

A STUDY OF THE SERVANT LEADERSHIP OF DOMINICAN SEMINARIANS AT PARISHES IN VIETNAM

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Abstract: This study was on the servant leadership of Dominican seminarians at parishes in Vietnam. The objectives of this study were (1) to examine the current servant leadership of seminarians serving at the parishes in Vietnam (2) to determine the relationship between seminarians' servant leadership and their demographic factors including age, educational attainment and years of serving experience.

The research method which was used for this study was a quantitative approach. A Likert scale questionnaire which based on Barbuto and Wheeler's (2006) theory was used to determine servant leadership qualities of 265 seminarians at the Dominican Seminary in Vietnam. The data from questionnaire was analyzed by using descriptive statistics and Pearson Production Moment Correlation Coefficients test.

This study showed that (1) the Dominican Seminarians fairly practiced servant leadership when serving at parishes in Vietnam; (2) there was no significant relationship between seminarian servant leadership qualities and their demographic elements including age and educational attainment. The findings from this study could be useful for the administrators of the Seminary in Vietnam to further improve their training quality for current and new seminarians in order to achieve the ideal mission instilling a greater sense of servant leadership in them. In general, these findings could also provide a fresh impetus for all seminarians to strengthen their faith and perform their duty effectively.

Keywords: Servant Leadership, Dominican, Seminary, Seminarian, Parish

Introduction:

Leadership is one of the vital factors in communities or organizations. Leadership not only helps stabilize communities or organizations but also helps people achieve their goals (Bryman, 1992). From the time of early societies up to now, there were good leaders such as Confucius, Lao Tzu, Moses, Buddha, Jesus Christ, Mohammed and Mahatma Gandhi. Nowadays, leadership is still necessary for human beings "a world without leaders is like a ship without a lighthouse" (<http://www.studymode.com/essays/Developing-Leadership-Skills-Through-Educational-Leadership-936048.html>). In fact, human beings cannot live in harmony and have the tendency to argue and fight as Quinn D. Mills (2005) stated "leadership helps to point us in the same direction and harness our efforts jointly. Leadership is the ability to get other people

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