

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Many things happened when the Philippines placed a former mayor of Davao city as the first Philippine President from Mindanao. Rodrigo Duterte's gave birth to many controversies when he began his performance as the number one person in the Philippines. The War on Drugs policy is one that is highlighted not only in the Philippines but also internationally. He got the nickname "The Punisher" for his promises to arrest all drugs abuse and drugs user in the Philippines, imprisoning him and more extreme would kill him. Long before becoming president, Duterte's had consistently said his goal was to eradicate drugs while still being the Mayor of Davao, and also in his campaign during the 2016 Presidential Election. When in Davao Duterte's issued the Davao Death Squad as a form of drug and crime eradication in Davao, and when he rose to become a President, Duterte's used the same method to arrest all drug dealers in the Philippines.

Philippine National Police Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign Plan Project: Double Barrel, called Operation Plan (Oplan) Double Barrel was inaugurated on July 1, 2016, right after Duterte's entered his first day as the Chosen President of the Philippines. This anti-drug project was targeted to eradicate drugs during the first six months of Duterte's leadership. Written in the inauguration report, Oplan Double Barrel was formed by direct command from Duterte's. He also told the police not to hesitate to kill the Bandar if they refused to be treated or take harmful impulsive actions.

After the Oplan Double Barrel was officially enacted, the world was shocked by the news of thousands of people killed by police operations carried out under the orders of Duterte's. CNN international media reported that as of December 2016 5,927 people had been shot dead, the Oplan Double Barrel killed 2,086 of them while the rest were still

under police investigation. Allegedly 3,481 souls were killed by armed persons unknown to a group or personal interests. This number surprised many parties, especially the state and international organizations that uphold the values of human rights. This War on Drug policy violates these values, by directly killing someone who is still a suspect without going through the right legal process.

International organizations have criticized few things in the humanitarian field such as the United Nations Commission of Human Rights (UNCHR), Human Rights Watch (HRW), Amnesty International, and others. The humanitarian organization criticized Duterte's policies and asked him to stop the Oplan Double Barrel immediately. These four things are:

- a. War on Drugs Policy legalizes the practice of extrajudicial killings or extrajudicial killings
- b. The fundamental right of an individual is deprived of the existence of an Oplan Double Barrel, and even a suspect has the right to defend himself and other rights
- c. Emerging new problems, namely the presence of dangerous armed persons and moving by the wishes of the interests of one group or individual
- d. Conditions of prisons that are not following international standards and are not suitable for the settlement of criminal suspects

Despite getting protests and criticism from internationally, it did not make Duterte's give up his dream to see the Philippines become a country free from drugs. Many of these criticisms were not responded to by Duterte's, or he asked international parties not to interfere in their domestic policy matters. There are two strategies that Duterte's has to deal with the pressure exerted by international actors, especially the United Nations, in its efforts to maintain the war on drugs policy. Namely, getting closer to China as one of the strong actors supporting his policies and resigning from the ICC, with

the Philippines coming out of the ICC will minimize interference from other actors.

Drug problems have become cancerous for Filipinos, especially the younger generation. From the results of the police operation, drug suspects who were successfully treated were young people who became the future of the Philippines. If drugs are not immediately eliminated, the future of the Philippines will undoubtedly get worse. Besides, drugs have many adverse effects if someone uses them. Drug users tend to commit criminal acts such as killing, stealing, and others to get drugs or protect these illegal drugs. Nearly 80% of criminals caught are Bandar or drug users. So, it can be concluded, and drugs make someone commit a crime that is detrimental to the other party. Duterte's, since serving as the Mayor of Davao, has hated it, drugs and crime. That is the reason why eradicating corruption is the top priority of his government in the next few years.

Oplan Double Barrel can be said to be successful because, from 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016, PNP managed to 1,143,896 people from all regions of the Philippines. A total of 47,922 people were arrested, 2,363 were killed in police operations. The police also managed to arrest drug abuse and drug users who are at the upper level of society, such as officials, people in business, and even in the police. Some of them surrendered on direct orders from President Duterte and received their sentences. Not only arrested drug dealers, but the police also succeeded in resolving cases of extrajudicial killings by armed men. These murder cases coincide when the Oplan Double Barrel takes place so that the community and the international community assume that the police do this. Even though in fact, of the five thousand more victims reported, only two thousand were killed by police operations, and they were drug dealers.

The people of the Philippines much-admired president Duterte's strong figure because Duterte's had the strong political will for the welfare of his people. His influence is

currently powerful in the Philippines, assisted by his strong character and firm stance, various policies that can develop the Philippines run, one of which is the War on Drug Policy. Oplan Double Barrel proved to be able to make one million Bandar and drug users surrender themselves to the police, successfully reducing crime rates and making the face of the Philippines a safe and comfortable place. This policy can bring the Philippines to a better condition, namely the Philippines which is free from drugs, for their next generation.

From the strategies that have been explained on chapter 4, it claimed that those strategies improve the international responses, like now some countries, become a supporter of this policy since this strategies emerge such as Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. That country has supported the policy by implementing that kind of policy in their country.

If Duterte's listens to international criticism then stops this War on Drug policy, drug problems in the Philippines will never be finished. One city and users who should surrender will continue to roam to influence more people to use drugs. The condition of the Philippines will get worse with drug problems and develop into more significant problems. The reason Duterte's ignored criticism and suggestions from the international community was that Duterte was convinced that the international solutions would not work. The solution to eradicating corruption with the human rights approach will not change the situation of drug problems in the Philippines. Therefore, Duterte's still adhered to his version of the War on Drug policy which has been proven to be more effective in reducing drug circulation.