 58.68% of the respondents says that "I together with my family planted at our backyard in order to survive". Further, the respondents were also affected by the pandemic and it increases their level of anxiety, health and sanitation issues, and loss of communication with their other relatives, they became prayerful /religious.*

**Keywords:** KALIPI, pandemic, lockdowns, mobility, restrictions

## 1. Introduction

On March 17, 2020, the government declared the Philippines a state of calamity for six (6) months. Despite being in the early stages of a global pandemic, the coronavirus that causes SARS has been responsible for more fatalities. The index case is believed to have happened on December 8 in Wuhan, China. Since then, instances have spread to other Chinese towns and abroad, raising fears of a widespread outbreak [1]. In the Philippines, the government decided to implement measures that involved lockdowns per region, and later on, per municipality. This has helped to prevent the contagious disease from spreading.

In addition to being a health problem, the pandemic brought by COVID-19 is also a social and economic crisis, with severe and widespread effects felt all over the world. The social and economic repercussions of the epidemic are numerous and diverse, ranging from the closing of schools to destroyed industries and millions of jobs lost.

The social and economic impacts of infectious illness outbreaks are more pronounced in women than in men. When schools are closed and family members become unwell, they shoulder most of the care giving duties. [2] Women face a higher risk of domestic abuse and face a disproportionate disadvantage due to their limited access to treatments for sexual and reproductive health. Women are disproportionately affected by job losses in times of economic uncertainty because they are more likely than males to have fewer hours of employed labor and be on insecure or zero – hour contracts [3].

According to a study conducted in the University of California Davis, the prevalence of domestic abuse against women has considerably risen [4]. The researchers found out that this is due to a rise in social isolation, which increases stress and can lead to aggressive behaviors. Social exclusion

has also resulted in situations where the victims and the aggressors cannot be separated and where women have fewer choices for escaping their surroundings.

This study focuses on the implication brought by COVID-19 to the KALIPI Members of Alaminos City. It aims to study the aspects of physical, emotional, financial, social, and spiritual-factors that have been affected by this pandemic. It recognizes the different challenges they had to face and are continuing to exist.

### Objectives of the study

Generally, this study aimed to determine the implication of covid-19 Pandemic to the members of the KALIPI or Kalipinannng LipingPilipina members of Alaminos City, Pangasinan. Specifically, it sought to answer the following:

- 1) To describe the challenges encountered by the KALIPI members during the pandemic.
- 2) To determine the implication of covid-19 pandemic to the KALIPI members in terms of their:
  - a) Emotional Aspect
  - b) Social Aspect
  - c) Spiritual Aspect
  - d) Financial Aspect
- 3) What particular assistance do the members of KALIPI need from the authorities or government?

## 2. Review of Related Literature

As we embrace the new normal, it is important to note how COVID-19 changed the status quo. From freely going anywhere bare-faced to wearing masks all the time, from traditional face-to-face classes to online learning, and many more transitions that we had to go through even if we did not want to. To survive this pandemic, we had no choice but to change our way of life.

### On Physical Vulnerability

In several nations, violence against women has increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Philippines is no exception. Community lockdowns can worsen violence against women, and restrictive stay-at-home directives have kept victims captive with their abusers. One-household-one-quarantine-pass, poor public transportation, and stringent curfews have made it difficult for people to move around and seek assistance, as evidenced by a 27.2% decline in instances reported to the Philippine National Police. [8]

Resources for women experiencing violence have been limited as a result of government institutions placing a high priority on the epidemic response. Many women have been left without jobs and financially dependent on their spouses because reproductive health care has been mostly inaccessible. In addition, many women are less confident in authorities because of the low degree of trust in them. However, the number of internet searches for "violence against women" has increased by 63% during the pandemic. [9]

In 2004, the Anti-Violence against Women and Children Act was enacted in the Philippines. However, it lacks the implementation which could help women and children to file a cause of action. According to Lancet Public Health, active surveillance and further research to create a robust data infrastructure on violence against women in the Philippines are needed. [10]

Moreover, aside from the violence which could be experienced by women at home, it does not exclude the narrative that women in their workplace are still vulnerable in the middle of the pandemic. Since women make up approximately 70% of the healthcare workers and are underrepresented in leadership and decision-making roles in the industry, they are at the forefront of the fight against this pandemic. This puts them at a higher risk of infection. In addition, women's jobs, enterprises, wages, and wider living standards may be more vulnerable than men's to the projected widespread economic consequences from the crisis because of ongoing gender inequities across many dimensions. Globally, there are more older women living alone on low incomes than any other group of seniors, which puts them at greater risk of financial instability [5].

The health care response to the COVID-19 crisis largely favors women. While women are underrepresented globally among doctors, dentists, and pharmacists, they make up about 85% of nurses and midwives in the 104 countries for which data are available. Women make up an estimated two-thirds of the global health workforce. [6] But despite the fact that women make up the majority of the health care workforce, they are still underrepresented in senior or leadership roles [7]

### On Mental and Emotional Aspect

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health concerns, disproportionately affecting women and girls. Unfortunately, policy decisions and health initiatives frequently disregard women's health, particularly mental health.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations (U. N. Low and middle-income countries devote less than 1.6% of their health budgets to mental health. Women are reporting a greater increase in anxiety and depression than men worldwide. [11]

Women were three times more likely than men to report COVID-19-related effects on their mental health, according to CARE's Rapid Gender Analysis of the pandemic's effects on men's and women's lives across 38 nations. More over 25% of women said they were experiencing more stress, anxiety, and other mental health issues. This stems from the violence and stress on women throughout the pandemic,. Post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression have become more prevalent in women across nations. Additionally, another mental health hardship women have faced since the start of COVID-19 has been related to family stress [12] According to Noursi (2020), due to the frequent opening and closure of schools, many moms have experienced disproportionately more stress and obligations, such as homeschooling their children, while also coping with their own psychological reactions to COVID-19. [13]

In a study by Van Ness (2021), she recommended that one can improve both your physical and mental health by engaging in activities like exercise, music listening, talking to a therapist, journaling, and creating a regular sleep schedule. That in the end, we will be successful if we can hold ourselves accountable since COVID-19 has demonstrated the importance of community, unity, and solidarity during these tough times as well as what grief, loss, and loneliness look like.

### On the Financial Aspect

COVID-19 has severely impacted rural livelihoods. In disadvantaged communities in the Philippines, loss of income and job possibilities were the main issues. The pandemic had greatly aggravated pre-existing problems, such as a lack of employment possibilities and salary cuts. Communities during the epidemic reported ongoing food shortages as well as problems with nutrition, sanitation, and health. [15]

In a study conducted by the UN, they predicted that the pandemic-induced increase in poverty will further worsen the gender poverty gap, pushing more women than men into extreme poverty. At the height of their productive and family-forming years, people aged 25 to 34 are particularly affected by this. Globally, it is predicted that 118 women between the ages of 25 and 34 will be living in extreme poverty in 2021, compared to 100 men in the same age group. By 2030, this ratio may increase to 121 poor women for every 100 poor men. [16]

Clearly, for workers and their families affected by COVID-19, urgently larger actions are required. As of 2022, only 29 of the 190 nations or areas for which information was available had announced commitments to financially support informal laborers, putting millions of people at danger [17] Spain has pledged to implement a national basic income that will safeguard all employees. Hong Kong, in contrast, only offers universal payments to permanent residents. The migrant domestic workers, who make up 5% of the city's

population and are primarily women, will not be covered by this. The JobKeeper program in Australia provides income subsidies to salaried workers during the pandemic but does not do so for casual workers, who are more likely to be women. [18]

Thus, women and girls must be at the center of the recovery processes, and policymakers and stakeholders must pay attention to their needs, difficulties, and solutions. It has been demonstrated that empowering women and girls improves the health and well-being of the entire family and community.

### 3. Methodology

This research utilized the descriptive survey method as the research design. Data was gathered using a validated questionnaire with respondents' dialect translation, which was distributed to each of the respondents during the meetings of KALIPI members.

Employing convenience sampling, a total of 167 KALIPI members were included in this study. Questionnaires were retrieved and consolidated afterward. Frequency, percentage, and average weighted mean.

For the implication of covid-19 pandemic, a Likert scale type of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Neither Agree or Disagree or Neutral (N), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD).

### 4. Findings

**Table 1:** Profile of the Respondents, n=167

Indicator	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
18-29 years old	11	6.59%
30-49 years old	100	59.88%
50-64 years old	56	33.53%
65 above	0	0

<b>Civil Status</b>		
Married	155	92.81%
Widow	5	2.99%
Separated	7	4.19%
<b>Number of Children</b>		
1-2 Children	17	10.18%
3-5 Children	131	78.44%
6-10 Children	15	8.98%
11 or more	4	2.40%
<b>Respondents Occupation (Prior to the Pandemic)</b>		
Housekeeping	81	48.50%
Laundry/Cleaner	9	5.39%
Online Seller	18	10.78%
Vendor	44	26.35%
Helper	9	5.39%
Manicurist	6	3.59%
<b>Occupation of Spouse (Prior to the Pandemic)</b>		
Farming	73	43.71%
Driving	20	11.98%
Fishing	28	16.77%
Construction Worker	19	11.38%
Salt Making	11	6.59%
Welding	6	3.59%
Government Employee	7	4.19%
Conductor/barker	3	1.80%

Table 1 shows the profile of the respondents. As gleaned from the table most of them are within the range of 39-49 years old with a frequency of 100 or 59.88%, and 92.81 % or 155 of them are married. As to the number of their children, there are 131 or 78.44% of them have three (3) to five (5) children and this is followed by one (1) to two (2) children with a frequency of 17 or 10.18%. As to the occupation of the respondents, there are 81, or 48.50% of them are housekeepers while 44, or 26.35% of them are vendors and 18, or 10.78% are into online selling. Meanwhile, for their spouse's occupations, there are 73 or 43.71 are engaged in farming, 28, or 16.77% in fishing, and 19, or 11.38% are into construction works. Table 2

**Challenges Encountered by the KALIPI Members during the Pandemic (n=167)**

Challenges Encountered by the KALIPI Members			
	Indicators	Frequency	Percentage
1	I changed my lifestyle due to low earnings.	116	69.46%
2	I and my family during the pandemic slaughtered our pets in order to survive.	77	46.11%
3	I and my spouse keep on arguing during the pandemic.	41	24.55%
4	I have a hard time teaching and helping my children in answering their modules.	103	61.67%
5	I together with my family planted vegetables in our backyard in order to survive.	98	58.68%
6	I have difficulty planning a budget due to money problems.	92	55.08%
7	I have difficulty in buying the needs at home because only one per household can go out.	97	58.08%
8	I have to close my small business because of the pandemic.	89	53.29%
9	I have to work during the pandemic because my spouse lost his job.	90	53.89%
10	I sell fish that my husband got from the river	87	52.09%

Shown in table 2 are the challenges encountered by the members of the KALIPI during the pandemic. There are 116 or 69.49% of them who says that " I have changed my lifestyle due to low earnings ". This is followed by the indicator " I have a hard time teaching and helping my children in answering their modules" with a frequency of 103 or 61.67%, and is followed by an indicator which states that " I have difficulty in buying the needs at home because

only one per household can go out". This finding was supported in the study of Maison (2021) where she mentioned the limited mobility due to the pandemic and that most of the respondents have spent more time with their families and there are real events of boredom. Moreover, Despard (2020) conforms in his article that Covid-19 lead to income loss, financial hardships as well as hunger.

**Table 3: Implications of COVID-19 to KALIPI Members as to the Emotional Aspect (n=167)**

Emotional Indicator	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Weighted Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
	5	4	3	2	1		
1) My anxiety increases during the pandemic	136	21	10	0	0	4.75	SA
2) I can't sleep at night because of fear	152	9	4	0	0	4.84	SA
3) I worry for my family	158	9	0	0	0	4.95	SA
4) I am depressed because I lost my job	86	57	24	0	0	4.37	A
5) I closed my small store because of the pandemic	42	21	4	31	69	2.62	N
6) I feel sad and stressed during the pandemic because my relative died due to COVID 19	26	11	77	36	17	2.96	N
7) I really felt sad because I cannot go out	151	16	0	0	0	4.90	SA
8) I felt panic attack especially when my temperature gets high	91	62	14	0	0	4.46	A
9) I feel paranoid every time I suffered from COVID 19 like symptoms	128	27	12	0	0	4.69	SA
10) I felt bored and stressed but I cannot do anything	133	18	16	0	0	4.70	SA

Table 3 shows the Implication of covid-19 to the KALIPI respondents as to their Emotion Aspect during the pandemic. The indicator that stated that “I worry for my family “got the highest weighted mean of 4.95 and descriptive equivalent of strongly agree this is followed by “ I can’t sleep at night because of fear” with a mean of 4.84 which correspond to strongly agree descriptive equivalent. The indicator stating that “My anxiety increases during the pandemic “got a weighted mean of 4.75 or correspondsto strongly agree

conforms with the study of Tee et. al (2020). Based on this study the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic poses a threat to societies' mental health and that female gender; recent imposed quarantine; prolonged home-stay; and reports of poor health status, unnecessary worry, concerns for family members, and discrimination were significantly associated with greater psychological impact of the pandemic and higher levels of stress, anxiety and depression (p<0.05).

**Table 4: Implications of Covid-19 to KALIPI Members as to the Social Aspect, N =167**

Social Indicator	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Weighted Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
	5	4	3	2	1		
1) I don't go out anymore except during market day	93	57	17	0	0	4.46	SA
2) I do no visit my relatives anymore during pandemic	31	46	37	30	23	3.19	N
3) I with my family did not celebrate special occasion anymore during the pandemic	109	44	14	0	0	4.57	SA
4) I go out of the house and sing whenever I feel upset because of the pandemic	0	16	21	47	83	1.82	D
5) I often invite the members of my family to play chess or scrabble instead of using their gadget	0	0	23	63	81	1.65	D
6) I just call my relatives whenever I feel that I miss them	32	58	77	0	0	3.73	A
7) I rush whenever I have to go to the market because of fear	17	57	93	0	0	3.54	A
8) I find it hard that I am the only authorized person to go out and buy food	0	64	103	0	0	3.38	N
9) I feel sad because some of our relatives died due to COVID19	0	78	69	20	0	3.35	N
10) I often go to the backyard and cultivate the plats whenever I feel upset because of the pandemic	54	35	62	16	0	3.76	A

Table 4 is the Implication of Covid-19 as to the social aspect of the respondents. As gleaned on the table the indicator “ I don't go out anymore except during market day” got the highest wean of 4.46 and the description of strongly agree. This is followed by “ I with my family did not celebrate special occasions anymore during the pandemic” with a mean of 4.57 which corresponds to a strongly agree descriptive equivalent. Amy Bainbridge and Supattra Vimonsuknopparat (2020) in their article stated that the

Philippines has taken some of the most hard-line measures in the world to contain the spread of the coronavirus, with the country reporting almost 8, 000 confirmed cases and more than 500 deaths. They also confirmed that more than 30, 000 people have been arrested for violating strictly enforced curfew and quarantine restrictions, which are due to last for at least another two weeks. This was the scenario during the Philippine hard lockdowns, thus getting out of the houses find it difficult for other.

**Table 5:** Implications of COVID 19 to KALIPI Members as to the Spiritual Aspect, N =167

Spiritual Indicator	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Weighted Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
	5	4	3	2	1		
1) I became prayerful during the pandemic	65	88	0	14	0	4.22	A
2) I told my children and the whole family to pray for our safety and all	127	40	0	0	0	4.76	SA
3) I am sometimes disgusted in praying because pandemic causes death	0	73	33	61	0	3.07	N
4) I sometime wonder if prayers are really powerful	76	81	0	10	0	4.34	A
5) I watch virtual masses through the internet	142	10	0	0	15	4.58	SA
6) I usually listen to Sunday mass over the radio	129	31	0	0	0	4.60	SA
7) I begin reading bible during this pandemic	0	71	0	36	60	2.49	D
8) I keep on praying that this pandemic would end so soon	153	14	0	0	0	4.92	SA
9) I keep singing religious songs	58	73	36	0	0	4.13	A
10) I encouraged my neighbors and friend to pray and read bibles too	15	87	0	23	42	3.06	N

Table 5 shows the Implication of the Covid-19 pandemic as to the Spiritual Aspect of the respondents. Despite of the hard lockdowns and difficulty of going out being religion of the Filipinos remains intact. As confirmed from the table indicator stating that “ I told my children and the whole family to pray for our safety and all” got the mean of 4.76 which correspond to strongly agree and another indicators which, “ I listen to Sunday mass over the radio “, “ I watch virtual masses through the internet” got a mean highest mean that correspond to descriptive equivalent of strongly agree. Malolos et. al. (2021) on their paper stated that considering the value that church gatherings and religion play in the lives of the Filipino people and that survey released in September 2020 by Pulse Asia’s Ulat ng Bayan

revealed that among 1200 respondents around the Philippines, 51.8 percent have become more religious during the COVID-19 pandemic. The glimpse of the value of Christian faith to the Filipino in times of crisis.<sup>47</sup> While the pandemic has limited religious gatherings in the Philippines, it has transformed the Christian devotion of many Filipinos from being reliant on external practices to internal reflection.<sup>48</sup> The strict lockdown instituted at the start of the pandemic contributed largely to the adherence of the Filipinos on policies regarding church gatherings. Due to the fact that the parishes themselves were prohibited from opening their church to live masses, the public was compelled to adapt to by attending live streamed masses at their own homes.

**Table 6:** Implications of Covid-19 to KALIPI Members as to the Financial Aspect, N =167

Financial Indicator	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Weighted Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
	5	4	3	2	1		
1) I’m locked in debt because of the pandemic	0	77	25	65	0	3.07	N
2) I tried to get a loan from other lenders during the pandemic	38	95	0	34	0	3.82	A
3) I closed my small business due to pandemic	0	89	48	30	0	3.35	N
4) I sell the ripe fruits from our backyard in order to have money	0	93	19	55	0	3.23	N
5) I sell ornamental plants in order for me to have money to buy foods	13	67	17	29	41	2.89	N
6) I cook snacks and deliver to frontliners in order to have money	0	59	28	57	23	2.74	N
7) I/ We spend less money for food and basic commodities	66	82	0	19	0	4.17	A
8) I lost my job hence, I need to lessen my expenses	71	45	36	15	0	4.03	A
9) I keep on telling my family to save for our bank savings were depleted	94	49	24	00	0	4.42	A
10) I withdrawn my savings from the bank iin our for us to survive	0	71	96	00	0	3.43	N

Table 6 shows the Implications of Covid-19 On KALIPI members in the Financial Aspect. The indicator states that “I keep on telling my family to save for our bank savings were depleted” with a mean of 4.42 and a description of agree. This is followed by the indicator “ “ I/we spend less money for food and basic commodities” which got the highest weighted mean of 4.17 and a descriptive equivalent of agree. In addition, indicator stating that “ I lost my job, hence I need to lessen my expenses “ also got high weighted mean of 4.03. Meanwhile, this conforms with the study of Chapman et. all (2020) which revealed that threat to job security was predictive of depression and cognitive function

in the entire sample Such that those with higher levels of perceived job security had lower depression and better cognitive function. Further, women who were furloughed or unable to continue work reported higher job insecurity compared to those who had worked throughout the pandemic. Greater rumination was also associated with worse anxiety and depression as well as poorer cognitive function. Finally, moderation analysis highlighted that women who had better cognitive functioning were less likely to experience anxiety when their job security was high.

**Table 7:** Assistance from Authorities or the Government for KALIPI Members, N= 167

Indicator	Frequency	Rank
Job Opportunities	158	1
Livelihood trainings	71	3
Mental Health Seminar	53	7
Business Start up	67	6
Help the pay their bills	144	2
Support to small entrepreneurs	140	4
Seminar on Technology	41	8
Health Care Privileges	97	5
Educational Seminar	35	9
Spiritual Seminar	30	10

As gleaned in table 7, the assistance from the authorities that the KALIPI members prefer is “Job Opportunities” with a frequency of 158 and ranks first. This is followed by the indicated stating that

“Help them pay their bills” with a frequency of 144. The request for livelihood training ranks third, while the indicator that states “Support to small entrepreneurs ranks fourth on the list.

## 5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the COVID-19, implications among KALIPI members are most concerned about their anxiety, stress, hard time in answering their child’s modules and concerning job insecurity. Food as well as their social skills is affected by the pandemic too. The pandemic has caused great anxiety and stress on women. Beyond the risk of getting infected, they worry about their families, about not having money to buy food and other basic necessities, and that their child education became as one of the issues too.

Verbal violence is the most prevalent type of VAWG observed followed by emotional violence, physical violence, sexual harassment, and online sexual exploitation. As for the violence observed in social media or television, the most common type of violence observed is cyber bullying, followed by trolls and fake news, sharing and/ or posting of indecent photos, videos, or messages, online sexual harassment, and messages of threats and violence.

## 6. Recommendation

COVID-19 affects everyone, based on the findings of the study, it is recommended that inequalities and poverty for marginalized KALIPI members should be given importance women. Filipino women whether they are low-and middle-income families said that they suffer more from income loss, food insecurity, inability to continue education, and heightened tensions at home which may result to domestic and gender-based violence.

Likewise, special attention must be given to those who are most vulnerable to suffer from starvation brought by the suspension of work and have no source of income which they could buy food with in order to get through the day.

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