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Patriotism and Nationalism as Perceived by Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in Filipino Students in the University of Eastern Philippines

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Abstract

This study aimed at determining the perception of Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Filipino students in the University of Eastern Philippines students on the patriotism and nationalism. Specifically, the study aimed to determine the perception of the respondents on the patriotism and nationalism, identify the factors that affect the nationalism and patriotism as perceived by the respondents, and draw recommendations from the respondents to improve patriotism and nationalism.

These objectives were achieved through descriptive-survey research design and used survey questionnaire.

The findings of the study were: the grand mean of 4.51 conclude that the respondents' perception on patriotism and nationalism is positive. There were factors that affect the nationalism and patriotism and the topmost factor is social media. There were various recommendations to improve patriotism and nationalism and the most recommended is patriotism and nationalism should be taught in the school.

Keywords: Perception, Patriotism, Nationalism, Culture and Practice.

Introduction

Educated Filipinos were the instruments in letting innocent Filipinos know the sense of nationalism and the importance of freedom. As years of being a colonize country go on, the Filipinos felt the abuses of the colonizers that made us feel the need to fight. We have been through Spanish colonizers but they refuse to educate the Filipinos.

Moreover, Nationalism is nourished by a sense of history. It is of its essence to know profoundly the past, so that we may be in complete knowing the men who made that history and in intimate communion with their thoughts, their deeds, and their noble lives. One of the factors that contributed to the difficulty of solving national issues in the Philippines (today) is the absence of nationalism and patriotism in the hearts and minds of the Filipino youth. Nationalism can be defined as the love for one's country. It is the root of economic, social, and environmental prosperity. However, the lack of nationalism among the youth today is becoming worse. It is important to address this problem because the youth is supposed to be the nation's hope as they are the nation's future leaders. If these future leaders are lacking of nationalistic values, then they might become the source of corruption and poverty instead. This is because if the young ones are apathetic of the nation's situations, then surely they will not take part in the improvement of the country. Nevertheless, the problem on lack of nationalism and patriotism of the Filipino youth today

can be solved through education, mass media, and celebrations.

Nationalism among the youth can be strengthened through education. Education is a path in order for the youth to become aware of their cultural roots and for them to know the cause of freedom that they are enjoying today. It is the source of appreciation of one's country as it can ignite one's patriotic spirit. For instance, by studying history, Filipino youth becomes knowledgeable of heroes' great sacrifices for the country. As a result, the heroes' acts may influence the thinking of the youth. This solution can be easily implemented because it is supported by laws for, today, some laws are promulgated with the purpose of fostering nationalism and patriotism among the youth through education.

Further, mass media such as television, newspapers, journals can take part in the improvement of nationalism in the Philippines. News and other articles can influence the minds of Filipino youth. Through media, Filipino youth becomes aware of issues concerning the nation's political, economic, social, and environmental status. This solution is feasible since youth today are fond of watching televisions, surfing internet, and reading articles on social networking sites.

In conclusion, through education, mass media, and celebrations, the lack of nationalism and patriotism in today's youth can be solved. If these solutions are to be adopted,

people will learn the true ideals of patriotism and nationalism. Hence, these reasons promoted to conduct the study in order to determine the perception of the Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Filipino students in the University of Eastern Philippines on patriotism and nationalism.

Objectives of the Study

This study investigated the perception of Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Filipino students in the University of Eastern Philippines on the patriotism and nationalism.

Specifically, it aimed to:

- Determine the perception of the respondents on the patriotism and nationalism;
- Identify the factors that affect the nationalism and patriotism as perceived by the respondents; and
- Draw recommendations from the respondents to improve patriotism and nationalism.

Materials and Methods

This study was conducted in the University of Eastern Philippines (UEP), more specifically in the College of Education, Department of Bachelor of Secondary Education. The study used descriptive-survey research design. The researchers gathered ten (10) respondents in each year level. A total of forty (40) respondents were included in the study. Hence, the sampling technique that was used is purposive quota sampling.

Results and Discussions

Perception on Patriotism and Nationalism

Table 1 exhibits the perception on patriotism and nationalism of the respondents. There were eleven (11) parameters used to measure their perception.

Among the parameters there were eight (8) rated “strongly agree” which include: it is important to endorse the use of imported made goods, resources and technology, Filipino people should encourage appreciation and pride of the country and people by promoting Filipino desirable culture and practice, regular attendance during flag raising/lowering ceremonies should be required in every government and non-government offices, public Officials should treat every client fairly and genuinely in acting his/her function, Filipino people should refrain from doing acts contrary to law, it is the duty and responsibilities of public officials to serve the public with devotion and dedication, it is also the duty of every person specially officials to manifest actions that reflect good morals and good customs in his/her function, and showing patriotism and nationalism is also showing love and respect in the country.

Furthermore, there were three (3) rated “agree” which include: it is the responsibility of every Filipino citizen to maintain and defend the country against foreign intrusion, every Filipino citizen should develop and observe institution vision or mission statement premised on nationalistic commitment value integrated into the delivery of service to the students and other stakeholders, and every Public official should not neglect the rights of others in performing his/her duty.

The respondents' perception on patriotism and nationalism is positive. Hence, nationalism is a response to existing conditions, and emotional responses are born from the definition of situational and social identity. From the explanation above, in general, the factors that influence the value of one's nationalism can be grouped into two categories,

namely; internal factors (internal) and external (external) or environmental factors. External factors can be grouped into two categories, namely; family and social environmental factors.

Table 1: Perception on Patriotism and Nationalism

Statement	Mean	Interpretation
Filipino people should encourage appreciation and pride of the country and people by promoting Filipino desirable culture and practice	4.48	Strongly Agree
It is the responsibility of every Filipino citizen to maintain and defend the country against foreign intrusion	4.36	Agree
Regular attendance during flag raising/lowering ceremonies should be required in every government and non-government offices.	4.80	Strongly Agree
Every Filipino citizen should develop and observe institution vision or mission statement premised on nationalistic commitment value integrated into the delivery of service to the students and other stakeholders	4.30	Agree
Public Officials should treat every client fairly and genuinely in acting his/her function	4.44	Strongly Agree
Filipino people should refrain from doing acts contrary to law	4.52	Strongly Agree
It is the duty and responsibilities of public officials to serve the public with devotion and dedication	4.70	Strongly Agree
Every Public officials should not neglect the rights of others in performing his/her duty	4.10	Agree
It is also the duty of every person specially officials to manifest actions that reflect good morals and good customs in his/her function	4.80	Strongly Agree
Showing patriotism and nationalism is also showing love and respect in the country	4.45	Strongly Agree
Grand Mean	4.51	Strongly Agree

Factors that affect the Nationalism and Patriotism

Table 2 exhibits the factors that affect the nationalism and patriotism. There were seven (7) factors identified which include:

- Social media,
- Colonial mentality (e.g. imported goods preference),
- Cultural background,
- Involvement in organizations,
- Involvement in religious groups,
- Educational background, and
- Peer influence.

From the data it can be deduced that the topmost factor that affect the nationalism and patriotism is social media because nowadays majority of the teenagers are users of social media where they are more exposed in different cultures of other countries that influenced their behavior. This result is supported by Medium theory which is concerned with the fixed features of the channels of communication and how these features are distinguished psychologically and sociologically from other media. The theory examines the relationship between human senses that are required to use a medium and the structure of the medium itself. We do not experience the world directly, but through different media of

communication. Thus, the Internet has altered the speed, storage, and availability of information and created an information class including changed patterns of reading. Facebook has influenced social capital, or the resources accumulated through the relationships among people, and allows for the formation of new social networks.

From the data, it can be interfered that social media plays a crucial role in molding the belief, practices and attitude of the respondents towards nationalism and patriotism. So, the parents and teachers must guide their students towards proper usage and exposure of reading articles in various social media platforms.

Table 2: Factors that affect the Nationalism and Patriotism

Factors that affect the Nationalism and Patriotism	Frequency	Rank
Social media	39	1
Colonial mentality (e.g. imported goods preference)	35	2
Cultural background	28	3.5
Involvement in organizations	28	3.5
Involvement in religious groups	21	5
Educational background	19	6
Peer influence	15	7

*multiple responses

Recommendations

Table 3 exhibits the recommendations to improve patriotism and nationalism.

There were seven (7) identified recommendations which include:

- Patriotism and nationalism should be taught in the school,
- Conduct seminar/workshop on patriotism and nationalism,
- Participate in the representative democracy by registering to vote and voting in elections,
- Volunteering for community service or running for elected government office,
- Support our national parks,
- Distribution of communication materials and,
- Face to face dialogue and orientation on patriotism and nationalism.

From the data it can be deduced that the topmost recommendation is patriotism and nationalism should be taught in the school which means that this particular topic should be incorporated in syllabus to thoroughly discuss the said topic to the students.

Table 3: Recommendations

Recommendations	Frequency	Rank
Patriotism and nationalism should be taught in the school	39	1
Conduct seminar/workshop on patriotism and nationalism	37	2
Participate in the representative democracy by registering to vote and voting in elections	33	3
Volunteering for community service or running for elected government office	27	4
Support our national parks	26	5
Distribution of communication materials	15	6
Face to face dialogue and orientation on patriotism and nationalism	10	7

*multiple responses

Conclusions

The grand mean of 4.51 conclude that the respondents' perception on patriotism and nationalism is positive. This implies that respondents are aware how patriotism and nationalism should be done and how to show love in the country being an ordinary citizen. This further implies that respondents were knowledgeable on the concept of patriotism and nationalism and how it will be manifested.

As to the factors that affect the nationalism and patriotism, it implies that social media platforms affect the behavior towards nationalism and patriotism due to other countries culture exposure. This further implies that social media plays role in shaping one's behavior and attitude.

The recommendations of the respondents' manifest that the respondents were able to identify how nationalism and patriotism be improving among students.

Recommendations

Based on the findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations are forwarded:

- The College of Education in cooperation with Department of Secondary Education may come-up with various activities such as seminar, tours and art exhibits that will maintain the positive perception of the respondents.
- Social media is the topmost factor that affects the nationalism and patriotism. Hence, the college may guide students towards proper ethics on social media and validation on reliability of articles that touché patriotism and nationalism.
- The college may produce various communication materials like posters, fliers and other printed materials containing topics on patriotism and nationalism.

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