

Tranquility At All times: A Must

By: Juliebee B. Gabawan, BS in Medical Technology
School of Allied Medicine (SAM)
Universidad De Zamboanga
Zamboanga City, Philippines

Day-by-day concurrent killing is almost everywhere, it is so upsetting that we became engrossed by this dilemma, and as we woke-up each morning instead of friendly sunrise welcoming us we were again bombarded by the bad news aired in different media channels. Bombings, killings, kidnappings and so on, are breakfast in early mornings...

Now, how is it possible to retain peace in the country? What do we need to finally realize a better place to dwell in?

Amidst the incessant insurgent act domineeringly in Mindanao regions, I hope to say that the government must look and do prompt solution in the awful problem that our country has been facing. Because other matters (like economy, education, industrial, etc.) that also comprise to the whole structure of our country may rely on how effective does our peace and order will be. As a genius once said, a structure that consists of subordinating parts can be liken to a body, if one part does malfunctioned the rest cannot perform their tasks well – it's because, it has to work harmoniously to result a good coordination.

As a matter of fact, what I mean is that, since our country is blessed with natural resources we expect those investors from all over the world to come, but if unstable peace and order will yet continue probably these investors will shy away and refuse to build some business connection with LGU's and NGO's here because of the veracity that rampant insurgency is very active here. And if that will happen, it will be difficult for our economic system to recuperate when it slowdown. We are not two-faceted, let us forget our history because today we need alliance from other progressive country to settle our debts and if we happen to resolve our problem with regards to our unsettled credit, we can find more time to sit down and think a remedy to fortify peace and order in the entire country.

But, as a young citizen I will strive hard beyond learning theories in this four walls of academe because even small voice has a great responsibility to take (so am I), and to finally realize peace in both heart and mind. Though I may not influence other people to come with me and establish peace rally or such in town, but through little ways I know, will effectively help peace advocates to retain harmony. Since I am still capable of joining civic actions and outreach programs, one good example of establishing camaraderie and unity (which I know are steps to achieve peace) is by letting know that we are not setting discrimination in marginalized sectors and that every human rights is respected. I may not have the power to make laws calling for a government reforms, but as an educated individual I will do my best to excel in my specialized

field to render the best of my service to those who need my help. And through this little way, I know I can influence others by being a good role model worth to be followed.

We keep on talking peace, yet, we continue peace talks between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation front, but how about the increasing number of victims who died in crime incidents which are not related to that dreaded bandits. In Zamboanga City alone, the number is steadfastly increasing with over one hundred thirty recorded shooting incidents from January to the present. Do we have to neglect this issue? This is not a joke! So why it's so simple to ask about peace for an ordinary citizen if in the hands of authorities these issues are heavy loads?

Peace... peace... peace...

Although I have boggling questions, still we need to redress what we used to. We must start promoting peace to cease criminality and to protect our neighbors from life threat because life is given and not bought; we are gifted with this once opportunity to live out of other blessings that God has endowed us, so let's make peace on earth because this is worth to be cherished than to draw a fight.

Even in our house, we sometimes fought with our siblings but we ought to remember that best thing to fix wounded hearts is to say 'sorry'- there's nothing to be lost if we forgive each other. But practically saying in our society today, those victims who have been exploited with their respective rights need a serious apology that is tantamount to 'justice', either calaboose or life sentence. But in some instances, even how serious the cases are if the involved suspects are happened to be influential or notorious, there's a tendency that justice would not prosper maybe because the judge is paid or the witnesses are preceded by their fear.

So let us stop this prolonged foolishness, we cannot achieve peace if we remain passive, let's cooperate and establish, by initiating peace in home and small community we can slowly influence other sectors to imitate the advocacy. Or else, we persuade our neighbors to participate in civic actions and community outreach programs to widen networking that hopefully will build peace and unity. Since we want a better life in the future, there's no reason why we don't need peace-building.