

**VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: THE ROLES AND
CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOUTH IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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By
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THESIS ABSTRACT

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7. Abstract:

7.1 Rationale/Background

In the Philippines, there is more than 31.40 million Filipino youth aged between 15 to 30 years, accounting for about 28.9 percent of the country's population (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020). These youth are not only legitimately regarded as the nation's hope and future leaders; they are also potentially valuable resources worth investing in by a community, as well as a significant possession for national growth and development. As considered future

leaders, they are mobilizing themselves using their resources and talents on driving innovation, promote social justice, and achieve the nation's goals of progress, peace, and prosperity.

7.2 Summary

This study examined how the youth defined volunteerism and community involvement, their motivations for volunteerism and community involvement, and their roles and contributions to community development. This study utilized a descriptive case study research design and it was conducted in Brgy. Baybayabas, Talugtug, Nueva Ecija. Through the used of purposive sampling, 10 youth volunteers participated in a semi-structured in-depth interview and focus group discussions. Data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Further, participation in this study is voluntary and pseudonyms were used to protect their identities.

7.3 Major Findings

This study uncovered themes on the definition of volunteerism and community involvement, motivations, roles, and contributions of youth in community development. This study revealed that youth volunteers in the Brgy. Baybayabas perceived volunteerism as an opportunity to give back to their communities and create a positive impact through addressing local needs, a way of social interaction, as well as a deep sense of fulfillment. It also revealed that youth volunteers are motivated by both extrinsic and intrinsic motivations. They

served as partners, agents of change, and leaders and project implementers and made significant contributions to community development by delivering services in the area of health, environment, and capacity building.

7.4 Conclusions

The youth volunteers of Brgy. Baybayabas is just one of the cases that have shown that youth can be an effective contributor to the realization of community development. By examining these cases of volunteerism and community involvement of youth in community development, we might gain a better understanding of their motivations for such prosocial behaviors and important contributions and the roles they played in community development.

7.5 Recommendations

This study recommends that (1) local and national governments should always include youth in community development activities, owing to their significant roles and contributions to the community, (2) community organizations should strive to move beyond the lower rungs of Arnstein's ladder of participation and aim for partnership and delegated power level with youth volunteers to promote greater youth participation, (3) create more volunteering opportunities among youth to strengthen the implementation of community development, (4) consider to include the other cases of youth volunteerism in other areas, and (5) look at other variables in volunteerism such as constraints of youth involvement.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS : Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

BHW : Barangay Health Worker

DENR : Department of Environment and Natural Resources

DOST : Department of Science and Technology

FAO : Food and Agriculture Organization

FGD : Focus Group Discussion

FNRI : Food and Nutrition Research Institute

HIV : Human Immunodeficiency Virus

IDS : Institute of Development Studies

NCVO : National Council for Voluntary Organization

NGO : Non- Government Organizations

NNC : National Nutritional Council

NYC : National Youth Commission

PNP : Philippine National Police

PNVSCA : Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency

PSA : Philippine Statistics Authority

RA : Republic Act

SDG : Sustainable Development Goal

SK : Sangguniang Kabataan

UNCRC : United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

UNGA : United Nation General Assembly

UNICEF : United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund

UNV : United Nation Volunteer

VSO : Voluntary Service Overseas

WGI : World Giving Index

WHO : World Health Organization

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E. INTERVIEW AND FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION RECORDINGS

- Focus Group Discussion 1 with 'Youth Volunteer Participants', March 4, 2023
- Focus Group Discussion 2 with 'Youth Volunteer Participants', March 5, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Jacob', February 25, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Janna', February 25, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Jose', March 4, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Joy', February 25, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Maria', February 25, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Mark', March 4, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'May', February 24, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Mike', February 26, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Rica', February 24, 2023
- In-Depth Interview with 'Shine', March 4, 2023

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