

Philippine Politics and Governance
Second Quarter – Module 4
Political Engagement and Youth Empowerment



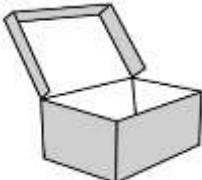
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Lesson 16: POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



What I Need to Know

This module is designed to help you utilize not only the ideas of what you have learned from the concepts of political science, the state of politics and governance in the Philippines, whether to participate in the classroom discussions and actions related to politics, but also apply the skills that you have acquired are applicable in our daily experiences as youth and as a Filipino citizen.

“Those who stand for nothing fall for anything”.

- Alexander Hamilton



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

MELC: Explain issues and programs related to political engagement and youth empowerment

You can say that you have understood the lesson in this module if you can already;

1. identify issues related to political engagement and youth empowerment;
2. determine programs address issues related to political engagement and youth empowerment; and
3. assess an existing program that addresses an issue related to political engagement and youth empowerment.





What I Know?

A. Directions: Read the following questions and select your answers from the options provided. Write the letter of your choice on your answer sheet.

1. Filipino citizenship can be acquired through except:
 - A. Living in the Philippines for one year but they don't have the right to participate in the election.
 - B. naturalization in accordance with the law.
 - C. natural-born in the Philippines.
 - D. those whose father and mother are citizens of the Philippines.

2. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense without _____.
 - A. due process of law
 - B. just compensation
 - C. strength
 - D. waiver

3. The privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended except in cases of:
A. anxiety B. election C. invasion D. pandemic

4. Aliens may enjoy all the rights and privileges in the Philippines except:
 - A. the right to private property
 - B. the right to own a business
 - C. the right to vote
 - D. none of the above

5. According to Article 26 of the Civil Code of the Philippines, Chapter 2 - Human Relations: Every person shall respect the _____; _____; and _____ of his neighbors and other persons, except:
A. dignity
B. diversity
C. peace of mind
D. personality



B. Directions. Identify each item to which of the following acts of a citizen falls from what categories inside the box. Write the letter of your best answer on a separate sheet of paper.

A. DUTY

B. RESPONSIBILITY

C. RIGHTS

1. Volunteering as coach in a basketball team in school
2. Joining in a Youth Club in the community
3. Promising to defend the country
4. Voting in 2019 Barangay Election
5. Organizing a group for a Fund-raising campaign for the less fortunate
6. Paying taxes
7. Crossing inside the Pedestrian Lane
8. Helping others when needed
9. Eliminating waste through Reduce, Recycle and Re-Use
10. Expressing beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues in our country



What's In

In your previous lesson, you have learned that citizenship can be acquired in so many ways to a certain country and in the government itself, but in our case as the Republic of the Philippines, every Filipino citizen is under its law. This means, everyone may enjoy all the rights and privileges in accordance with the law; and to fulfill its duties and responsibilities as a Filipino citizen.

According to Charles N. Quigley and Margaret S. Bronson, Executive and Associate Director of Center for Civic Education, it is imperative to every democratic nation to equip their people and make them accountable to every national issue and concern. Building a democratic nation means building a democratic society. It is where each and every member of the society, young and old is preparing for citizenship and to take part in civic life.

To Jennifer Reitbergen-McCracken, an independent international expert and researcher on environment and development defined civic education as citizen education or democratic education. It must provide information and learning experiences to equip and empower citizen to participate in democratic processes such as election, debate on public issues, and the like. There are several forms which it may be delivered such as classroom-based learning, informal training, experiential learning and mass media campaigns.





What's New

To begin with the lesson, read or hear the song lyrics which is entitled, "Mabuting Pilipino" by Noel Cabangon as shown below. After reading the song lyrics, answer the guide questions and write your answers on a separate sheet of paper. (Please see attached rubric).

Activity 1.1 Song Analysis: (Mabuting Pilipino by Noel Cabangon)

Guide Questions:

1. What is the message of the song?
2. Why should the youth learn to be responsible and accountable?
3. How can a student be a responsible citizen?
4. What are the things that hinder the youth from being a responsible citizen?
How can these hindrances be overcome?

Ako'y Isang Mabuting Pilipino

By: Noel Cabangon

Source: [Musixmatch](#)

Songwriters: Noel Cabangon

Ako'y isang mabuting Pilipino
Minamahal ko ang bayan ko
Tinutupad ko ang aking mga tungkulin
Sinusunod ko ang kanyang mga alituntunin

Tumatawid ako sa tamang tawiran
Sumasakay ako sa tamang sakayan
Pumipila at 'di nakikipag-unahan
At 'di ako pasiga-siga sa lansangan

Bumababa't nagsasakay ako sa tamang sakayan
'Di nakahambalang parang walang pakiaalam
Pinagbibigyan kong mga tumatawid sa kalsada
Humihinto ako 'pag ang ilaw ay pula

'Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting Pilipino
Minamahal ko ang bayan ko
Tinutupad ko ang aking mga tungkulin
Sinusunod ko ang kanyang mga alituntunin

'Di ako nagongotong o nagbibigay ng lagay
Ticket lamang ang tinatanggap kong ibinibigay
Ako'y nakatayo doon mismo sa kanto
At 'di nagtatago sa ilalim ng puno

'Di ako nagkakalat ng basura sa lansangan
'Di bumubuga ng usok ang aking sasakyen
Inaayos ko ang mga kalat sa basurahan



Inaalagaan ko ang ating
kapaligiran

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino
Minamahal ko ang bayan ko
Tinutupad ko ang aking mga
tungkulin
Sinusunod ko ang kanyang mga
alituntunin

Lagi akong nakikinig sa aking mga
magulang
Kaya't pag-aaral ay aking
pinagbubutihan
'Di ako gumagamit ng bawal na
gamot
O kaya'y tumatambay at sa
eskwela'y 'di pumapasok

Ipinagtatanggol ko ang aking
karanganan
'Pagkat ito lamang ang tangi kong
kayamanan
'Di ko ibinebenta ang aking
kinabukasan
Ang boto ko'y aking
pinahahalagahan

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino
Minamahal ko ang bayan ko
Tinutupad ko ang aking mga
tungkulin

Sinusunod ko ang kanyang mga
alituntunin

Ako'y isang tapat at totoong
lingkod ng bayan
Pabor o lagay ay 'di ko
pinapayagan
Tapat ang serbisyo ko sa
mamamayan
'Di ko ibinubulsa ang pera ng
bayan

Ipinagtatanggol ko ang
mamamayang Pilipino
Mga karapatan nila'y kinikilala ko
Iginagalang ko ang aking kapwa
tao
Ipinaglalaban ko ang dangal ng
bayan ko.

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino
Minamahal ko ang bayan ko
Tinutupad ko ang aking mga
tungkulin
Sinusunod ko ang kanyang mga
alituntunin

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino

Pagkat ako'y isang mabuting
Pilipino

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tg5wU1bQFI&t=53s>





What is It

Understanding Political Engagement and Youth Empowerment

Why are some people highly engaged by political communication, while others are not? What are the pathways that lead from communication to participation, and how do we understand patterns of participatory behavior? These are some questions that we need to address.

Basic human rights should be recognized and protected, and youth's participation in the society can play an important role in advancing human rights.

Despite the growing interest and expectations among youth in civic life, challenges remain. Limited education, limited experience of deliberative decision making at home, and lack of exposure to positive examples of civic engagement, including role models in one's community, hinder youth ability in participating in political discourse in a meaningful manner. The lines between freedom of expression and abuse of those freedoms are often obscure to many. Formal and informal sanctions for engaging "politically" are often applied subjectively and unpredictably.

What is Political Engagement?

Political engagement is defined as a cognitive process. When the brain becomes stimulated by external stimuli, in this case relating to politics, elaboration occurs. Elaboration here means the connecting of thoughts, recognizing the new information as important and relevant, a process that leads to having an attitudinal reaction. Political engagement is a necessary precursor for political participation and thus important for a vibrant civic culture. (<https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk>)

Political engagement is the participation of citizens in selecting and sanctioning the leaders who wield power in government, including by entering themselves as contenders for leadership. Political engagement includes citizen actions as voters, as actual and potential challengers for leadership positions in government, and in organized groups that pressure elected politicians and appointed public officials through civil society action and public protests. (pubdocs.worldbank.org)

What is Youth Empowerment?

Youth Empowerment is a process, to encourage youth by all means. It is an effort towards making a course for them to sustain and adapt as per the situations. It aims at improving the quality of life youth are living and bring Empowerment by giving them access to the resources which can help them to build confidence and work in the direction of attaining growth and transformation. There are various programs that are launched to empower youth in different verticals. The program is run either by NGO's, Government Organizations. (Unnatiblr 2019).



To Senator Sonny Angara in his featured article “Better Days” . “The youth are the torchbearers of the future. They not only hold our dreams in their hands, they also hold the means by which the future of the country will be built.”

World Bank figures show that almost 50% of the world’s population is comprised of the youth (ages 15-24), commonly referred to as the youth bulge, which presents challenges and opportunities to countries with a young population like the Philippines (SPW/DFID-CSO Youth Working Group, 2010).

The problem with the looking at the young population as a challenge or as reserves for the future working force of the country is that this approach is passive and can be detrimental. All must realize, even the youth themselves, that (1) the youth have assets like strength, the capability to learn more, and their eagerness; and (2) the youth collectively can be an asset to both the local and national government if they are to be involved in more meaningful activities (SPW/DFID-CSO Youth Working Group, 2010).

Involving the youth does not mean inviting them, giving them something, providing lectures, or merely enlisting them down as members. Programs and activities must induce youth participation which is divided into four aspects (Bhatnagar and Williams 1992 in SPW/DFID-CSO Youth Working Group, 2010).

1. **Information sharing.** This is not merely giving lecture or handing off fliers but informing with the goal of facilitating collective and/or individual action.
2. **Consultation.** Public or private organizations will consult with the youth in certain issues and will take their point of view in the process of decision-making, actions, and advocacies of the organization.
3. **Decision-making.** The youth are not only asked for the opinion but they are enabled to share the responsibility to decide on certain issues that may directly or indirectly affect them.
4. **Initiating action.** The youth themselves take the initiative. In such cases, other organizations must provide support to the youth, but only as guides and not to take over the youth groups.

According to Pawilen and Pawilen 2017. There are certain issues and concerns that must be overcome in order for the youth to participate and develop their potential. Some of these issues are poor education system, lack of support groups, social inequality, poverty, and other cultural factors. Minimizing or eliminating the effects of these factors must not depend only on other age or social groups. As stated above, the youth can initiate actions themselves for their peers (Pawilen and Pawilen, 2017).

The following are some issues confronted by our youth of today:

Broken Families

The problems begin at home. Since the 1950s, the number of single parent homes has consistently increased to the point of catastrophe. Today, 14 million single parents are responsible for 28 million children. Raising a child is difficult enough in a two parent home, especially in tough economic conditions. The situation is even direr when there is only one parent. Economically, a single parent is likely to bring less income home. This equates to fewer opportunities for such vital necessities as



education. Trying to make ends meet also takes time – time that is spent away from children who need a parent's guiding/influence. Absent a parent's diligent guidance, children become subject to higher dropout rates, higher risk of dangerous sexual behaviors and pregnancies, higher chances of drug and alcohol abuse –etc. It truly takes a village to raise a child. (<https://www.coursehero.com>)

Drug/Alcohol Abuse

There was a time in cinematic history where virtually every actor/actress was portrayed on screen with a cigarette in hand. Smoking, it was implied, was cool. As a result everyone was doing it, including kids. Well, as awareness to the danger of smoking increased, "cool" images of smoking disappeared. Unfortunately, the same can't be said about drugs and alcohol. These vices are staples in everyday media. Simply, drinking and using drugs is shown as being cool. The numbers bear the tale. 21% of high school seniors say they get high and 41% of the same group report drinking alcohol. Our kids are literally moving around in an intoxicated daze. Immature behavior is then amplified due to being under the influence. Drunk driving, poor grades and attendance, anti-social and violent behavior and the list goes on. (<https://www.coursehero.com>)

Violence

A child's education is the foundation from which he or she will be able to go forth out into the world and build a life. Schools play a major role in this endeavor, and therefore it is reasonable to expect that these places of learning would be safe havens for the children while they are preparing for adulthood. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. In many instances, especially in low income, urban settings, schools can be a war zone. We are not talking about minor bullying, but rather serious violence. Consider that in the last decade 284 kids were murdered due to school violence – these were shootings, stabbings, fighting and suicides. Growing up is tough enough without having to be worried about being killed while going to math class. (<https://www.coursehero.com>)

Youth empowerment focuses on creating a better community which is centers on creating a strong independent individual. The youth empowerment activities are addressed towards making a gateway to personality development, international equity, Civic Engagement, and democracy building. (Unnatiblr 2019).

Youth empowerment will help to build a better tomorrow which elevates the standard of living of the people. It is pursued by promoting youth rights, youth activism and standing for right. It inculcates values in individuals to make them a better standing individual. It is the most effective means of making a better future for the country. (Unnatiblr 2019).

As stated in the undp.org. Empowering the youth, the way they engage young people today will determine the prospects for sustainable development and peace. Young people, who represent a majority of the population in most developing countries, are today visibly contributing as political actors, innovators, entrepreneurs and peace builders. At the same time, youth face disproportionate social, economic and political barriers which prevent them from unleashing their full potential.

To utilize young people's potential as agents of change, requires involving and empowering them in development, policies and supporting their participation at all levels. UNDP partners with young people, youth organizations and actors from civil



society and private sector to governments, and members of the UN family to promote youth-focused and youth-led development. With the 2030 Agenda as a guiding thread, we work to advance young people's participation in civic and political life, their economic empowerment and their role as peace- and resilience-builders. (<https://www.undp.org>).

Importance of Youth Empowerment:

Better Standing of living. (Unnatiblr 2019). By empowering the youth as they are the future of the country, it will be a stepping stone towards attaining a better tomorrow. Empowering them will help to learn and achieve which will add up for their future and help them to live a standard life.

Poverty Eradication. It will also help to reduce the rate of poverty. Youth empowerment is about making them grow and developing their skills. When our youth is equipped with the essential skills, those skills will help them to lead a better life later. It's like an investment in their present which will pay off in the future. Youth empowerment will help. To increase the employability of youth which will add to the GDP of the nation and national economy. (Unnatiblr 2019)

Good Education Standard. Youth empowerment will help youth understand the importance of soft skills training and education that will definitely lead towards making a better Standard education system. Understanding the importance of education help to uplift it's span and in a Developing country like India it's very essential to have a standard education system which help be a catalyst towards building a better future. (Unnatiblr 2019)

Crime Reduction. Empowering an individual will definitely help him to attain life skills training which will help to lead a good life towards a path that isn't supportive of any criminal activities. Empowering the youth will help to understand the crimes on a deeper level and that will make sure that they stand against anti-social activities. Empowerment enables individuals with a mindset that helps them to differentiate between what's wrong and what's right and choosing a path of justice, truth, and peace. (Unnatiblr 2019)

Pawilen and Pawilen, (2017) suggested that there are some practices or organizations that can be created by the youth:

1. Support group for those who are bullied;
2. Support group for other youth and children with disabilities;
3. Environmental protection activities such as tree planting;
4. With their knowledge of mass media and other technology, they can create blogs and pages for information dissemination on certain issues. They can also be critical in reporting abuses of power;
5. Collective action and input for donations to their school or community.
6. Create programs such as sport training, hiking, and biking groups to engage other youth in more meaningful activities; and
7. Coordination with other groups to provide more manpower in certain activities.

With this, the youth may identify other ways aside from the stated above activities to help develop their communities and the nation as well.





What's More

Activity 1.2

Identify each of the following youth organizations in the Philippines. Tell whether if it is engage in politics or not. Write **(A)** if Yes and **(B)** if No. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Red Cross Youth Marikina
2. Kabataan Partylist
3. Blue Teens Sto. Niño
4. Society of Mass Communication Students in PLMar
5. Sangguniang Kabataan, Barangay Barangka
6. Supreme Student Government, Sta. Elena High School
7. League of Filipino Students
8. Youth for Mary and Christ - Luzon Chapter
9. Batang Lambak, Sta. Elena
10. Duterte - Youth Partylist



What I Have Learned

Activity 1.3 “Open-Ended Statement”

Based on your readings and understanding, complete the statement below. Copy and write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

“There are many programs for the empowerment and political engagement of the youth but for me, the best practice in those is _____ because_____.”

“I would like to commend the _____ because _____.





What I Can Do

Activity 1.4 Project Proposal

Create a program or a specific activity in your barangay that will help empower the youth in politics and their development to be good citizens. Use the template below to make a proposal:

Program/Activity Title: _____

Issue(s) to be addressed: _____

Objectives:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Comprehensive Description:





Assessment

Directions. Match the Program/Advocacy in column A with its Youth Organizations in column B. Choose and write the letter of the best answer on a separate sheet of paper.

COLUMN A

1. Youth House Representative
2. Values Education
3. Language and Culture
4. Women Rights
5. LGBTI Rights
6. Patriotism and Civic Consci
7. Protection of the Environment
8. Sports Development
9. Provide emergency services
10. High school student body

COLUMN B

- A. Youth for Christ (YFC)
- B. Gabriela - Youth
- C. Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)
- D. Red Cross Youth(Philippines)
- E. Boy Scouts of the Philippines
- F. DAMLAY Damdamin at Malay
- G. Ladlad Caraga Incorporated
- H. Supreme Pupil Government
- I. Supreme Student Government
- J. Green Peace Philippines
- K. Kabataan Partylist



Additional Activities

Summary and Reflection:

Write what you have learned in the whole semester about Philippine Politics and Governance. What do you think are the essential concepts or principles to apply in your daily life?



SCORING RUBRIC:

Grading Rubric for Reflection Papers
 *Adapted from PLMar Faculty Manual, 2018

CATEGORY	4 Exceeds Expectations	3 Meets Expectations	2 Needs Improvement	1 Unacceptable
Content	Shows maximum understanding of the topic.	Shows satisfactory understanding of the topic.	Shows minimal understanding of parts of the topic.	Shows unsatisfactory or no understanding of the topic.
Organization	Academic paper is logically organized with well-articulated paragraphs and subheadings that are easy to follow and has effective, smooth and logical transitions.	Academic paper is reasonably organized with understandable paragraphs that can be easily followed with basic transitions.	Academic paper is somewhat reasonably organized but paragraphs are vague and difficult to follow due to ineffective transitions.	Academic paper is illogically organized with unclear paragraphs that are difficult to follow due to poor transitions.
Quality of Information	Information and central ideas are appropriate and clarity of purpose is exhibited throughout the paper.	Information and central ideas are somewhat appropriate and often clearly relates to the topic.	Information and central ideas are limited and sometimes unclear.	Information and central ideas are inappropriate and have little or nothing to do with the topic.
Integration of Knowledge	The paper demonstrates that the writer fully understands and has applied concepts learned in the course. Concepts are integrated into the writer's own insights. The writer provides concluding remarks that show analysis and synthesis of ideas.	The paper demonstrates that the writer, for the most part, understands and has applied concepts learned in the course. Some of the conclusions, however, are not supported in the body of the paper.	The paper demonstrates that the writer, to a certain extent, understands and has applied concepts learned in the course.	The paper does not demonstrate that the writer has fully understood and applied concepts learned in the course.



Summative Assessment

A. Directions. Identify each item to which of the following acts of a citizen falls from what categories inside the box. Write the letter of your best answer on a separate sheet of paper.

A. DUTY

B. RESPONSIBILITY

C. RIGHTS

1. Expressing beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues in our country



2. Paying taxes
3. Promising to defend the country
4. Eliminating waste through Reduce, Recycle and Re-Use
5. Organizing a group for a Fund-raising campaign for the less fortunate
6. Joining in a Youth Club in the community
7. Crossing inside the Pedestrian Lane
8. Helping others when needed
9. Voting in 2019 Barangay Election
10. Volunteering as coach in a basketball team in school.

B. Directions. Match the Program/Advocacy in column A with its Youth Organizations in column B. Choose and write the letter of the best answer on a separate sheet of paper.

COLUMN A

11. Protection of the Environment
12. Patriotism and Civic Consciousness
13. High school student body
14. LGBTI Rights
15. Women Rights
16. Values Education
17. Youth House Representative
18. Provide emergency services
19. Sports Development
20. Language and Culture

COLUMN B

- Youth For Christ (YFC)
- Gabriela - Youth
- Sangguniang Kabataan (SK)
- Red Cross Youth(Philippines)
- Boy Scouts of the Philippines
- DAMLAY Damdamin at Malay
- Ladlad Caraga Incorporated
- Supreme Pupil Government
- Supreme Student Government
- Green Peace Philippines
- Kabataan Partylist



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1987 Philippine Constitution



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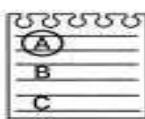
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Answer Key

- What's New
A. B.
1. A
2. B
3. C
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. A

- What's More
A. B.
1. B
2. A
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. A
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. A

What's New

What's More

- Assessment
1. K
2. A
3. F
4. B
5. G
6. E
7. J
8. C
9. D
10. I

Assessment



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