Determining the drivers of diet intake among Filipino children and adolescents: An exploratory study

Zamboanga City Pilot Study

"MOVING OUR CHILDREN TO THE LIGHTER SIDE" A webinar series in observance of World Obesity Day March 18, 2021 via Zoom





## **OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION**

- Background
- Objectives
- Data Collection Method
- Study sites and summary of respondents
- Profile of respondents
- Pilot study results

"Good food is a right, not a privilege. It brings children a positive relationship with their health, community, and environment."

## -ALICE WATERS

# BACKGROUND

In 2019, Philippine national nutrition survey showed that:

- 19.0% of 0 to 59 month old children are **underweight**
- 26% of 5 to 10-year-old children are underweight
- 11.7% of 10 to 19 years old are wasted
- 9.1% of 5 to under 10-year-old children are overweight or obese
- 9.8% of 10 to 19 years old are overweight or obese

From 2003 to 2015, the increase in overweight or obesity prevalence among 10 to 19-year-old **almost doubled**.

### FOOD ENVIRONMENT

- Food environment is a broad concept and can be defined based on two perspectives: markets and food systems.
- Food environment is an interface where people interact with the wider food system to acquire and consume foods (Turner et al., 2018).



#### FOOD SYSTEM FOOD ENVIRONMENT **External Domain** Personal domain AVAILABILITY ACCESSIBILITY Presence of food Physical distance. time, space and place, individual activity spaces, daily mobility, PRICES mode of transport Monetary value of food products **AFFORDABILITY** Purchasing power VENDOR AND PRODUCT PROPERTIES TRANSFORMATION, CONVENIENCE Vendor properties (typology, TRANSPORTATION opening hours, services) and Relative time and effort quality, composition, safety, consuming food product, level of processing, shelf-life, time allocation packaging) DESIRABILITY MARKETING AND Preferences, REGULATION

Promotional Information, branding, advertising, sponsorship, labelling, policies

PRODUCTION,

STORAGE,

of preparing, cooking and

acceptability, tastes, desires, attitudes, culture, knowledge and



ACQUISITION

AND

CONSUMPTION

#### HEALTH AND NUTRITION OUTCOMES

(Turner et al., 2018)

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY



- The exploratory study allowed us to produce narratives which identify the different factors in children and adolescents' lives which combine to influence the foods and beverages they consume as they go about their day-to-day lives.
- These narratives can be used for **advocacy** and to add as evidence to identify what **policies and legislation** would be most effective in promoting healthy food environments and prevent malnutrition and how they could be designed.

# **OBJECTIVES**

This study was undertaken primarily to determine how the food environment influences the diets of children (6 months to 18 years of age) in the context of their lived realities, and to obtain a greater understanding of the children's dietary practices.

Specifically, it aimed to:

- Describe the usual daily routines of what and when the children eat;
- 2. Determine the influences of food environments (food pricing, food insecurity, and food marketing) and general health to children's dietary practices; and
- 3. Identify the current influence of COVID-19 pandemic to children's dietary practices.



#### DATA COLLECTION METHODS



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

(FGD)

DIRECT OBSERVATION

#### STUDY SITES AND SUMMARY OF RESPONDENTS

| LGU                              | In-depth Interview |               |                |                | FGD            |                | Observation |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
|                                  | 6m - 5<br>y/o      | 6 - 10<br>y/o | 11 - 15<br>y/o | 16 - 18<br>y/o | 11 - 15<br>y/o | 16 - 18<br>y/o | 6 - 10 y/o  |
| Zamboanga City                   | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 6              | 6              | 1           |
| Gandara, Samar                   | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 8              | 8              | 1           |
| Catbalogan City, Samar           | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 6              | 6              | 1           |
| Mondragon, Samar                 | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 6              | 6              | 1           |
| Godod, Zamboanga<br>Del Norte    | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 6              | 6              | 1           |
| Valenzuela City, Metro<br>Manila | 1                  | 1             | 1              | 1              | 6 to 8         | 6 to 8         | 1           |



## **PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS**

# Primary source of income of the household:



#### Number of HH members currently living in the house:





DATA COLLECTION IN ZAMBOANGA CITY





#### **EFFECT OF COVID19 PANDEMIC ON DIET**

#### Decrease intake of fresh foods

Increase intake of processed food such as canned goods and instant noodles (donated and cheaper to buy) Limited purchasing power

= More vegetables and fish, less pork and chicken;

= Less sugary drinks and foods such as soft drinks and instant drinks and cookies/biscuits;

= purchase small/retail packs instead of bulk sizes

# **INFLUENCES OF FOOD ENVIRONMENT ACCESS TO FOOD EXPERIENCE WITH FOOD FOOD CHOICES**



# ACCESS TO FOOD

- Places where food can be purchased/acquired
- Places where food is eaten/consumed
- Who cooks the food
- Easy to cook food



## **EXPERIENCE WITH FOOD**

- Familiarity with food
- Who to eat with
- Left overs
- Snack in between meals



### **FOOD CHOICES**

- Decision on what to eat
- Taste of food
- Perceptions



# **THANK YOU!**

Do you have any questions?

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