

## **EXPLORING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE OF SIDEWALK VENDORS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Today, urbanization has been considered as one of the primary keys for societal development and progress. As a result, many people congregate to cities and urban areas in search of better opportunities and quick money. However, not all individuals who migrated to trade centers can equally reap its fruits. As an effect, many individuals engaged to sidewalk vending. This study aimed to determine the impact of sidewalk vending in the socio-economic life of sidewalk vendors around the vicinity of a Catholic university in the Philippines. Descriptive survey and interviews were conducted to determine the personal and demographic profiles, business profile, monthly priority budget, and the impact of sidewalk vending to the lives of the sidewalk vendors. The study concluded that sidewalk vending plays a significant role in the lives of the sidewalk vendors in terms of economic survival. However, the extent of its impact is only enough to attend to their basic needs and to feed their families.

**Keywords:** *Sidewalk vendors, Socio-economic Life*

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Today, urbanization has been considered as one of the primary keys for societal development and progress. As a result, many people congregate to cities and urban areas in search of better opportunities and quick money. However, not all individuals who migrated to trade centers can equally reap its fruits.

Alfie (2014) stated that poverty and lack of useful employment in the rural areas and the smaller towns drive large number of people to the cities for work and their employment. These people usually own low skills and lack in the level of education required for better paid jobs in the formal sectors. And those who do not have economic powers and those who were left-out add on to the statistics of unemployment. Hence, in order for these individuals to survive in the competitive world, they sort working in the informal sector of the society. And one of the means of livelihood is sidewalk vending, as it requires minor financial input and the skills involved are low.

In her speech, Senator Santiago (2009) stipulated that a good city is one with great sidewalks. She emphasized the presence of the S.B. No. 1757 bill or the "Clear Sidewalks Act of 2009" which is to ensure that sidewalks are free from unauthorized commercial or personal use to facilitate the smooth passage of persons and to clear obstructions to vehicular flow. However, Golosino (2012) said that in the Philippines, sidewalks lost its essence from the perspective of the pedestrian. It was supposedly an access point for those who want to catch time and would like to avoid traffic congestions and accidents by means of walking. Instead, sidewalks were transformed into a pseudo marketplace. As recourse, pedestrians resort to walking on the road exposing themselves to greater risk and add to the congestions of the street.

A great deal of literature explored the case of side walk vending or street vending and other forms of informal economy. One of the issues addressed as seen in World Bank studies is the social protection of sidewalk vendors due to social risk arising out of the nature of the sector and the informality of their employment relationship (Barientos and Barrientos, 2002,

Canagarajah and Sethuraman, 2001, Holzmann& Jorgensen, 1999). Related studies also underscored the variety of constraints (i.e. technology, credit, capital, and education and training) that the informal sector faces (Scheinberg, et al., 2010, Blunch, Canajarah & Raju, 2001). These studies pose challenge for policy makers to design policies which can systematically and consistently address these issues. As cited by Blunch, Canajarah & Raju (2001) one fact which is clear is that there are very few interventions which can address all or most of them at the same time. Most of the attention, however, has been directed at the fact that often the earnings and employment situation of informal sector workers is inferior to that of the formal sector workers as cited by Blunch, Canajarah & Raju (2001).

This paper explored the practice of sidewalk vending and its impact to the socio-economic life of the vendors around the vicinity of a university in Tuguegarao City, a second class city in the Philippines. The city is tagged as the center of commerce of Northern Luzon, since its economy gradually shifted from agriculture to secondary and tertiary economic activities such as trading and commerce. Banking, educational, commercial, industrial, and tourism-related activities also proliferate in the city (Tuguegarao.net 2014).

In particular, this study determined the impact of sidewalk vending to the socioeconomic lives of the vendors. Specifically, this paper is sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the personal and demographic profile of the sidewalk vendors when grouped according to the following variables:
  - a. Age
  - b. Sex
  - c. Civil Status
  - d. Place of Origin
  - e. Educational Attainment
  - f. Number of Dependents
2. What is the business profile of the sidewalk vendors in the vicinity of the University of Saint Louis when grouped according to the following variables:
  - a. Types of Goods Sold by the Sidewalk Vendors
  - b. Number of Years in Sidewalk Vending
  - c. Other Sources of Income
  - d. Length of Time of Daily Sidewalk vending
  - e. Amount of Capital Used in Sidewalk Vending
  - f. Sources of Capital Used in Sidewalk Vending
  - g. Number of Persons who Help in Sidewalk Vending
  - h. Daily Profits and Monthly Earnings of the Respondents
  - i. Methods of sidewalk vending
3. What are the reasons for the respondents for engaging in sidewalk vending?
4. What are the reasons for the respondents for engaging in sidewalk vending in the vicinity of the university?
5. What are the monthly priority budget expenditures of the respondents?
6. What are the impacts of sidewalk vending to the socio-economic life of the respondents?
7. What are the possible effects of discontinuing sidewalk vending in the vicinity of the university to the socio-economic life of the respondents?
8. What are the priority problems of the respondents with regard to sidewalk vending?

## **Literature Review**

### **Nature of Sidewalk Vending**

Republic Act 9485 (1988) or popularly known as the Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act of 1988 defined informal sectors as poor individuals who operate businesses that are very small in scale and not registered with any national government agency, and to workers in such enterprises who sell their services in exchange for subsistence wages or other forms of compensation. Hence, sidewalk vendors are also included under the informal sectors of the economy.

Bhowmik (2009) defined sidewalk vendor as a person who offers goods for sale to the public without having a permanent built-up structure from which to sell. In addition, Agnello (2003) and Pizali (2010) said that sidewalk vendors may be stationary in the sense that they occupy space on the pavements or other public and private spaces or, they may be mobile in the sense they move from place to place by carrying their wares on push carts or in baskets on their heads.

Pizali (2010) identified the activities in the informal sector into two categories- the self-employed and casual labor. Majority of self-employed are working as street vendors. Moreover, Vanzi (2001) said that the rise in the number of street vendors is largely due to the lack of employment in other sectors but it is also directly linked to the expansion of the informal sector in Asian countries.

Sekar (2010) stipulated that street and side walk vendors form a substantial proportion of the informal sector who earns their livelihood through vending. They have flexible vending hours ensuring the economic viability and dynamism of the city. It also creates employment thereby alleviating the hardships of employment. Further, Alabanza (2004) revealed that an increase in side walk vending is a global urban phenomenon. Lack of gainful employment in the formal economy pushes workers to search for alternative livelihoods and sidewalk vending is one of the most viable options.

Roever (2012) also defined sidewalk vendors which include all those selling goods or services in public places. They may refer to vendors with fixed stalls such as kiosk; vendors who operate from semi-fixed stalls, like folding tables or wheeled pushcarts that are removed from the streets and stored overnight; vendors who sell from fixed locations without a stall structure; or mobile vendors who walk or bicycle through the streets as they sell. Further, Broomly (2000) identified types of public places where sidewalk vendors work. These are regulated street markets or hawking zones, natural market areas, transportation hubs, big establishments and churches, and schools and universities' vicinities. Moreover, Garcia-Bolivar (2006) said that sidewalk vending usually characterized by ease to entry, low resource base, family ownership, labor intensive, and informal processes for acquiring skills.

### **Sidewalk Vending in the Philippines**

Sen. Santiago (2009) said that in the Philippines, sidewalks are occupied by vendors and used as illegal transport terminals. Sidewalks are also blocked by illegal structures such as basketball courts, extensions of business establishments, and of all things, barangay halls. Hence, pedestrians resort to walking on the road. This results to traffic congestions and worse, accidents.

Silverio (2009) describes sidewalk vendors like pesky flies that could not be eliminated. The legitimate stores must have given up and resigned to have the vendors in their midst. In addition, Malazarte (1999) stipulated that some government officials, have a share of the bribes the police get, must have decided to give up their life of lies. Instead of bribes, they opted to legally collect rent fees for the stalls from the vendors.

The study of Roever (2012) revealed that in the Philippines, there are more than 50, 000 sidewalk vendors occupying most of the urban cities. Further, the studies of Alonzo (2000) and Mangahas (1991) revealed that the nature of activities under the informal sectors of the economy in the Philippines are 70% are engaged in sidewalk vending and selling with 50% operating variety store and 25% selling raw and cooked food.

Golosino (2012), in his result of his study indicated that street vending becomes a trade of people with no economic recourse. Politicians accord on and off it not whimsical mode of addressing the problems. Indeed, sidewalk vendors are not real problem but only an index of a more sophisticated social imbalance. In his recommendation, he proposed that local government units must act swiftly in designing an effective intervention program.

Bhowmik (2005), in his study, revealed that in almost all the Asian countries like the Philippines, street vendors have no legal status to conduct their business and they are constantly harassed by the authorities. Yet, they are popular because they provide the urban population with much needed services that neither the municipalities nor the larger retailing outlets can provide.

Lee (2007) and Eyraud (2007) concluded that with the informalization of employment like that of sidewalk vending, income and wage inequity has widened. The informal sectors offers a reservoir of cheap surplus labor that can be tapped for non-regular employment. As a result of the race to the bottom wage competition, informal and non-regular workers tend to earn less than the formal sector workers, thus increasing further the income inequity between the informal and formal sectors.

Ajers (2010), in his study of vendors in Baguio City, show that side walk vendors stay in their locations for an average of seven years or more, and work there ten-hour days for seven days a week. This implies tht they have become almost permanent fixtures in the street landscapes and take part in the struggle for urban space. Bhowmik (2005) stressed that the main problems faced by sidewalk vendors in the Philippines is that there are no demarcated areas for them to operate. Sidewalk vendors do not have any access to piped water and they are hence rendered illegal on health grounds. They are also blamed for the filth on the pavements and for causing traffic problems.

### **Legal Basis and Policies in Relation to Sidewalk Vending in the Philippines**

Sen. Santiago (2009) authored the Senate Bill No. 1757 also known as the Clear Sidewalks Act of 2009. The objective of the said bill is to ensure that sidewalks are free from unauthorized commercial or personal use to facilitate the smooth passage of persons and to clear obstructions to vehicular flow.

In the City of Taguig (2007), Ordinance No. 45 Series of 2007 or popularly known as an Ordinance Requiring the Registration of Hawkers and providing for the Regularization Thereof and other Purposes was approved by the City Council. Hawkers according to the Bill refer to vendors who sell their goods on streets, sidewalks, and other public areas. The goal of this ordinance is to fight poverty and to uplift the quality of life of its residents. The ordinance

recognizes the hawkers as an important sector of the City's economy, creating their own employment, providing access to economical goods to many consumers, helping in the expansion of local investments, and having the potential to significantly contribute to local government funds.

Similarly, a municipal ordinance in Trinidad, Bohol (2007) was also approved which is known as the Trinidad Market Code of 2007. One of the focus of the said ordinances is on the regulation and legalization of sidewalk vendors. However, the said ordinance was only limited to the municipal market of Trinidad, Bohol.

Former Interior Secretary Lina (2001) proposed the legalization of sidewalk vending through issuing identification cards by the government to allow them ply their trades in certain areas, at the risk of causing more traffic congestions in a certain area.

### **Impact of Sidewalk Vending to the Lives of the Vendors**

In the study of Segar (2010), it was found out that the main reasons for people engaging in sidewalk vending are as follows: to have a regular source of income, self-dependence, lack of employment opportunities, assisting to manage household expenditures, and alcohol and idle husband or a father.

Almendral (2014) stipulated that the majority of the sidewalk vendors are engaging in this kind of business is to uplift their current status and to buy the basic needs and commodities in their life. However, because of the threats coming from the municipal and national government, their job and business is unstable.

Malazarte (1999) in the results of his study revealed that sidewalk vending plays an important role in the socio-economic life of the sidewalk vendors in Cebu City. Some of the contributions of sidewalk vending are the following: education of their children, payment of rentals and household expenditures, and additional income to the family. De Guzman (2007) said that sidewalk vending reflects the current status of the country. Despite the ways by the administration to eradicate and to address the presence of the sidewalk vendors, condemning the vendors to continue their enterprises may be tantamount to ignoring the unemployment situation and consequently aggravating the state of poverty in the country.

### **METHODS**

This study employed both quantitative and qualitative types of research. The researcher used a structured questionnaire to gather the profile of the respondents. Also, it involved a structured interview and case study method to the sidewalk vendors to identify their reasons for engaging in sidewalk vending and to determine the impact of their business in their socio-economic status. More importantly, ethical consideration was also practiced by the respondents such as keeping the confidentiality of the respondents. The participants of this study are the 25 sidewalk vendors in the vicinity of a Catholic university in the Philippines, in particular, the University of Saint Louis.

This study utilized a questionnaire with three parts which was patterned from the study of Malazarte (1999). However, modifications were done by the researcher to suit to the current status of the respondents. The first part was the personal and demographic profile of the respondents. It contains the following variables: age, sex, civil status, present address, place of origin, educational attainment, and number of dependents. The second part of the questionnaire

includes the business profile of the respondents such as types of goods sold by the sidewalk vendors, number of years in sidewalk vending, other sources of income, length of time of doaily sidewalk vending, amount of capital used in sidewalk vending, sources of capital used in sidewalk vending, number of persons who help in sidewalk vending, and daily profits and monthly earnings of the respondents. The third part of the questionnaire contains the income and expenditures of the sidewalk vendors in their business.

The study utilized the following statistical treatment: for the personal and demographic profile and business profile of the respondents, the researcher used frequency and percentage. Frequency, percentage, and rank were used to identify the income and expenditures of the respondents.

**RESULTS and DISCUSSION**

**Table 1.** Personal and Demographic Profile of the Respondents

<b>Profile variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Age</b>		
20 and below	5	20.00
21-40	6	24.00
41-60	11	44.00
60 and above	3	12.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	10	40.00
Female	15	60.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
<b>Civil Status</b>		
Single	8	32.00
Married	14	56.00
Widow/Widower	3	12.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
<b>Place of Origin</b>		
Tuguegarao City	5	20.00
Outside Tuguegarao City	20	80.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
<b>Educational Attainment</b>		
None	1	4.00
Elementary Graduate	4	16.00
High School Graduate	10	40.00
College Undergraduate	8	32.00
College Graduate	2	8.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
<b>Number of Dependents</b>		
0	8	32.00
1-3	11	44.00
4-6	6	24.00
TOTAL	25	100.00

Table 1 presents the personal and demographic profile of the sidewalk vendors. In terms of personal profile, it can be gleaned from the table that majority of the sidewalk vendors in the vicinity of the univeristy are 41-60 years old in terms of age. This age bracket is a stage wherein it is diffucult for a person to find a stable job since most of the companies would hire younger employees (Malazarte, 1999). It is important to note that there are sidewalk vendors who are below 20 years old. Three of the five respondents are below 18 years old, the legal age considered in the Philippines. Result of the interview revealed that they engaged in this kind of business because they do not have any means to go to school. What they are earning is only enough to sustain their basic needs.

In terms of sex, majority of the respondents are females and in terms of civil status, most of them are married with an average of 1-3 number of children and dependents. The results imply that these sidewalk vendors engaged into this kind of business for survival. They need to feed their families daily, yet they do not have any available avenue to land a stable job. Hence, they resort in sidewalk vending.

Meanwhile, in terms of the place of origin, majority of the respondents are not from Tuguegarao City, which are all rural areas. This affirms the study of Alfie (2014) that people are transferring to urban places because these people believed that economic opportunities and better life can be found in the cities. The result of the interview also affirmed the result. Majority of the sidewalk vendors who are originally not from the Tuguiegarao City stressed that one of the main reasons for their migration is to look for a better job and easier way to have money.

And finally, in terms of educational attainment, majority of the respondents are High School graduates. This suggests that most of the respondents are unskilled and non-degree holders. Hence, it is difficult for them to have a decent job, and as a result, they engaged themselves in sidewalk vending. The result of the interview stressed that they do not have any means to go to higher education because of lack of money and they only rely to sidewalk vending for their survival.

Table 2. Business Profile of the Respondents

<b>Profile Variables</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Types of Goods Sold</b>		
Foods and Beverages(Japanese Cake, Lumpia, Cheesesticks, Juice, Fried Siomai, Ice Candy, Binatug, Tokneneng, Chicken Skin, Native Cakes, Biscuits, candies)	23	92.00
Dry Goods (Toys, House Displays)	2	8.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Number of Years in Sidewalk Vending</b>		
1-5	12	48.00
6-10	8	32.00
11-15	2	8.00
16-20	2	8.00
21-25	1	4.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>With Others Sources of Income</b>		
Yes	3	12.00

No	22	88.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
Nature of Other Source of Income		
Tricycle Driver	1	4.00
Laundry	1	4.00
Carinderia Helper	1	4.00
None	22	88.00
TOTAL	25	100
Length of Time of Daily Sidewalk Vending		
1-3 Hours	2	8.00
4-6 Hours	4	16.00
7-9 Hours	8	32.00
10 and above	11	44.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
Amount of Capital Used by the Respondents		
Below \$25.00	3	16.00
\$26.00 - \$45.00	4	20.00
\$46.00 - \$65.00	7	20.00
\$66.00 - \$85.00	3	12.00
\$86.00 - \$100.00	4	16.00
Above \$100.00	4	16.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
Sources of Capital		
Loans/Borrowings	16	64.00
Personal Savings	9	36.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
Number of Persons Helping in the Business		
None	4	16.00
One	9	36.00
Two	7	28.00
Three	3	12.00
Four	1	4.00
Five	1	4.00
TOTAL	25	100.00

Daily Profits of the Respondents		
Less than \$3.00	1	4.00
\$4.00 - \$12.00	11	32.00
\$12.00 - \$20.00	8	44.00
More than \$20.00	5	20.00
TOTAL	25	100.00
Monthly Earnings of the Respondents		
Less than \$65.00	5	20.00
\$66.00 - \$130.00	9	36.00
\$131.00 - \$195.00	4	16.00
\$196.00 - \$250.00	5	20.00
\$251.00 and above	2	8.00



TOTAL	25	100.00
Method of Vending		
In (Push) Cart	8	32.00
Semi-Permanent	11	44.00
Floor Display	2	8.00
Mobile/Walking	4	12.00
TOTAL	25	100.00

Table 2 presents the business profile of the respondents. It was revealed in the table that majority of the sidewalk vendors engaging their business in the vicinity of the university are selling foods and beverages which are all consumer goods which are meant to satisfy the current need of the students and other customers. The prices of these goods are generally lower than that of the university canteen and department and food stores primarily because these goods do not have taxes imposed by the government and do not have to rent spaces. This is essentially beneficial to the students since they have limited budget, hence they can save time and money.

With regard to number of years in engaging in such kind of enterprise, majority of the respondents are doing sidewalk vending for almost 1-5 years already. The result of the interview indicated that sidewalk vending plays an important part in their life especially in terms of survival and in terms of sending their children just to complete their schooling. Hence, sidewalk vending is already their way of life. Moreover, it can be gleaned in the table that most of the respondents have one helper in their sidewalk vending.

Meanwhile, majority of the sidewalk vendors do not have any other source of income. Three of the respondents have other sources of income which are Tricycle driving, laundering, and carenderia helping. The results reveal that sidewalk vending is the only source of income for most of the respondents.

In addition, the table also shows that most of the respondents work more than 10 hours in their sidewalk vending. One of the sidewalk vendor said that they starts waking up as early as 3:00 in the morning to prepare for the things and goods which they will sell around 8:00 in the morning. Hence, the result suggests that most of the respondents need to work for long hours everyday.

Also, it can be gleaned in the table that the average capital used by the respondents in their sidewalk vending ranges from \$46.00 - \$65.00. This suggests that most of the sidewalk vendors had a very little amount of capital to start their enterprise. Malazarte (1999) said that their business is part of the typical small scale business enterprises which remain underground for the owner-proprietor could not afford the costs of becoming legal or formal in having their businesses legally registered in the city government.

It is also important to note that most of the respondents accumulated their capital to start their business through loans and borrowings. Five of the respondents said that since they do not have any personal savings to start their business, they need to borrow a certain amount of money to users with exchange of some interests. Also, two respondents exclaimed that since they are paying for the interests of their loan, sometimes, they do not have any income and saving because they have no choice but to pay for their debts.

Furthermore, in terms of income and profits, majority of the respondents earned a daily profit of \$4.00 - \$12.00. This suggests that since they have a little amount of capital, it is also expected that in return, they will also have a little amount of profit. Majority of the respondents said that their daily income is just enough to sustain their basic needs such as food, shelter, electricity, and water. Also, the table shows that the average monthly income of the sidewalk vendors is from \$66.00 - \$130.00. It is important to consider that the poverty threshold set by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) for 2014 was at \$195.00 a month for a family of five to survive and not be part of the poverty line (Carcamo 2015). Hence, it was revealed in the result that most of the respondents are on the poverty line set by NEDA.

And finally, in terms of methods of vending, most of the sidewalk vendors have a semi-permanent method of vending. This means that sidewalk vendors use a temporary and unaffixed things for their sidewalk vending such as putting seating, tables, and weather protections, picnic umbrellas and makeshift tents to cover their goods and themselves.

**Table 3.** Reasons of the Respondent for Engaging in Sidewalk Vending

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Due to Poverty	16	64.00
Lack of Employment Opportunities	7	28.00
Self Dependency	1	4.00
It easy to manage and to operate	1	4.00
TOTAL	25	100.00

Table 3 presents the reasons of the respondents for engaging in sidewalk vending. It was revealed that the primary reason why they are in such kind of enterprise is due to poverty. This suggests that sidewalk vendors engaged to this kind of business in order to survive in this world and to sustain their basic needs. Because of lack of education, these sidewalk vendors have a difficulty in finding a decent job and as a result, they engaged in sidewalk vending. Two respondents said that even if the government sees them as illegal and hawkers, they have no choice but to continue their business because they do not have any ways to have other source of income and most importantly, the government does not give any alternative way or a livelihood support program. It is also important to note that the least reasons for them to engage is sidewalk vending are for self dependancy and it is easy to manage and to operate.

**Table 4.** Reasons of the Respondents in Engaging Sidewalk Vending in the Vicinity a Catholic University in the Philippines

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Presence of Potential Customers	15	60.00
Distance and Access to their Residences	4	16.00
University Administrators are not strict	3	12.00
Less Competition with other sidewalk vendors	3	12.00
TOTAL	25	100.00

Table 3 presents the reasons for the vendors in engaging their businesses in the vicinity of the University. The result reveals that their primary reason is on the presence of potential customers. Most of the responses in the interview revealed that most of their customers are the students and tricycle drivers. This suggests that since students rely on their allowances given by their parents, they need to allocate their money wisely and buy cheaper products and goods. As a result, they buy their foods in sidewalk vendors instead of buying in the University Canteen

and even going to the Central Business District, since sidewalk vendors offer a cheaper cost of goods.

Moreover, other reasons for engaging in the vicinity of the University are distance and access to their residences, since most of the sidewalk vendors are residing in Ugac Sur; the university administrators are not strict especially that they are not being driven out in the vicinity; and there is a less competition since majority of the sidewalk vendors are located in the Central Business Districts of the city.

**Table 5.** Monthly Priority Budget of the Respondents

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Food	23	92.00	1
Fuel, Light, and Water	20	80.00	2
House Maintenance	18	72.00	3
House Rentals	15	60.00	4
Transportation and Communication	13	52.00	5
Education of Children	10	40.00	6.5
Medical Care	10	40.00	6.5
Clothing	8	32.00	8
Personal Care (Perfume and Jewelry)	6	24.00	9
Recreation	4	16.00	10.5
Alcoholic Beverages	4	16.00	10.5
Cigarrates	2	8.00	12

Table 4 presents the monthly priority budget of the respondents. The findings revealed that sidewalk vendors prioritize their budget on their basic needs such as food, water, shelter, and electricity. This implies that sidewalk vending plays an important role in their daily living and in their survival since they rely their expenditures on their income from sidewalk vending. Moreover, it is important to note that almost half of the sidewalk vendors are paying for their house rentals. This means that they do not have yet a permanent shelter for them to stay in and they rely on sidewalk vending to pay for their house rentals. It is also important to note that at least half of the respondents also prioritize their budget on the education of their children. And more importantly, it was revealed that the sidewalk vendors least priorities are on their wants such as personal care, recreation, alcoholic beverages and cigarettes.

**Table 6.** Impact of Sidewalk Vending to the Socio-Economic Lives of the Respondents

<b>Impact</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Payment of Household Expenses and Basic Needs (Light, Water, Food, Fuel, Monthly Rentals)	22	88.00	1
Payment of debts and loans	14	56.00	2
Education of the Children	12	48.00	3
Can buy Properties (Household Appliances, Owning a House, Owning a Lot)	6	24.00	4
Sending money to the province	4	16.00	5
Personal Savings for Emergency and Future Use	2	8.00	6

Table 5 presents the impact of sidewalk vending to the socio-economic lives of the respondents. It was revealed that the major impact of sidewalk vending is that the vendors can have a way to pay their household expenses and to satisfy their basic needs. The findings affirmed Table 3 in terms of the vendor's priority budget expenditures. Three of the respondents said that sidewalk vending is very helpful in their lives. They can buy their needs and they can survive everyday, but sometimes, since the budget is limited, they cannot buy their wants such as cellular phones, new clothes and recreation activities.

It is also important to note that sidewalk vending also helped the vendors pay for their debts and loans. Moreover, sidewalk vending also afforded them to send their children to go to school. This suggests that despite poverty and lack of income, they still prioritize education as part of their daily living. Five (5) married respondents said that they need to engage in this kind of business to help their children to go to school. It also their hope that someday, they will end this kind of enterprise because their children will have a more decent jobs after their graduation.

And finally, the least contribution of sidewalk vending to the life of the respondents is to have a personal savings for emergency and future use. This implies that sidewalk vending is for everyday survival of the respondents. The income of the respondents could not meet the demand to have a personal saving because their income could only satisfy their basic needs.

**Table 7.** Effects of Discontinuance of Sidewalk Vending

<b>Effects</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
There will be no source of income	11	44.00
It would be hard to send our children to school	7	28.00
Unemployment	4	16.00
Transfer to another area for vending	2	8.00
We cannot buy what we want	1	4.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 5 reveals that the sidewalk vendors will no longer have a source of income if the university will prohibit sidewalk vending within their vicinity. Also, it is difficult for them to send their children to school. The findings once again suggests how important is sidewalk vending in the life of every respondents. With the discontinuance of their enterprise, they can not even have their basic needs.

**Table 8.** Priority Problems of the Respondents with Regards to Sidewalk Vending

<b>Priority Problems</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Space and Place for Vending	14	56.00
Weather	3	12.00
Lack of Capital	2	8.00
Pollution	2	8.00
Many Competitors	2	8.00
None	3	12.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 6 reveals that space and place for their business is the main problem of the respondents with regards to sidewalk vending. The results of the interview revealed that

sidewalk vendors are afraid to be driven away since they put up their stalls illegally in the vicinity of the university. Moreover, most of the sidewalk vendors are hoping the the university must be considerate to them and to allow them to stay permanently in the vicinity, since sidewalk vending is their only source of income and living.

## **CONCLUSION**

As to the personal and demographic profile of the sidewalk vendors, majority of them are female, with an age ranges from 41-60 years old, currently residing in Ugac Sur, Tuguegarao City, originally coming from the different municipalities in Cagayan Province, High School graduates with 1-3 number of dependents.

As to the Business profile, majority of the sidewalk vendors are selling foods and beverages, doing sidewalk vending for 1-5 years, with no other sources of income, doing sidewalk vending for more than 10 hours a day, with a capital of \$46.00 - \$65.00 from loans/borrowings, with one number of person helping in the business, with a daily and monthly profits of \$4.00 - \$12.00 and \$66.00 - \$130.00 respectively, and use semi-permanent method of vending.

Sidewalk vendors are engaging in this kind of business due to poverty and they choose to engage their business in the vicinity of a university because of the presence of potential customers. And lastly, sidewalk vending plays a significant role in the lives of the sidewalk vendors in terms of economic survival. However, the extent of its impact is only enough to sustain their basic needs.

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