What is Pinoy Pride?

AUGUST 21, 2012

Filipinos have been using the term “Pinoy Pride” over the past few years. When one views it in a way, it means bringing pride to the Filipino nation because someone has represented it internationally. It can also mean having the Philippines get noticed internationally. With the recent usage of the term, it is no doubt one of the most pathetic lines a Filipino can mention in public – may it be on social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook. Let’s have some examples, shall we?

1. American Idol contestant Jessica Sanchez has been known to be one of the recipients of the #PinoyPride hashtag on Twitter. The AI contestant has received numerous praises from the judges and most of America, then there come Filipinos saying “PINOY PRIDE!” Come to think of it, she did not even grow up here in the Philippines. She only has Filipino blood on her veins. Why is that Pinoy Pride? Well, it seems that any person abroad who has not even stepped foot in the Philippines, but has some an ounce of Filipino blood is doomed to receive the claims of the Philippines. Yes Filipinos, Jessica Sanchez has Filipino blood and is a great singer, but let’s not claim her. Don’t even get me started with Charice.

2. Survivor has announced that he 25th season of Survivor would be shot in the Philippines. Again, we see the influx of Pinoy Prides arriving everywhere. So what if they shoot here in the Philippines? How is that a big deal? They shoot these contestants with the typical “away-from-civilization” island in the Philippines. Show’s over, they’d move on. It’s not even considered “Pinoy Pride.” How shallow can you get?

3. The Bourne Legacy used the Philippines in some of the scenes they filmed. Back when they were still filming, it seems that the Philippines couldn’t hold its excitement and seemed to disturb the filmmakers. Furthermore, after the film was released, a lot of Filipinos commented how awful the Philippines was portrayed. There were also some who were happy that the filmmakers decided to use the Philippines and screamed PINOY PRIDE all over again. Seriously, what is there to be proud of?

To be honest, “Pinoy Pride” only screams how pathetic that the Philippines has become. It seems that the whole Filipino race is begging for international attention. These Filipinos or semi-Filipinos are bringing pride to themselves for the efforts they exerted. They did not represent the whole Filipino race. It’s not wrong to support them, but to declare them as “Pinoy Pride?” Nuh-uh. Furthermore, screaming Pinoy Pride at the mere usage of our country by international people? It’s their choice. They think it’s a better conceptual place for what they have in mind. It’s not like they’re handing us 10 million dollars for that.

To conclude, Pinoy Pride won’t even mask the deteriorating status of our country. Let’s not make a mountain out of a handful of soil, shall we?

**WHAT IS ANTI-PINOY PRIDE?**

This is not a blog that advocates discrimination. My intent is to rid Filipinos of the false and misguided concept called ‘Pinoy Pride’; hence, the name “Anti-Pinoy Pride”. It is not the phrase, itself, that I’m targeting; but the Filipinos’ interpretation and incorrect usage of it.

**PROUD TO BE PINOY: WHY DO FILIPINOS SAY ‘PINOY PRIDE’?**

Ever watched a Manny Pacquiao fight or a Youtube video of someone the least bit Filipino? If yes, then it is likely to encounter the endless barrage of Filipinos proclaiming ‘Pinoy Pride’.

‘Pinoy Pride’ can also take the forms: ‘Best talaga Pinoy’ (‘Pinoys are the best), ‘Philippines Represent’, ‘Pride of the Philippines’, etc. For non-Filipinos, this may seem arrogant and racist—or, more accurately, ethnocentric.

It is. Let’s face it. When do you hear Filipinos say ‘Pinoy Pride’?

When Pacquiao wins a match. When Charice became famous/has a new project/releases a new album. When a person with some trace of Filipino blood in them becomes successful (even if the said person does not know a Philippine language and/or does not have any knowledge of Philippine culture).

Remember that girl from True Grit whose mother is of Filipino and European descent? That would make Hailee Steinfeld ¼ Filipino, right? Somehow it was still worth mentioning… Makes me wonder how Filipinos find out about this stuff.

Anyway, the problem is that by claiming ‘Filipino Pride’ on the basis of the examples above, the Filipinos’ collective pride as a people is based on the achievements of individual people who just happened to be Filipino or part-Filipino. The truth is that the said people achieved success due to their efforts and the efforts of those that have helped them/provided opportunities for them.

Is Manny Pacquiao one of the world’s best boxers in the world, because he is Filipino? No. He succeeded in being one of the best, because of a combination of factors that include (but are not necessarily limited to) talent, training and hard work. He is not a good boxer, because he is Filipino. Likewise, Celine Dion is not one of the best singers in the world, because she is French Canadian. Michael Jordan is not considered the greatest basketball player of all time, because he is Black American. And so on…

Maybe if Pacquiao and Charice were backed by Filipinos; then they can take credit for some of their success as they can then claim that they provided them the opportunity to succeed. But who really helped these people get to where they are?

Pacquiao had Freddie Roach. Charice had Oprah and Ellen (among others). In fact, Charice was ignored in the Philippines before Oprah noticed her. She was featured on national TV in a singing competition and she lost to a so-so singer who was pleasant-looking. She wasn’t even offered a record  deal or a TV role (which is normal for reality show participants in the Philippines). It is easy to see why given that fairmestisa (mixed Filipino and foreign, usually white, blood) entertainers are the norm in the Philippine entertainment industry.

What’s wrong with being proud of successful Filipinos?

Nothing!

Filipinos can be proud of and support anyone. The problem is when Filipinos attribute the success of an individual person (i.e. Pacquiao, Charice, etc.) to the collective pride of a group of people (i.e. Pinoy Pride)  just because of an uncontrollable factor of life called race/ethnicity. (On a somewhat related note, aren’t we all from the same race? The human race.)

Again, for clarity, there’s a difference between being proud for an individual and being proud to be Filipino because of an individual’s success. It is arrogant and misguided to equate the success of a single person to that of a group by saying “Pinoy Pride” or “I’m proud to be Filipino” whenever a Filipino achieves an individual accomplishment. If that were the case, then just as that single person’s success is that of the group’s success; that single person’s downfall is also the group’s downfall. What happens to ‘Pinoy Pride’ if Pacquiao loses? What if Charice’s album bombs? What will Filipinos be proud of then?

**That is actually the real issue.** My point? False and misguided claims of ‘Pinoy Pride’ hide what the Philippines is afraid to admit: This focus on nationality/ethnicity whenever someone remotely Filipino succeeds is simply due to the Filipinos’ lack of anything to feel good about as a people.

Adam Carolla was spot on when he said:

***Here’s how you know your country doesn’t have a lot going for it: Because everything is about Manny Pacquiao.***

*Get a fucking life as a country. is all you fucking got this illiterate guy who won’t give up blood who happens to smash other guys in the head better than other people? That’s all you have?*

*Really? You want some guy with brain damage running your country? Why don’t you get your shit together? They got this and sex tours! That’s all they have over there! Get your shit together, Philippines! Jesus Christ!*

*That’s the beauty of this country. We got way too much shit going on in this country. There’s so much shit going on that you couldn’t build your whole existence around LeBron James or Tiger Woods….Like the Philippines, that’s all you got. That’s it. I say get a life.****Don’t live vicariously through some dude who doesn’t live there.***

*Do they do those sex tours over there? …A bike sex tour? Don’t they have sex tours there? See if they can do a sex tour over there, book that for me. Go to priceline.*

Carolla’s statement is harsh, but not racist. It is a reality check. Whether Filipinos choose to admit it or not, there is something inherently wrong with their country.Poverty. Corruption. Lack of discipline. Limited opportunities. In fact, about 10% of the total Philippine population lives/works abroad, and that percentage does not represent all those who wish to leave the country. The thing is that Filipinos are all too willing to receive praise, but anything that involves criticism is branded as racist and left at that.

When should Filipinos claim ‘Pinoy Pride’? When the Filipinos come together, acknowledge and provide a solution to their problems. Until then, Filipinos should just be proud of their respective individual achievements. **Be proud of your own accomplishments and don’t take pride for the success of others if you haven’t contributed anything to their success.**

I expect that someone will bring up the fact that poverty, corruption, etc. are also present in other developing countries. That is irrelevant to the point I am trying to make. My goal is not to bring Filipinos down, but to open their eyes to see what false and misguided pride is doing to their country.

The Failure of Filipino “Pride”

Posted by [ChinoF](http://antipinoy.com/author/chinof/" \o "Posts by ChinoF) on Aug 27, 2010 in [Crime](http://antipinoy.com/category/society/crime/), [Culture](http://antipinoy.com/category/society/culture-society/), [Solutions](http://antipinoy.com/category/solutions/)

The Manila Hostage Crisis has been recognized as one of the greatest mistakes of our Filipino leadership and our culture. It has shown right to the world how defective our culture and system are, right from the hostage taker and his family to the policemen in their bungled rescue attempt. Filipinos and foreigners have been sobered and saddened by the events. Many are saying that it has exposed various wrongs in our system, and various international analysts have commented, correctly, on what has happened.

Now one of the worst reactions that Filipinos have is to say, “We are still proud to be Filipinos in spite of what happened! Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!” (side comment: yeah, ‘in **spite** of,’ Filipinos tend to spite other nations). Some Filipinos see it as a rightful action to save our image. It even seems that we are the only nation to use this kind of reaction. We try to remain a proud race despite another country’s people being killed on our territory.

My colleague here in AP Benign0 believes that Filipinos have to be shamed in order to realize their mistakes and change. This hostage crisis should have served as such an event. However, it seems that many Filipinos have immunized themselves against shame and instead tried to cover it up with trying to recover what’s left of their “pride.”

The problem is that proclaiming Filipino pride at this point is very wrong to do. From the Chinese point of view, statements of Filipino pride right now only serve to further degrade our already damaged image to the world. It is especially embarrassing now that Chinese are angered not only at the event, but at PNoy’s “smiling” visage and the pictures of disrespectful souvenir takers (a nice word is camwhores) circulating around the Net.

Saying that we’re still proud is seen as an act of arrogance, especially in the eyes of a nation that has been wronged by one of ours. It’s not just pride anymore. It’s **hubris**. If Chinese or even other countries see this, they’ll say, “Oh, you proud of yoh man who killed owah peepoh?” Certainly, Filipinos are not proud of that. But to foreigners, they rightly see that it’s funny for Filipinos to find any reason to be proud at all. Some people were killed. And the killer was Filipino. He represented us that day. That we cannot deny.

This issue probably reflects one thing: our culture and condition have become so pathetic, that we look to any aspirin to relieve the pain instead of getting the right treatment for the disease. We have a lot of problems: we send OFWs to the countries whose nationals we kill. We have a corrupt government, even the current one. Our population is growing to catastrophic levels, and yet an outdated church tries to stop nearly any method at population control. High crime, high poverty, high blood… we are unfortunately on the lower end (or even at the lowest end) when compared to our Asian neighbors.

We look to pride to try and lift us from the sober mood. We go back to [pleasantry addiction](http://antipinoy.com/filipinos-pleasantry-addicts/) instead of facing the problem squarely and trying to solve it properly. We try to focus [on the positive](http://antipinoy.com/filipinos-are-not-positive/) in order to escape the negative. We seek escape by cheering Venus Raj, using the “pwede na yan” mentality to accept the 4th runner up position. That only shows how weak in character the Filipino culture has made of its people.

We should stop this obsession with pride. We need to acknowledge our mistakes. We Filipinos need to accept that the hostage crisis is a failure of our culture. Pride is especially a part of our culture’s failures. The failure is that we look for pride even if we should not!

I also propose that Mendoza is a victim of this stuffing of pride in the Pinoy ego. Mendoza after all was a decorated cop in his day. But why did he hostage foreigners at all? What do his demands to negotiators reflect? Also, why would a policeman like him feed narcotics to a suspect as a form of torture? Clearly, it was misplaced pride.

Since we are a Catholic country, let me front the question: why are we looking for **pride** when it is the top among the seven deadly sins?

I say, **down** with the pride. Let us **humble** ourselves. *Humility is not negative*. It is positive for a time like this.

We can still be Filipino. We don’t need to be ashamed of it. But we need to be ashamed of what happened. Yet shame is not the opposite of pride. Humility is. Let’s go in that direction.

And once we fix our problems can we truly be proud.

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# Filipinos need to work on their ego

Posted by [ilda](http://antipinoy.com/author/ilda/" \o "Posts by ilda) on Mar 12, 2010 in [Culture](http://antipinoy.com/category/society/culture-society/), [Lifestyle](http://antipinoy.com/category/society/lifestyle/)

The Filipino mind is Philippine society’s greatest enemy. If you read Philippine publications, watch local talk shows on TV or even just peruse other popular collective Filipino blogsites, you can pretty much tell what the national preoccupation is about. The national preoccupation is centered on the Filipino ego. To be specific, it’s all about who has offended who and who needs to apologise to whom. This preoccupation pretty much prevents our country from moving forward.

The late master of psychology, Sigmund Freud would have had a field day studying the complexities of the Filipino mind if he were still alive today. The Filipino mind is full of convolution and contradiction, which is the reason why we remain who we are today, a nation of braggarts and show-offs. A simple misunderstanding can turn a non-issue into a nasty national spectacle. If you don’t believe me, just google the name “Ampatuan” or look up that [fight](http://getrealphilippines.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=326) at the Valley Golf Club in Manila that turned really violent when two prominent families just couldn’t stand each other’s presence. Even the funeral of the late President Corazon Aquino was all about bruised egoes for it was said that the family wanted to heed her wishes not to have a state funeral just to spite President Gloria Arroyo. The Aquino siblings couldn’t seem to emphasize this enough to the Media during their mother’s wake.

Or take Kris Aquino’s and Ruffa Guttierez’s latest cat-fight as an example. I heard that the dirty laundry of these two airheads had to be ironed out on national TV recently and [a radio talk show host](http://www.motwister.com/blog/2010/3/11/would-you-not-vote-for-noynoy-because-of-kris.html?currentPage=7#commentsBakit) even had to give it air-time and blog space (which I did as well, I suppose, but I’m just trying to prove a point). All that is because this is what the masa is interested in. Who cares what these two are bickering about? Apparently, almost everyone in the Philippines does. Indeed, these two reflect what truly is in the minds of every Filipino: The bruised ego and how to get back at someone.

Rather than focus on ideas or the concept of what a person is saying, Filipinos focus more on whether or not the person was disrespectful or polite. Filipinos can’t seem to shrug things off and take things with a grain of salt. It is a characteristic that seems to defy our Catholic upbringing. Jesus Christ needs to come back down to earth to reiterate a lesson or two in humility to Filipinos.

There seems to be something wrong with a psyche that makes us so vulnerable to getting upset or offended so easily. Filipinos get offended so easily from a

*Perceived*

indiscretion and are often unable to move on to something bigger or higher than such trivial pursuits

.*We tend to be consumed with words that should mean nothing to us if they were untrue*.

This demonstrates a real sign of having an unhealthy ego and insecurity. As someone aptly put it,[Filipinos can be onion skinned cry-babies](http://antipinoy.com/filipinos-onion-skinned-crybabies/).

I am therefore inclined to believe that we have not evolved well as a people. The Filipino intellect is still at a lower level in the hierarchy of development. We can attribute it to the simple fact that most Filipinos are not properly educated yet. Due to poverty, most people are more concerned with just satisfying basic human needs like food, shelter and clothing. There are also those Filipinos who have received excellent formal education yet are incapable of harbouring the occasional existential musing or thought that extends beyond their inner primate inclinations. It is not surprising then that only a few are not resistant to change. Indeed, traditional Filipino thinking styles are to blame for our lack of ability to change and to accept the truth. One would think that we somehow prefer to stay the way we are than risk being [offended by the truth](http://antipinoy.com/the-truth-will-set-filipinos-free/).

Our tradition plays a major role in what we value: our own sense of self-importance. We place too much value on how other people see us and how our actions are perceived. Filipino culture is averse to being direct to the point. We hate it when someone is totally frank. We tend to contradict ourselves when we project our coyness and at the same time, try so hard to read between the lines and end up failing at this miserably. This is evident in the way most Filipinos offer food to someone as a show of graciousness. Accepting the offer or rejecting the offer of food can mean two things to most Filipinos. If a person rejects the food being offered, a Filipino will tend to think that he or she was snubbed. Often times, the recipient is actually forced to accept the food even if she doesn’t want it. If the food was accepted, the person who offered the food might then actually think that the recipient was greedy.

Whatever course of action was taken can sometimes lead to feelings of anger and hate between the two parties because Filipinos tend to not really mean what they say and they just do things out of “politeness”. There is no concept of being totally honest for fear of being rude or being offensive. Why can’t we just eat our food in front of others even without offering to give some of it away? Why can’t we just take the answer “no” for what it is and move on to eating our food? This solution, for the small minded, is not simple,

*really*.

An ego is invisible. No one has actually seen it. We are sometimes not aware that our egos are taking us over or consuming us. Filipinos tend to be subsumed by their egos. We can’t seem to make mistakes without blaming others. We pride ourselves in being happy-go-lucky or a people always wearing a smile. But truly, it is what lurks behind those smiles that is scary. Do we really smile because we are happy or because we just want people to see that we are happy? This is another contradiction in itself because we like our soap operas so much and we relate well to the fictional characters that are victims of greed and misfortune but do very little to uplift our circumstances.

A lot of Filipinos like the two cat fighting Filipina actresses I mentioned above tend to put themselves forward too eagerly or bring every conversation back into the context of their own experience. They are always looking for sympathy. They can’t seem to live without other people’s attention. They always want to play the victim even though they actually act like an aggressor. They don’t have any other achievement or purpose in the world other than to consume peoples’ times. The whole nation is not short of people like this.

A person with a healthy ego is someone who is aware that he or she is not the centre of the universe. A person with a healthy ego is someone who can step back and take stock and reflect on whether all of his or her anxieties are really just that person’s

*Own*

mind messing with him or her. A person with a healthy ego doesn’t have to dominate every situation or doesn’t require constant applause. A person with a healthy ego can easily shrug off criticism and move forward to something more constructive and meaningful. The Philippines is so short of people with healthy egos.

[**Why Pinoy Pride will never save the Philippines**](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/07/pinoy-pride-sucks/)

July 2, 2013

by ChinoF

Some Pinoy Pride stuff had been in the radar lately. Local media ran a[feature](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/fil-am-cling-ons-descend-upon-fil-am-judge-lorna-schofield/) on a recently appointed American judge with Filipino blood (though the woman, thankfully, said she is an American first). Some NBA fans were quick to boast that Miami Heat coach [Erik Spoelstra](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/pinoy-pride-spoelstra/) has Filipino blood. But same as the judge, he is an American first. Many Filipinos [recently raised hell](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/outrage-fad-comedienne-joke/)over Katherine Ryan’s controversial joke about Filipinos being “experimented on” in the cosmetic industry, when it is apparently based on an impression about the [sad truth](http://www.nscb.gov.ph/headlines/StatsSpeak/2011/101011_rav.asp) about [the state of children](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_184203/lang--en/index.htm) in our country. Filipinos always feel punctured or insulted when they are the butt of jokes. They believe nothing should get in the way of being able to walk with their head held high, proud and happy, *lording it over others*. Filipinos insist that they deserve to be proud and that the solution to our problems is to have more pride as a people.

Oh really?

I have always been strongly vocal against Pinoy Pride [for a good reason](http://chinocracy.blogspot.com/2012/06/problem-with-filipino-pride.html): it will never save the Philippines.

Pinoy Pride seems to be the belief that Filipinos are a special people from the rest of the world, and thus deserve special respect. For example, they insist that no one has the right to make Pinoys the butt of jokes. And if Pinoys are not given this special respect, they were “cheated,” “insulted” or “oppressed.” Pinoys love to imagine that they are “[oppressed](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/03/filipinos-are-not-oppressed/)” people in the world. But when they do things like [post pictures of themselves wearing their employer’s clothes without permission](http://www.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne+News/Singapore/Story/A1Story20110717-289546.html) (the maid in Singapore), [slap a helpless Alzheimer’s patient](http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/256028/pinoyabroad/pinoy-nurse-in-uk-jailed-for-attacking-alzheimers-patient) (Jonathan Aquino case), steal from a US children’s cancer fund ([Rene Ballenas pleaded guilty to larceny](http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/298859/pinoyabroad/news/fil-am-who-stole-from-us-children-s-cancer-foundation-expected-to-be-released-early)), make a loan in the U.S. then run home to avoid paying it, murder a famous fashion designer (Andrew Cunanan killing Gianni Versace), complain about someone else’s name (the [Filipino complaining about someone being named Kiki in Australia](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/opinion/news/article.cfm?c_id=466&objectid=10721155)) or be on the defensive after the botched Manila Hostage Crisis, you know they [are far from “oppressed” or “deserving pride.”](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/filipino-shame/) It’s more like they need therapy. If only there was a psychiatric treatment called Ego Therapy.

Back to Katherine Ryan: Why is it that Filipinos tend to be the butt of some jokes like this? Most obvious answer is that they are clearly doing something wrong. Else, there would be no reason for someone to create the [Top 8 Habits of Filipino Jerks](http://8list.ph/site/articles/top-8-habits-of-the-filipino-jerk-272) (the article implies that if you are insulted by Ryan’s joke, then you are a jerk!).

I also see a connection between Pinoy Pride and the tendency of our culture to be effete and boisterous when it comes to self-promotion. This self-promotion often comes as efforts to claim that being Pinoy is special and is the secret behind the success of some people. Pinoys will snag the chance to ride on names, such as as Charice Pempengco, Arnel Pineda, Manny Pacquiao and Lea Salonga. This reasoning probably came from a false syllogism:

Charice/Manny/Arnel/Lea are talented and celebrated.

Charice/Manny/Arnel/Lea are Filipino.

Ergo Filipinos are all talented and should be celebrated.

I’m a Filipino, so I am talented and should be celebrated.

Unfortunately, this all goes down the toilet when you find that these vocal “proud Pinoys” are actually [cockroaches](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/land-ownership-hell-the-philippines-is-squatter-central-when-it-comes-to-government-subsidies/) who are too lazy to work, go drinking all day and want to milk their relatives dry.

Truly, as fellow blogger Gogs says, [KSP is the root of all evil](http://edrlopez.blogspot.com/2009/11/filipino-cry-for-attention.html). And this KSPness is just so prominent when demonstrated by Filipinos. It’s just too hard to not notice.

It certainly is ironic while the Philippines is predominantly Catholic, its greatest fault is [the worst sin of all, pride](http://kazaki03.blogspot.com/2012/04/filipino-pride-or-christian-humility.html). So it’s time to remind Pinoys about their beliefs. An [article from Catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org/hf/faith/story.php?id=47335), eloquently explains why pride is bad news for anyone. Although this is a Catholic article, it explains things in a way that any Christian – or person with religion – would agree with. I am confident that even an atheist, deist or agnostic or other non-religious would agree, pride is a major cause of wrongdoing in human society.

Then come some critics saying “GRP is negative, putting down the Filipino.” OK then, name an instance where a Pinoy Pride initiative actually uplifted the lives of Filipinos, and brought them out of dysfunction.

None?

That’s the reality. Pinoy Pride never uplifted Filipino lives. Because Pinoy Pride itself is an act to cover up Filipino failings. It is a symptom of other attitude problems, such as sense of self-entitlement, emotionalism, anti-intellectualism and love of the underdog.

Let me lift an explanation from an earlier blog post, slightly revised: Pinoy Pride initiatives rise out of the imaginary notion that Filipinos are under attack. But way I see it, they are just attacking themselves. Filipinos are the ones declaring themselves inferior, and then imagine someone else saying it, like a foreigner. Based on this schizophrenic fear of a delusional enemy, they embark on Filipino Pride programs to try and push up their image. But these programs may involve [covering up or denying the mistakes of the Filipinos](http://getrealphilippines.wordpress.com/2010/09/02/filipinos-wrongly-on-defensive/). Thus, Filipinos actually end up pulling themselves down further.

Pinoy Pride will never save the Philippines because it is **part of the problem**. It was never a [solution](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/the-one-and-only-correct-solution-to-the-profound-dysfunction-that-hobbles-philippine-societys-march-to-porsperity/). It leads to Filipinos acting foolishly and without wisdom, caring only to [feed their ego](http://getrealphilippines.com/blog/2013/06/filipino-profligacy/). Acts of pride are self-deflating by nature, because they are acts of projection that highlight the person’s faults instead of strengths. People may believe they are showing strength or good traits, when in fact, they are showing serious flaws.

I believe we can never attack Pinoy Pride enough, because it is the cancer itself that continues to shoot down all efforts to [improve our people’s behavior](http://www.ozpinoy.com/how-do-you-get-rid-of-your-ego/). Why is corruption so hard to remove? Because the people are too proud to change. Perhaps that’s why our countrymen are experiencing a moral crisis. We’re Pinoys, we’re already perfect, we’re special. So we don’t need to change.

And neither do the dysfunctions of our country.