



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON
GABALDON INTEGRATED SCHOOL

The Underlying Social Divide Struggle on Philippine Education

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Everyone is entitled to a decent education with high-quality and equitable instruction. It is the right of all Filipino children (Article 26, Universal Declaration of Human Rights). It must be expressed not only in words, but also through allowing them to taste the fruits of their rights as Filipino students. However, worries regarding the quality of education and standards in the Philippine education system are concerning, and the most of them constitute a significant risk to the kids' future.

A social divide is a state in which there are regular patterns of division in society, generally in terms of benefits and disadvantages, injustices and disparities (S. Hoiland and Lumen Learning). Sadly, social divide enters the aspect of education which risks not only the education of the students in general but their relationship with their classmates and schoolmates and the way they perceive their future. The purpose of institutions is to teach formally students with regards to the learning that they have to be equipped with in order for them to be ready for their future. Aside from that, school is a place where students are able to meet people and eventually build friendships and relationships which will greatly help them to be comfortable in the school set-up and as much as possible be the key for students to enjoy the school. However, with such issues such as social divide, the perspective of having a good relationship regardless of their social class is an underlying problem of the education sector in the Philippines (ChildHope).

According to ChildHope, a non-government organization for children in the Philippines, social divides in education occur in many educational settings. For example, a social difference might occur in the classroom between two pupils who come from different backgrounds. A wealthy and impoverished family is an example. Different lifestyles among classmates might create a barrier between them, resulting in miscommunications in attitude and depiction in school. Aside from that, diverse educational programs that may not be appropriate to all children are another factor that contributes to a social split among pupils.



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Because some parents cannot afford to pay for the activity, their children are unable to participate in the program and engage with their peers.

The quality of education brought by different schools also creates a division between students from other schools. Instead of interacting with one another, they tend to compare the quality of education brought by their schools. Aside from that, cultural and ethnicity mixed in one classroom may mean risks for racial discrimination causing social divide to students with regards to their race, and ethnicity.

Overall, social division occurs in all schools, and the situation is not improving since according to ASEAN Trade Union Council, Philippines has the third highest rate of economic and social inequality in Southeast Asia. This separation and inequality have no positive consequences on kids or the quality of education they get. The fact is that social division is unavoidable and can occur at any time, not just in schools but also in the society. However, the goal is to regulate and take activities that would require educational stakeholders to be at least aware of the problem so that they may teach themselves and others around them how to be equitable, respectful, considerate, and compassionate to all.

The message here is that the government is not solely to blame for all of it. In order to obtain peace, humanity, and equality in the education system, it is not just the government that is accountable for this but every individual involved in the school. This means that students themselves, teachers, administrators, and parents should also monitor and teach themselves on being good influence of equality so that everyone would feel the same.

Promoting programs such as seminars, meetings, activities involving camaraderie regardless of the age, gender, religion, culture, and ethnicity, are good examples that promote a good social interaction for students and other stakeholders in education. As for the government, they should be the one to implement rules and policy on equality, offer free programs, books, and funding for other unfunded schools are their duties and responsibilities. They can also create program that would create same quality education for both the rich and the poor which can help stretch out the similarities experienced by



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different social class which in the future will help many students in terms of not getting left behind with their peers just because they cannot afford to go to school.

Truly, no man is an island. There would be no peace and equality if only one body is moving and making a change and the others go unbothered by the situation. The key to every inequality is for everybody to be moving up and realizing what needs to be done, and what needs to be changed.

Inequalities among people or social division still continue exist in the community, even in a workplace. As a teacher, erasing social divide and putting learners in a same classroom despite of being different backgrounds is the most to do to. Although it is challenging, eliminating discriminatory practices will make it possible to reduce social divide and ensure opportunity to all of them. For the takeaway, the social divide happens between communities and just stretches out in the education system. This means that if the community practices equality for all, then it would be much easier to remove social divide in education.

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