**Breaking the Intergenerational Cycle of Poverty:**

**A Theorizing of Philippines’ Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program**

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**ABSTRACT**

Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) is adapted by the Philippines in order to combat poverty. But the fact remains that poverty still persist in the country. It is for this reason that 4Ps is being theorized. Theorizing is the context of discovery in the development of a theory that gathers data of a phenomenon (Swedberg, 2012). This paper has theorized the 4Ps, as the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program of the Philippine government. The study has further analyzed the nature and fundamental theoretical concepts behind the implementation of the program. Data mining from official government websites is the primary research method of the paper. The study has used qualitative approach in the analysis of the documents following content analysis. It has employed Richard Swedberg’s Rules of Theorizing as the framework of the study. Results of the paper revealed that 4Ps is a social protection program aiming to combat the intergenerational cycle of poverty. Targeting method and conditionalities set by the program are integral in addressing the problems of health and education. The study concluded that 4Ps as a social protection program contributed to the breaking of the intergenerational cycle of poverty in two ways: (1) as a short term goal, it has provided monetary support to beneficiaries to respond to their immediate needs and; (2) as a long term goal, it is investing in education and health for human capital development. Recommendation of the study centers on the need for social programs to be theorized.

*Keywords: Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), theorizing, poverty, social protection program, assistance, development*

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