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## Abuse Of Power And Electoral Problems In The Philippines

The Philippines have endured a long saga of diverse electoral proceedings. Beginning during the country's era of colonization, pioneered by the Spanish and American predecessors, a formal system of elections was first instituted by and for the patriarchy. With democracy currently being attributed to a human being's right of suffrage, it is important to note that voting in the Philippines did not become democratic in nature until after the World War II where Filipinos first voted for the President, Vice-President, and members of the Senate and Congress. Decades later, the Proclamation No. 1081/Martial Law would also prove to be another subsidizing factor that effectively changed the essence of Philippine elections for the totality of Marcos' regime. Soon after, the restoration of the Filipino people's democratic power ensued under the first Aquino administration, wherein the late Corazon Aquino was enacted as President through the "1986 People Power Revolution".

The reality of a political dynasty is still rampant in every democratic nation existing in the world. Honorable families can obtain more political opportunities in any democratic nation in spite of its political structure, culture, economy, or history. Notable families have been the parts of the game of politics in the country for the longest time.

Due to the vast majority of political families in the Philippines, all qualified Filipinos must be given equal access to different political possibilities because it can be a hindrance for powerful and abusive families to run for public government posts and can absolutely educate and widen a voter's knowledge about the pros and cons of this political phenomenon. With all of that in mind, it is essential to note the presence, or rather, the absence, of voters' education in making these decisions. It is evident that the suppression of the Filipinos' range of awareness regarding constitutional matters, in those cases elections, have detracted from voting "accurately".

With the presence of influential political clans in the Philippines, the abuse of power and the manipulation of the public are evident in the society. It is no longer a question on what are they capable of doing for the country, but rather it can be a question of why is there a number of corrupt public servants who are unworthy and who monopolize the use power, and the use of connections present in the government. Filipinos tend to elect public servants who are unworthy of their positions that results Filipinos to have the greatest torture of their lives.

One of the purposes in enhancing a voter's awareness of a political dynasty is to develop in the individual's mind that political dynasty is prone to error and pure monopolization of power. For the past elections, Filipinos voted under the basis of their mere emotions and guts. History kept repeating itself, with anomalies after anomalies in each presidency, showing that voters are not

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changing their norms. Filipinos have the right to be aware of the different potential qualities of politicians and not based on their popularity. The Commission On Elections (COMELEC) should establish good-quality standards and guidelines to make certain that campaign and educational campaign materials are maximized and utilized appropriately. Through weighing the pros and cons of electing government they should be given the chance to gain more knowledge about the planned agenda and programs of those qualified politicians and should be given the chance to voice out their opinions and to suggest solutions to lessen societal difficulties. All citizens have the right to use their freedom of speech under the Philippine constitution.

In addition, the legislative branch of the government should also implement satisfactory laws that may lessen political dynasties from existing and by implementing laws this would require analysis on appropriating suitable and solicitous interjecting researches and activities that go with its objective to gradually eliminate the political phenomenon. By having more legal actions and debates about issues concerning this phenomenon the entirety of the legislative branch of the Philippine government would have the spur to work on substantial laws that may benefit all the citizens of the country. Influential political families would do everything out of their will just to sustain the abundance of money and to retain the use of power. Each one of them have their own sets of weaknesses and strengths, and the main duties of the rightful Filipinos are to be aware, to correct the wrong doings of the officials, to use their freedom of speech and lastly to be the judge of what those elected officials are capable of doing for the service of Filipinos and the country.

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