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DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Empowerment Technologies

QUARTER 4

MODULE 3

Digital Citizenship and the Filipino people

Empowerment Technologies

Quarter 4 – Module 3: Digital Citizenship and the Filipino people

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EXPECTATIONS

Learning Competency

- ✓ share anecdotes of how he/she has used ICTs to be part of a social movement, change, or cause to illustrate aspects of digital citizenship; and
- ✓ identify a local or regional cause or issue for Social Change related to specific professional tracks that can be addressed or tackled using an ICT Project for Social Change

Learning Objectives

At the end of the learning period, the students shall have:

1. understood how the Filipinos utilized the ICTs to achieve social change;
2. conceptualized a petition about their chosen issue; and
3. justified how the Filipinos practiced digital citizenship.

LESSON

The Role of ICT in Recent History

1. **Radio Veritas and EDSA I (People Power Revolution)**
   Cardinal Tagle pointed out that Radio Veritas' essential function is to spread the right information, especially the Word of God. On April 11, 1969, the Radio Veritas facility was inaugurated by Cardinal Antonio Samore, a Vatican official, and Cardinal Rufino Santos, the former Archbishop of Manila (Vatican News, 2019).
   It was an unpopular radio station back then; eventually, it gained more audience after the station covered the assassination of former senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino on August 21, 1983, that government-run media reported hours later (CMFR Philippines, 2011). When late Jaime Cardinal Sin spoke over the Radio Veritas calling the Filipino people for support, two million

Filipinos from different sectors participated in the four-day major protest that took place along EDSA from February 22 to 25, 1986.

2. **Text brigades and EDSA Dos**
   Before the Filipinos turned in the comfort of chatting and Messenger, the Philippines was named the "Text Capital of the World" (Philippine Mission Org.). In 1995, Short Message Service (SMS) was introduced as a promotional gimmick until in 1998, Philippine mobile-service providers launched it as a service targeting hearing-impaired users. From "I'll call you" to "I'll text you", most of the Filipinos used this service for communication since it was free, but soon, telcos started charging 1 peso per SMS. It is much cheaper than a voice call, and this led to the ownership of a mobile phone by around five million Filipinos by 2001.

   It was also 2001 when EDSA Dos or Second People Power Revolution happened. It started after 11 senators voted against the opening of the second envelope that contains the crucial evidence that would allegedly prove acts of political corruption by former President Joseph E. Estrada. After that vote, Senator Aquilino Pimentel resigned as Senate President, the 11 prosecutors in the impeachment trial resigned as well, and the Filipinos started to respond to a text message stating "Military needs to see 1 million at a rally tomorrow. Jan.19 to make a decision to go against Erap! Please pass on." The protesters started to gather around the EDSA Shrine on January 17, 2001, and ended when former president Erap released a letter stating his resignation on January 20, 2001.

3. **Million People March**
   From August 22 to 26, 2013, a series of small-scale rallies happened in other cities across the country and around the world, but the main protest took place on Luneta Park. It is named "Million People March", however, attendees were only around 400,000 people. These protests happened due to the misuse of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (or PDAF). PDAF is intended to allow lawmakers to finance small-scale development or community programs, such as scholarship programs, beyond the framework of the national infrastructure program. The Million People March organizers and supporters have used Facebook, Twitter and Change.org as their mediums.

   Change.org is the world's largest petition platform for change. It aims to help people around the world create the change they want to see. In the past, petitions were done by a group asking for signature via travel, however, affixing your digital signature on the petition you want to support become easy and accessible with the help of this website. As of August 23, Change.org showed a total of 19 petitions with an estimated total of 26, 942 signatures supporting various campaigns on the PDAF issues (CMFR-Phil. 2013).

4. **Yolanda People Finder**
   Yolanda, with the international code name Haiyan, was recorded as one of the most powerful typhoons in Philippine history. After the six landfalls made by Yolanda on November 8, 2013, Leyte and Samar were lost on the map due to power and communication lines being cut off. Months before Yolanda, the Google Philippines office was officially launched in January 2013. Julian Persaud, managing director of Google in Southeast Asia, said that the Philippines is a key country due to its digital economy and tech-savvy population. Philippine was chosen for the debut of Free Zone, which was an early adopter of the Chrome browser. Now, how did Google get linked to the victims of Yolanda?

Aside from social media, Yolanda victims took Google help to find their lost loved ones through Google Person Finder. It is an open-access software platform that offers a message board to post and check for information about each other's situation and alerts for people affected by a natural disaster. Just by clicking the "I'm looking for someone" button and typing their name, thousands of people affected by the Yolanda typhoon have been aided.

How to start an online petition?

1. Visit **change.org**. For the first time user, you can sign up with your Facebook account, otherwise, input your log-in details.

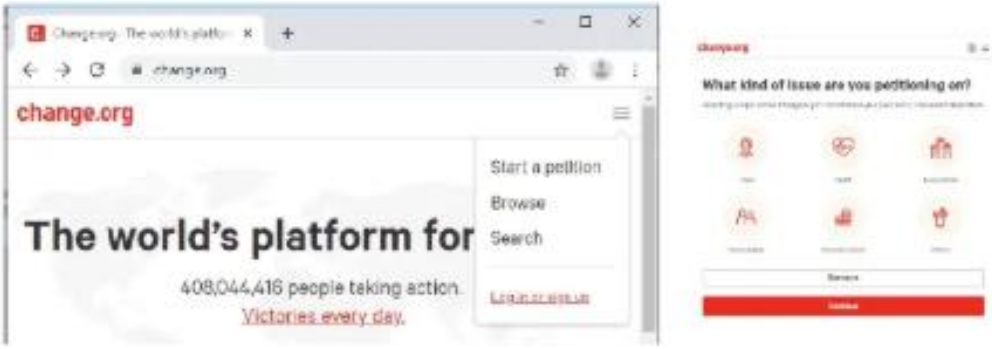
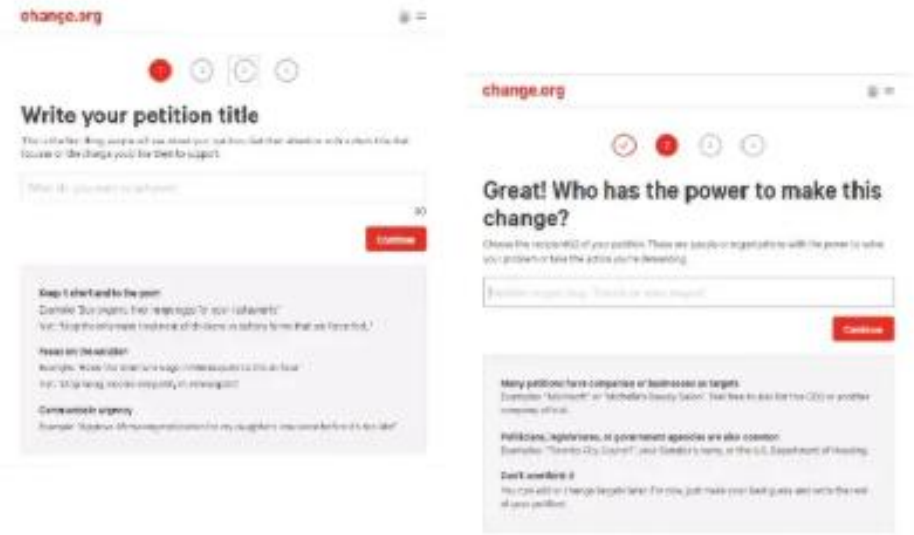


Image source: https://www.change.org

2. Click the **start petition** button. Choose the kind of issue you're petitioning on. After that, you will follow the four steps.
3. Click the **Save and Preview** button.