

Process of a Primary Research

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Process Essay

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Process of a Primary Research

The Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino (TDHC) study looked at the issue of the hotel and casino's abrupt shutdown in 2016. The study was conducted in the Fall Semester between August 2018 until March 2019. Data was triangulated and collected in 3 different ways. First, initial data was conducted through a survey distributed to 15 students at Northern Marianas College (NMC) between the ages of 18 - 27. The distribution was random and all students participating were either in composition classes or classes taught by Dr. Kimberly Bunts-Anderson. Participation was required in composition classes and volunteer basis. The NMC survey contained 14 questions, 4 demographic questions and 10 questions focusing on businesses they know have shut down in their community. Two questions were multiple choice and 12 questions were open ended questions in order to get a better understanding of each student's response.

Second, the student researcher conducted a second survey between November 2018 and March 2019 specifically for Tinian residents. The purpose of the second survey was to gather data from individuals directly affected by TDHC's closure. The survey was distributed via email to 23 Tinian participants between the ages of 15 - 49. Participation was on a volunteer basis. The Tinian survey contained 14 questions, 5 multiple choice questions and 9 open ended questions. Four questions asked about demographics and 10 questions focused on the participant's knowledge about TDHC and how its closure impacted their lives and island. A variety of different responses were given that helped the student researcher with her study.

Lastly, the student researcher conducted 3 interviews with off island experts on March 2019 and 2 interviews with previous workers from TDHC on October 2018. The two interviews

with the off island experts were emailed to E. Wynn and K. Kerkorian, both whom are successful casino owners. Four interview questions were asked to the casino owners about what made their business successful and how they avoided bankruptcy. In addition, one off island expert interview was conducted via email to S. McPhetres who is an author of *The Contemporary Pacific*, book studies about the Micronesia. Four questions were asked about the history of TDHC and the issues Saipan and Tinian gambling businesses faced in from 2004 - 2016. On October 2018, the student researcher conducted two interviews to previous TDHC workers who worked there from 2002 until it's closure in 2016. Questions that were asked involved their job positions, their experience working at Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, the problems they knew business was facing, and how the closure of TDHC directly impacted them and their families.