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Citizen Engagement to the Anti-Drug Campaign: the Case of Philippines

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Abstract

The study identifies mechanisms wherein Filipino students are able to engage in promoting a drug-free community and the efforts of the Philippine National Police to provide avenue for citizen engagement. Employing the Spectrum of Public Participation introduced by the International Association for Public Participation, the study investigates specific actions that the citizens would willingly partake in support of Duterte's Drug War. From a sample of 194 students, the research was able to gather responses through close-ended self-reported questionnaire survey and from reports of the Philippine National Police. The study revealed that in all levels of the Public Participation Spectrum, the students are willing to be engaged with the Anti-Drug efforts. Also, efforts from the end of the Police were revealed to have not only be secluded in the inform level but has also reached the level of 'empower'. Hence, the government of the Philippines must capitalize on these avenues to promote a sustainable and community-based Anti-Drug Campaign.

Keyword: Community-based, War on Drugs, Public Participation

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Introduction

The War on Drugs in Philippines is the center piece of the administration of Philippines' current president, Rodrigo Roa Duterte (Mazo, 2017). It is the key policy of President Duterte (Tigno, 2017) that would define the success and failure of the entire 6-year term of Duterte (Bautista, 2017). A poll revealed that 7 to 8 out of 10 Filipinos support Duterte's drug war (Coca, 2018). Critics have emerged followed by condemnations from the international community (United Nations Human Rights - Office of High Commissioner, 2018; Amnesty International, 2018) - questioning the strategies undertaken by the Philippine government in eradicating illegal drugs. Furthermore, questions on the sustainability of the Drug War cannot be ignored as the

current enforcement-heavy policies have focused more on suppression and criminalization. Coca (2018) described the Philippine Drug War to be the 'most conspicuous and controversial'. Baustista (2017) argue that the president, a lawyer and longtime public servant, knows what is enshrined in the Philippine Constitution and under the international law, but regardless, still excuses the persistence of the dangerous and bloody Drug War by reasons of necessity. Briola (2017) has strongly refuted that the bloody drug war has only went down into 'more violence, larger prison population, and the erosion of governance' (Briola, 2017, p. 82). Furthermore, Bautista (2017) has argued that the 'quixotic drug war' launched by President Duterte would not be successful without addressing first the culture of graft, corruption, violence, social values and economy. Tigno (2018) also argued that for President Duterte to last until the end of his term, he needs to surround himself with more supporters, more than just his solid allies. This means that a strong positive community engagement from the Filipino citizens is highly encouraged. Community engagement refers to processes of permitting the participation of the community in government decision-making (Bradford, 2016), implementation, and in other areas where the citizens are concerned. The shift from vertical to horizontal power in War on Drugs implementation must also be explored. Horizontal power-sharing involves community engagements in policy making and in the police efforts of ensuring safe and secure communities, citizens are now welcomed. Hence, this research integrates the willingness from the side of the citizens with the platform that the law and the state would allow, to invite engagement from the citizens in the conduct of the Philippine Drug War. The logic behind community engagement is that it would motivate the government to develop community engagement policies (Bradford, 2016).

Public Participation in government programs can be categorized into several levels of community engagements (Bradford, 2016). The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) introduced the Spectrum of Public Participation. It provides a spectrum of participation from informed level up to empower level which specifies a level of the participation that the public can take part in depending on the actions they are taking or are willing to partake (IAP2 International Federation, 2014). However, avenue for citizen engagement must first be provided to encourage public participation. This means that legitimation of activities for community engagements may come in the form of a law.

Particularly in the case of the Philippines, a specific legal framework that has long been put in place has strategically created an avenue of citizen engagement in the aspect of policing. The Republic Act 8551 or also known to be the "Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998 states in Section 2 that,

> *It is hereby declared the policy of the State to establish a highly efficient and competent police force which is national in scope and civilian in character administered and controlled by a national police commission.*
> *The Philippine National Police (PNP) shall be a community and service oriented agency responsible for the maintenance of peace and order and public safety.*

Section 2 of RA 8551 clearly stated that the Philippine National police must be in service of the community and is responsible for ensuring that the communities are peaceful and safe. Being mandated to be community-oriented, the PNP must work alongside the citizens of the communities to sustain order and conduct viable programs and campaigns. Anchoring this to the current Drug War being implemented strongly by the Duterte administration, it poses a question of how can the citizens take part in supporting the Philippine Drug War and what more can people do to sustain the progress made by the Philippine Drug War?

Furthermore, this research brings the focus on how can the communities and local grassroots partner with the national drug war to provide community-rooted strategies that would not only aid enforcement but would also promote citizen engagement. Presently, no research yet has explored the engagement of the Filipino masses to the Drug War of President Duterte. The Spectrum of Public Participation (IAP2 International Federation, 2014) will provide a theoretical aid in identifying and describing key areas of participation that the Filipino citizens can participate as a form of active support to the Drug War. Towards this end, the paper introduces a feasible framework that would integrate the national drug campaign against drug introduced by President Duterte with community efforts that the citizens are willing to partake in to successfully counter illegal drug trade and strongly promote the campaign against Drug War.

With the aid of the Spectrum of Public Participation (IAP2 International Federation, 2014), the following research objectives are brought into light, first is to identify the citizen's willingness to participate in Duterte's Drug War in the followings levels: Inform level, Consult level, Involve level, Collaborate level, and Empower level and second is to develop a framework

for community drug intervention that invites participation from the citizens and the drug enforcement agency.

Literature Review

Existing literatures focusing on the Philippine Drug War has focused more President Duterte (Reyes, 2016; Chapman and Babor, 2017; Bautista, 2017) and how he brought the strategy he had enforced in his local city, Davao to the national level as a national campaign to counter illicit drug trade (McKirdy, 2016). Also, studies regarding the vitality of the Drug War to the presidency of Duterte and how it could define the entire 6-year term of his presidency (Bautista, 2017). Narrative on the brutality of the Drug War and how it has spurred condemnations from the international community has emerged along with how despite the international criticisms the Drug War of Duterte has continues to receive no mass outrage from the Filipino society. Cynicism towards the ongoing Philippine Drug War has grown out from issues of the policy being a "war against poor" that "only addresses the symptoms rather than the roots" (Bello, 2016; Thompson, 2016; Dioquino, 2016).

Thompson (2016) agrees to this contention, stressing that the Drug War targets those who are poor drug users and also "innocent" by-standers as unintended damages of the Drug War. Added to the growing cynicism of the policy is the controversial death of a 17-year old Kian Lloyd Delos Santos which enraged many Filipinos after the minor was gunned down by the police based on the allegation of being a drug dealer and for pulling up a gun towards the police officers which was later countered by a security footage showing that the young man was dragged by three police officers (CNN, 2018). The incident had caused mixed emotions from the people of the Philippines. McKirdy (2017) highlighted that the death of Kian Delos Santos "could turn the tide of Duterte's War on Drugs" considering that "great numbers of Filipinos have taken the fight in the street to protest to the labeled 'unjust' death of the young man". The enragement, later died down, and in the present, the Drug War continues under the enforcement arm of the government being the Philippine National Police.

To date, no study has looked into how to sustain the Drug War while also empowering communities to promote the check and balance system of the policy. Areas that the public can participate already exist. Capitalizing from these avenues of engagements and the willingness of the public engage in the Anti-Drug War Campaign are the main aims that the research perseveres

to highlight. In other words, the programs and practices that the Philippine National Police already provide will be paired along with the forms of support that the respondents reported to willingly partake in. Towards this end, several concepts must be given more emphasis.

Firstly is the importance of public support to policies. Pimbert and Wakeford (2001) argued that democracy is 'empty and meaningless' if citizens cannot participate and deliberate which is why a thrust to widen the deliberation of policies and an inclusion of the citizen to the policy process is increasingly done. Also, Pimbert and Wakeford (2001) argues that the practice of a citizen-engaged policy making wherein deliberation and inclusion of the public is practiced enhance the quality of decision-making and increases legitimacy, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the policy being formulated and implemented.

Support, acceptance, and social license are terms confused by and are interchangeably used (Colton et al., 2016). Hence, an understanding of "support" in this research must be iron-clad. Colton et al. (2016) defined Social License to be the acceptance and belief by society, and specifically the local communities, in the value creation of activities. Acceptance, on the other hand, is s a passive behavior as compared to support which is an active one (Colton et al., 2016; Batel, Devine-Wright, & Tangeland, 2013). While support is different to social license and acceptance as it requires active behavioral reaction (Ščasný et al., 2013).Vlassenroot et al. (2006) defined support to be a positive, negative or neutral opinion, attitude and/or behavior of the individuals the content of a particular policy. This description of public support directs into favorable conditions such as an increase to the willingness of the people to accept a measure, a regulation, or a policy and to even support it actively. In addition, acceptance is more passive as compared to support and that accepting a policy or any decision, does not equate to supporting it (Ščasný et al., 2013; Vlassenroot et al., 2006). Vlassenroot et al. (2006) also highlighted that acceptance is a precondition for support. Thus, when patterned back to the War on Drugs policies, the mere acceptance of the people may not be an immediate guarantee of support from the public for the current policies being implemented.

Vlassenroot (2006) also stressed out the importance of public support and the required elements to promote public support. Accordingly, 'public support must be seen in the increased notion that policymaking acts must be considered as a two-way direction wherein interaction, transaction and communication with the public are the key-elements' (Nelissen and Bartels, 1998; Vlassenroot, 2006). In other words, Vlassenroot (2006) clearly pointed out that not only

should the willingness from the public establishes citizen engagement but it must be met half-way by the programs of the government that allows citizens' input and participation, more so in decision-making, and evaluation than just as receivers and customers. Also, Reith et al. (2013) the citizens must come off from a certain level of social acceptance for without it a growing public resistance could be the result. It was made clear that the learning of information, the existence of participation, cooperation and consolidation are the backbones of a successful social acceptance initiative (Reith et al., 2013). Reith et al. (2013) argued that any project can only be successfully realized and materialized if the consensus of the local community is achieved. This consensus can only be gained by "acting in consonance with the dynamic conditions of the environment, and in the respect of the people's health, welfare, and culture" (Cataldi, 2001; Reith. et al., 2013).

Reith et al. (2013) and Colton et al. (2016) both emphasized how researches in public support and public acceptance of projects, programs, and policies are of importance to the field of government studies and public administration. Colton et al. (2016) emphasized that it plays important role in the successful implementations of projects, policies, programs, and including industry installation and establishment. It was also emboldened that there is great demand for the views and preferences of the public and their elected representatives to be taken into account in decisions that count potentially have an effect on their health and their environment (Colton et al., 2016). Thus, with the Drug War in the Philippines being a national-wide campaign, it greatly affects the communities. This brings all the more reason why support of the citizens must be investigated and included to this analysis are the concrete steps that the citizens are willing to partake in to genuinely support the Anti-Drug War Campaign.

There are types of support that would entail non-verbal behavior and there are forms of support that entail active engagement and consultation with the implementing agency. It is imperative and axiomatic that the public support towards the War on Drugs strategies involves a support to the implementing agencies of the government. In the project of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) entitled *Building Trust Between the Police and the Citizens They Serve*, the importance of trust and citizen-oriented involvement in policies such as Anti-drug policies were highlighted. The project of the COPS was a guiding book which resulted from "thorough and detailed assessment of strategies that are seen to best serve the law enforcement agencies in its aim of honest and ethical policing". In this

guide, it was laid down that building and maintaining the trust of the citizens is vital for the success of policy implementation or enforcement, and for a successful "policing". Hence, support of the public is needed for the success of a policy and for its perpetuation. In the COPS guide it was emphasized that not only internal strategies are needed for successful policing but also external strategies which must involve the support from the public. External strategies involve, community partnerships and continuous dialog to gather the public's perception of the agency's adherence to standards, and into the impact of the law enforcement to the public's lives and environment, such as the impact of the enforcement of the War on Drugs strategies of Philippines. As cited from the COPS guide, the community-oriented policing of policy enforcement and its strategies is not new as it was existing for more than 40 years and it is centered upon the "philosophy of promoting and supporting strategies that address the causes, and reduce the fear of, crime and social order through problem-solving tactics and community partnerships through citizen's support. To highlight the vital role of the citizens in the policing work of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the chief of the PNP, Ronaldo Dela Rosa stated, in the One year report of PNP, that the active role played by the community has made an instrumental impact to the successes of the PNP's anti-illegal drugs and crime prevention programs.

According to Fisher-Stewart (2007), as cited in the COPS guide, it is through the citizens' and the police agency's effort to collaborate and work together, that increase in public safety is achieved. There may be variety of policies enforced by the police agencies and strategies undertaken however, the demand for support remains imperatively equal. In connection to the need for citizens' involvement, there were five elements for a successful citizen-led program that were mentioned in the COPS guide, and these are:

1) *Convene monthly meetings with community members.*
2) *Increase bicycle and foot patrols on community streets.*
3) *Engage specific sectors of the community, such as schools, minority communities (particularly those who previously have felt disenfranchised), and faith-based organizations*
4) *Establish programs that solicit involvement from residents, such as Neighborhood Watch and Night Out Programs.*

In addition, there are also other specific efforts that can be undertaken to promote police-citizen collaboration as a form of citizen support to the police agency's enforcement of War in Drugs Strategies. Some of these are conducting workshops and seminars in order to engage and inform citizens of the policy, the strategies employed, and the proper use of force in the side of the police agency. Passive but informative strategy could also be reading and asking for pamphlets and brochures from the Police agency to be informed of the local crime statistics of drug-related crimes and other crimes. According to Chermak and Weiss (2003), as cited by the COPS guide, posting of hotlines in the billboards, in bulletins, and in websites could also be the effort of the police agency, and the support from the citizens could be pointed out as the act of being interested into these information (i.e. saving the hotline, informing others of the hotline, using the hotline for drug-related informant reports). Furthermore, COPS guide also emphasized the importance of conducting community surveys every after few years to "gather information from the public about their perception of the agency" in relation to combatting crime such as drug-related and also to listen and seek the opinion of the public for a more citizen-oriented approach. The effort on the public on this survey is to willingly answer surveys and offer their opinions without being forced to do so. Furthermore, the citizens can also participate in Neighborhood Watch programs and other citizen-led anti-drug efforts. In the event that an abuse of power in the side of the police agency will happen, citizens can get involved through a process involving the citizens such as a citizen review board.

In relation to the topic on War on Drugs Strategies, the need to engage the citizens in the enforcement strategies undertaken by the implementing agencies of War on Drugs will not only increase the implementing agencies' trust ratings but will also positively increase the success of drug-combatting law enforcement. The citizen engagement in a form of support may come in several levels.

Theoretical Underpinnings

To provide a comprehensive understanding to the extent of participation and support, an understanding of the spectrum of public participation, which is the theoretical backbone of this research, is needed. The theoretical framework of this research is derived from the Spectrum of Public Participation introduced by the International Association of Public Participation that can best illuminate the extent of support of the public and their participation to the enforcement of

War on Drugs is the continuum created by the International Association for Public Participation in the year 2007. This continuum is presented in Figure 1.

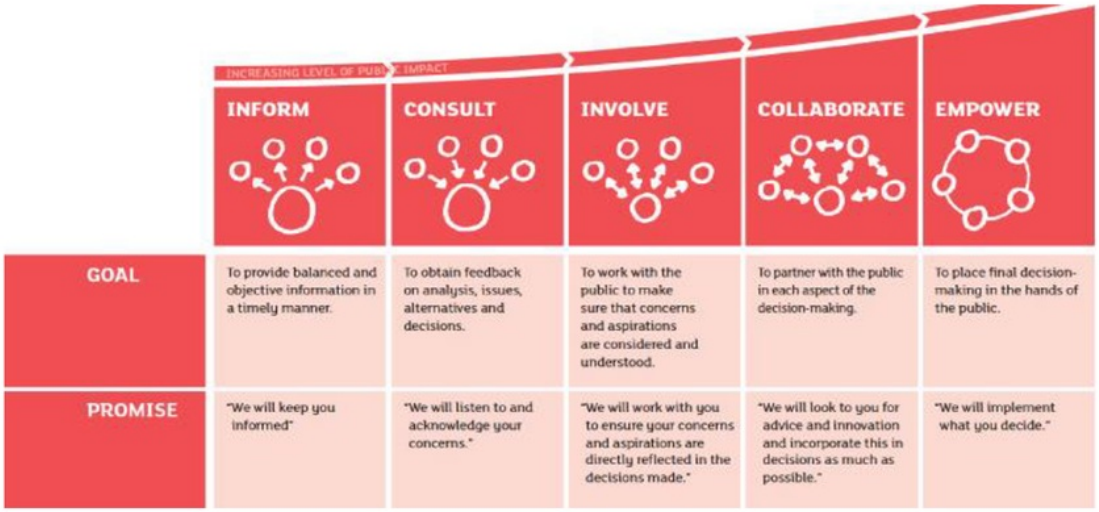

Figure 1. Spectrum of Public Participation
Source: Spectrum of Public Participation, International Association for Public Participation, www.iap2.org

The Public Participation continuum or also known as IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation Framework offers various platforms where citizens can engage and express their opinions in policies and policy strategies, such as the strategies in the implementation of War on Drugs. In the spectrum, the lowest level of citizen engagement is the inform level and in this particular level, citizens are provided with a platform of understanding and a general detail for the citizens to have a grasp of the problem and the proposed solution or undertaken solution. In this inform level, citizens in their end, are expected to be engaged and participative in awareness activities of the implementing agencies, including platforms provided such as news, pamphlets, brochures, and seminars. Through these types of platforms, the citizens can be informed of what is the problem, what policies are proposed or enforced, and what strategies are undertaken for this policy to achieve its objective. The support that citizens can render, particularly in the War on Drugs strategies, is to be informed and aware of the gravity of the problem, the progress of the War on Drugs, and the strategies that the implementing agencies undertake. These are for the spectrum level of inform.

The next level, higher to the level of information, is the level of consult or consultation. In this particular level, platforms of consultation involve asking and giving of feedbacks and from the citizens on a proposed or an enforced policy or policy strategy (Patel et al., 2014). This level involves the support of the citizens through giving their own perception of the problem, the policy implemented, and the strategy undertaken by the government agency/agencies. Latching it onto the relevance of this research, the level of consultation entails that citizens are giving their opinions, ideas, and perceptions in order to improve, enhance, and make the policy strategy for War on drugs effective in addressing the problem of illegal drugs in Philippines.

The third level in the IAP2's spectrum is the level of involvement or to involve. In this level, it entails that other than the consultation, the citizens are involved in the activities such as workshops, wherein citizens can be made aware of the strategies and the alternatives. In this level also, Patel et al. (2014) indicated that the feedbacks are not only collected by the government agency/unit but are also considered and given a chance to be followed through. This level entails, that citizens work with the government unit such as the police force through the platforms provided by the police force, and ask for updates and offer insights of the policy and policy strategy such as the War on Drugs and its strategies.

The next level is collaboration or *"to collaborate",* and in this level, particular functions and responsibilities are given to the citizens including participatory decision-making wherein the citizens have the voice through voting in meetings. Bargaining and trade-offs of ideas and interests can be accommodated in this level. Patel et al. (2014) describes this level to be where communication between the government and the public is made direct given that citizens are part of the decision-making body, along with the government officers.

The top-most level of the spectrum is the level of empowerment or "*to empower*". In this particular level, decisions of the participants are implemented and followed (Patel et al., 2014). This entails platforms wherein citizens can not only be heard but are followed. This can be done through citizen-led review board or conducting referendum through ballots. In the case of Philippines, this level is not very much explored and made possible however, through this research it can possibly be highlighted how citizens intend to support the strategies of War on Drugs and if they support the idea of referendum regarding the topic of War on Drugs Strategies.

Of the participatory mechanisms introduced by the IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation, the research sought to answer the following research questions:

1. What mechanisms would the citizens willingly pledge to partake in as forms of support to the campaign against drugs of the Duterte Administration of the Philippines?
2. What level of participation are these efforts categorized at?
3. What are avenues for citizen-engagement that the Philippine National Police provide to promote a community-based War on Drugs?
4. What level of participation are these efforts categorized at?

Methodology

The research was conducted in Cebu City, Philippines known to be the Queen City of the South. In a speech of President Duterte in the Philippine Councilors' League 10th National Congress, the president revealed that Cebu has the highest drug rate in the country and which according to him has reached 'epidemic proportions'. (Mayol et. al, 2017). Further an ABS-CBN report, one of the TV networks in the Philippines, was cited in the report of Mayol et. al (2017), stating that drug abuse in Cebu is at 60 to 70 percent. It is reflected in Figure 2 below that Cebu has the highest number of drug personalities apprehended by the government authorities.

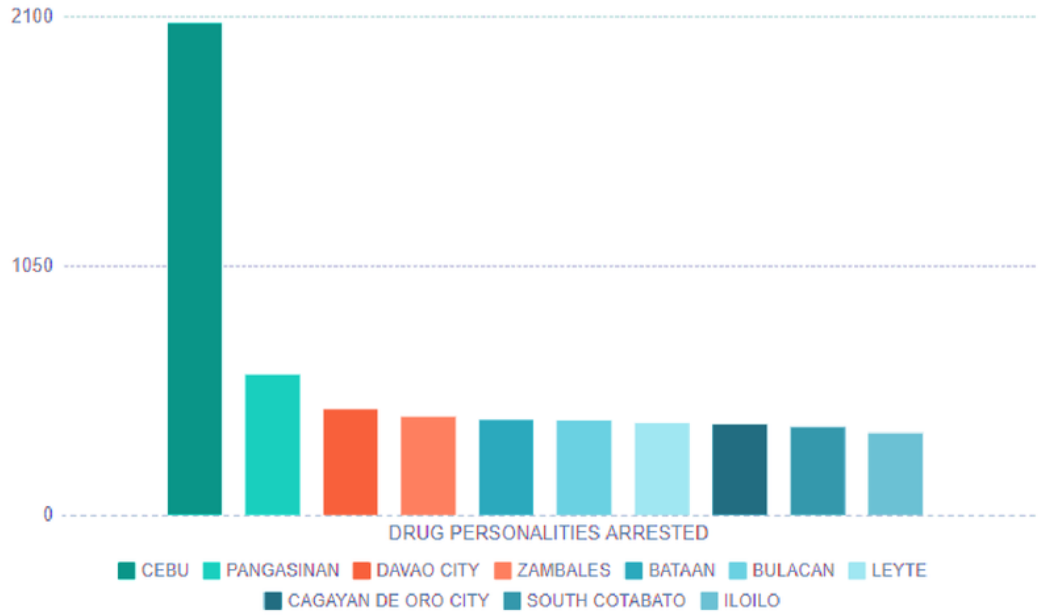

Figure 2 Top ten cities/provinces with the highest Drug Personalities

Source: Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Data on Drugs (January - August 2016)

Cebu is also listed as the top city with the most number of high-value targets arrested. This is as evidenced by the figure 3 below indicating the top ten cities and provinces with the highest number of high-value targets.

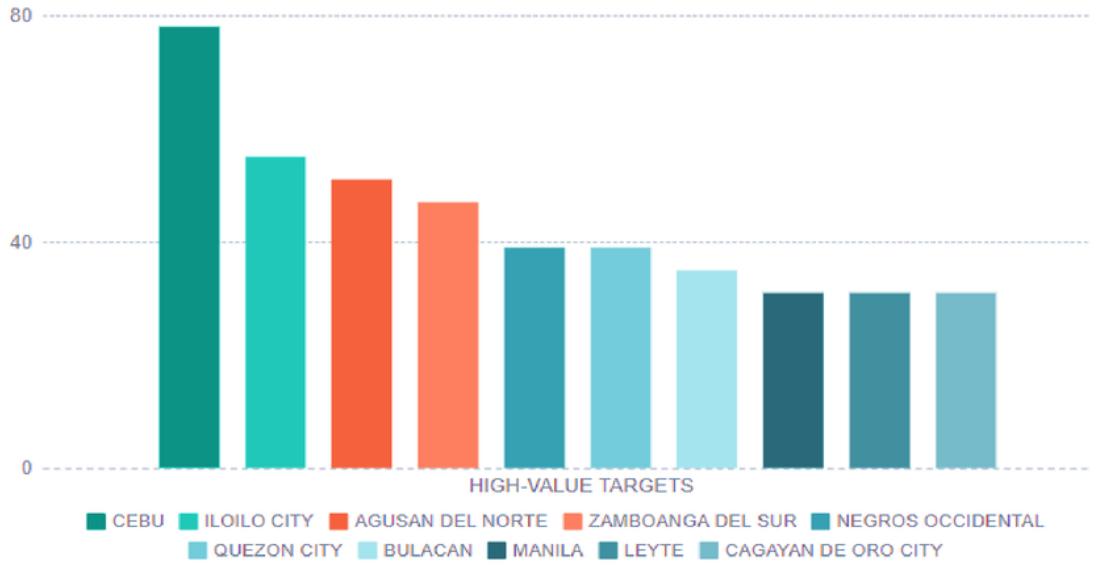

Figure 3. Top ten cities/provinces with the highest number of high-value targets

Source: Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Data on Drugs (January - August 2016)

The strategic geographical location of Cebu could possibly be one of the reasons linked towards the drug trade and illicit drug activities in the city (Mayol et al., 2017). As according to an interview with the Director of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency in Central Visayas (PDEA-7), it was mentioned that the location of Cebu has made it a transshipment port of illegal drugs because it has access to almost all the ports in the Philippines, most importantly in Mindanao and Visayas (Mayol et al., 2017). This is why there is an intense focus of War on Drugs in Cebu. Thus, Cebu province, particularly its capital Cebu City, was the chosen locale for the research.

The research is a descriptive quantitative research. The first method used is self-reported survey method. The survey questionnaire contained close-ended questions that would explore the specific actions and engagements that the respondents are willing to partake in. The research conducted a survey from 194 students enrolled in the four of the top universities in Cebu City. These universities are the following: University of the Philippines-Cebu, University of San Jose

Recoletos, Cebu Normal University, and University of San Carlos. Two of these universities are private and the other two universities are state universities. Researches employing survey method is also defined as a method of descriptive research used for collecting primary data based on verbal or written communication with a representative sample of individuals or respondents from the target population (Mathiyazhagan & Nandan, 2010). To reinforce the data gathered from the survey, analysis of gathered secondary literatures, including government statistics and existing state policies was done. These secondary data were used to identify and highlight the efforts from the Philippine National Police including the avenues for Citizen Engagement that the Philippine National Police opens for the citizens to partake in the Drug War efforts.

Results and Discussion

Given the importance of the public's participation in the policy process, the Anti-Drug campaign of President Duterte must embrace community engagement as a pro-active mechanism for drug prevention and enforcement. Consequently, the researchers surveyed the citizens-specifically university students, on specific actions and engagements that they would willingly participate in, as a way of supporting the government's campaign against drugs. The following results presented answer the questions on the mechanisms of participation that the respondents are willing to partake in and the existing avenues for participation that the Philippine National Police provides for the citizen engagement.

1. Mechanisms of Participation and Avenues for Participation

AThe reported mechanisms of participation that responses from all 194 respondents, pertaining to the extent of their support to the War on Drugs Strategies of the Philippine Government, can be categorized into several levels, namely, Inform level, Consult Level, Involve Level, Collaborate Level and lastly, Empower Level. This becomes very vital in identifying the specific identified actions that the students have self-reportedly expressed willingness to perform. The results revealed what actions gained the most agreeability for engagement.

A. Inform Level

Table 1. Inform Level: Aggregate Responses

Action	Yes (%)	No (%)
Inform myself, my peers, my family members, and the members of my social circle about the War on Drugs from the information gathered from the news, newspapers, and from the statements of policy-makers	74.7	25.3
Inform others through the use of social media and other mechanisms of information dissemination	69.1	30.9
Ask for Pamphlets, Brochures, and leaflets about the progress of War on Drugs	54.6	46.4
Watch the news and to keep an update on the War on Drugs efforts of the police.	80.9	19.1

Table 1 projects the responses from the respondents to the actions of support to the Drug War that were categorized to be in the inform level. There were four identified action all relating to the 'information gathering' level of public participation. As evidenced by the responses above, it should be noted that there are very affirmative responses from a large majority of the respondents reporting their intentions to willingly do the following 'inform' actions: inform themselves and the people around them from the news, or through social media, watch the news to keep updates of the drug war, and lastly to solicit information from pamphlets and brochures in circulation. This implies that the students, in their own volition are intending to keep close watch of the progress and turn of events surrounding the Philippine Drug War.

From the end of the government, the Philippine National Police has made certain efforts to increase the awareness of the public. The PNP, as reported in its 2016 annual report, produced and distributed Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Materials in the form of pamphlets, stickers, posters, flyers, journals, newsletters, and magazines. The use of traditional media and social media were also a step taken by the PNP. Information were also disseminated through the use of television, radio, in print, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Reported activities published online and in print, and those aired on TV and on radios were reflected in the PNP's annual report of 2016. Furthermore, efforts of employing information technology for the

accessibility of its program by launching the iSerbis application wherein citizens can view infographics and also have access of the emergency hotline (PNP, 2017).

B. Consult Level

Table 2. Consult Level: Aggregate Responses

Action	Yes (%)	No (%)
Attend seminars about War on drugs: efforts and strategies	57.2	42.8
Participate in answering surveys and polls about the Drug Agency's performance in the enforcement of War on Drugs strategies	66.5	33.5

It is reported in Table 2 that there are generally affirmative responses to the consultative actions that were inquired in the research. These consultative responses are in the form of participating in surveys and polls and in attending seminars that is about the Philippine Drug War. It is noteworthy that two of the specified efforts gained majority approval which implies that majority of the students are willing to participate in aiding the Philippine Anti-Drug Efforts of the Philippine government in a consultative level.

From the end of the Philippine National Police, there were a total of 18 community dialogues done from July 2016 to June of 2017. Also, in the same time frame, the PNP has conducted a total of 23 public lectures to Non-governmental Organizations, 36 lectures to schools and universities and seven lectures to shopping malls (PNP, 2017).

C. Involve Level

Table 3 Involve Level: Aggregate Responses

Action	Yes (%)	No (%)
Attend forums about the enforcement of War on Drugs strategies (Citizens, PDEA, and Police)	56.7	43.3
Be involved in workshops and meetings with the Drug Enforcement Agency and other officials involved in the implementation of War on drugs	47.9	53.1

The Table 5.8 reports the responses gathered from the respondents relating to the involvement efforts that the students are willing to partake to show support to the Philippine Drug War. It must be highlighted that in this level, out of the two specified actions only one garnered the approval of the majority, indicating that the students, in their own volition are willing to be involved in the Drug War by attending forums participated by the citizens, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Police Officers. From the end of the PNP, several involvement efforts were reported. It stated that three PNP-Civil Society Organization Forums were conducted focusing on Right-Based Policing with a total of 300 attendees from PNP, CSO, and concerned government agencies (PNP, 2016).

D. Collaborate Level

Table 4 Collaborate Level: Aggregate Responses

Action	Yes (%)	No (%)
Write a feedback and suggestions to the implementing agency to improve, enhance, and make changes to the strategies on the War on drugs (Partnering with the agency)	64.4	35.6
Coordinate with the implementing agencies in any possible collaborative effort to support the campaign against illegal drugs	56.2	43.8

The Table 5.9 above indicates affirmative responses from the respondents regarding the respondents' willingness to partake on collaborative efforts for the Anti-Drug War Campaign. It is worth noting that in a collaborative level, the students reported to being willing to write feedbacks and suggestions to the implementing agency and also to coordinate with the implementing agency (PDEA and PNP) for any collaborative effort that may possibly be made to strengthen the Anti-Drug campaign. This implies that the students are willing to collaborate with the government to aid the success of the Philippine Drug War.

In a collaborative level, the PNP reported its continued success from the community-based peacekeeping efforts operationalized by the PNP Memorandum Circular No. 2015-009 which gave brith to "BARANGAYANIHAN", a sustained revitalization of the village level peacekeeping operations (PNP, 2016). In addition, PNP's collaboration between the village-level, which in the Philippine political setting is called barangay was also sustained. This is under the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council. Also, on a collaborative level, the PNP has signed various memorandums of agreement and memorandums of understanding. To cite one, on the 16th of January, 2018, PNP signed an agreement with the University of the Philippines agreeing that the UP Law will conduct seminars and lectures on law subjects to the PNP personnel and in return the Law students from UP would join the PNP recruits and trainees on a field training program (PNP, 2017).

E. Empower Level

Table 5 Empower Level: Aggregate Responses

Action	Yes (%)	No (%)
Participate in Neighborhood Watch as a citizen-effort to combat illegal drugs	47.9	52.1
Participate in a citizen-led effort to examine the strategies in the conduct of War on Drugs	61.9	38.1

The Table 5.10 above projects the responses gathered from the respondents inquiring the respondent's willingness to partake to specific actions that would empower citizens through their participation in the Philippine Drug War. It should be stressed out that on an empowering level; the students are willing to participate in a citizen-led effort of examining the Drug War

strategies, while a considerably large (47.9 %) percentage of students are willing to participate in a neighborhood watch. These efforts would give an empowering position to the students as part of aiding the government on its War against Illegal Drugs.

From the end of the PNP, several efforts were done to provide an avenue for citizen participation in an empowering level. To state a special case: the Olongapo City Police Office Station 4 was cited for its excellent work of coordinating with various stakeholders by enhancing the awareness and the involvement of the community in crime prevention and solution most particularly in the Project Double Barrel which is the strategy employed to suppress and eradicate illegal drugs in the Philippines. This campaign was cited for it has promoted volunteerism and community engagement (PNP, 2016).

On a more empowering citizen-engagement practice, a citizen law enforcement board called the People's Law Enforcement Board or PLEB was long established. The Republic Act 8551 provides a legal backbone to the establishment of the People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB). Section 66 of RA 8551, states that:

> "The PLEB shall be the central receiving entity for any citizen's complaint against the officers and members of the PNP. Subject to the provisions of Section 41 of Republic Act No. 6975, the PLEB shall take cognizance of or refer the complaint to the proper disciplinary or adjudicatory authority within three (3) days upon the filing of the complaint."

In the Memorandum Circular No. 2017-154 released by the Department of Interior and Local Government. The PLEB is established to become a check and balance mechanism wherein the ordinary citizens can have redress of grievances against the law enforces who abuse their authority. Furthermore, the PLEB is characterized to be an empowering mechanism that allows citizens' active participation as individuals and as a community to demand and impose discipline in the aspect of law enforcement (DILG, 2017).

To provide a clear framework of a sustainable framework for Drug campaign, the research provides an illustration that exhibits the efforts that the students are willing to partake in. From these intended citizen engagement, the currently existing efforts of the Philippine National Police are also highlighted. The intersection of the two would direct the realization of a community-based drug campaign wherein a close interaction of the community and the police force is made to ensure that the communities are drug-free, peaceful, and orderly. This framework is illustrated below:

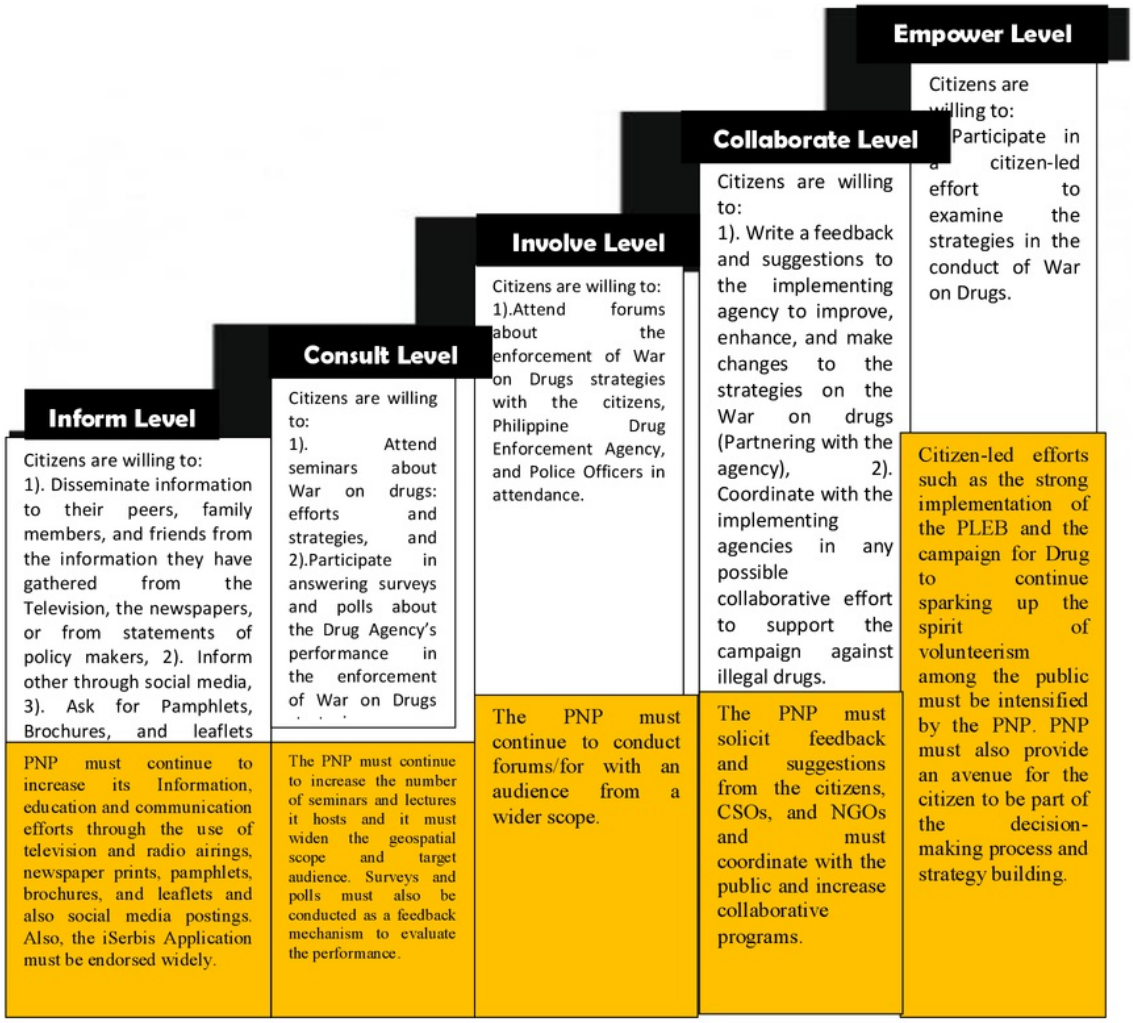

Figure 4. Framework of a community-based Drug War

Figure 4 above reflects a consolidated data from the survey and from the existing Community-oriented policing of the Philippine National Police. This framework embodies how the Philippine National Police can integrate the citizens willingness to the actual conduct of drug prevention and enforcement. The framework is an important plotted pathway of engagement that would encourage a community-led drug intervention.

Conclusion

On the several levels of support, specified actions were revealed to be feasible in the perspective of the students. This implies that when meaningfully intended, on an inform level, the students may 1. *Disseminate information to their peers, family members, and friends from the information they have gathered from the Television, the newspapers, or from statements of policy makers*, 2. *Inform other through social media*, 3. *Ask for Pamphlets, Brochures, and leaflets about the progress of War on Drugs*, and 4. *Watch the news and to keep an update on the War on Drugs efforts of the police.* On a Consultative level, the students intend to support on the following extent: 1. *Attend seminars about War on drugs: efforts and strategies*, and 2. *Participate in answering surveys and polls about the Drug Agency's performance in the enforcement of War on Drugs strategies*. While on the level of Involvement, the students are inclined to partake through the following specified effort: *Attend forums about the enforcement of War on Drugs strategies with the citizens, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, and Police Officers in attendance.* On a Collaborative level, on the other hand, the student are willing to collaborate through these specific actions: 1. *Write a feedback and suggestions to the implementing agency to improve, enhance, and make changes to the strategies on the War on drugs (Partnering with the agency),* 2. *Coordinate with the implementing agencies in any possible collaborative effort to support the campaign against illegal drugs*. Finally, on the level of Empowerment, the students are inclined to partake through participating in *a citizen-led effort to examine the strategies in the conduct of War on Drugs.*

In addition, majority of the specified actions from the end of the Philippine National Police also revealed to have matched the actions that the citizen would willingly partake in. However, it is worth noting that in the involve level, no surveys and polls are conducted by the PNP hence, there is a standing recommendation for the PNP to solicit answers from the public for evaluation purposes. Furthermore, it is also note-worthy that in the empower level, the establishment of a citizen complaint enforcement board under the PLEB, that would address complaints of the citizens against police officers is now established. However, avenues that would allow the citizens to examine the strategies undertaken by the PNP is not yet existing.

To conclude, several efforts were identified in this study to aid the government in identifying the efforts that needs to be capitalized. All the ten identified efforts from the five levels of public participation are valuable information of what citizens are willing to do on their

end provided that a platform and avenue would be provided on the end of the government or any organization/agency. This is where both the citizen and the government must capitalize in to nurture citizen engagement and community-based campaigns that would be sustainable and viable.

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