

Research Article

TRAINING PROGRAM ON AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON FEDERALISM IN ORIENTAL MINDORO

* Ciedelle Piol-Salazar

Mindoro State University - Bongabong Campus, Philippines.

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ABSTRACT

Government is considered a necessary feature of the country's development. With a constant change in politics, culture, and society, countries used different strategies to overcome challenges, and this includes shifting to federalism. This is a descriptive study which aims to determine the level of awareness of the respondents on some features of federalism in terms of Structure, Division of Power, Check and Balance, Fiscal Management, Advantages and Disadvantages. Political Theory of Constituent Power asserts that the people's power is the source, origin and foundation of democratic power. Thus, awareness of the people with this change in the form of government is necessary as it will also affect their lives. Based on the result of the study, a Training Program for awareness campaign was formulated. It is recommended that public feedback should be obtained and comments and suggestions must be considered in improving the final draft of the federal charter.

Keywords: Training Program, awareness, federalism, decentralization, economic development.

INTRODUCTION

For a long time, the overwhelming reality of global change in politics, communities, and culture constituted a threat to a state's economic and social progress. Different countries have devised solutions to address these issues based on their culture, resources, and capabilities, which includes modifying the government system. In an ideal world, the government system is in place to protect the rights of its citizens and to address socio-political challenges that may obstruct improved life prospects. The system is deemed to be optimal if the government meets the challenges and solves the problems within the state. Political philosophers disagree over the optimum form of government, but they all believe that government is necessary for society to live in peace. Government has always been an important aspect of a country's overall growth. It is regarded as the most important factor in promoting community political stability, economic progress, and social well-being. Human beings have been exposed to a variety of governing systems throughout the history of statehood. Citizens' desire for effective government continues if the government fails to meet its commitments. As a result, the government is always a key player in resolving national issues and overcoming global obstacles. People were recognized as one of the elements of the state in the Philippines' constitution. They are seen as the foundation of democratic power, and they are the source of all government authority. As part of their self-determination, they have the collective right to determine their governmental, political, and electoral systems. The Social Contract Theory plainly indicates that government authority is derived from the people's will in their selection of these systems. As a result, each change in governing policy or procedure requires the consent and approval of the governed. The Philippines currently has a Unitary System of Government. This form of government, however, has been questioned since the start of the Duterte administration. President Rodrigo Duterte revealed his plans for the country's economic growth even during the campaign. His plans reflect his ambition to alter the country's political system. One of

his economic goals is to convene a Constitutional Convention to investigate the country's transition to a federal government. The President established a Con-Com to assess the existing situation and propose a proposal for a new government structure. The Inter-Agency Task Force on Federalism and Constitutional Reform was entrusted with conducting a more intensive information campaign in order to obtain popular support. Filipinos would be able to learn more about federalism as a result of this campaign. The government's political action has sparked several disputes about whether Federalism should be implemented in the country. Where's (2011) notion, widely recognized as the Father of contemporary federal theories, serves as a solid framework for this research. According to his concept, in a federal system, both the national and regional governments have autonomous spheres of power that can be exerted independently of the other. Furthermore, rather than being exercised indirectly through states or provinces, the central government's powers are exercised directly over individual inhabitants. Federalism is founded on the idea that the smallest level of government knows best what is best for its citizens. As a result, decisions should be decided at the local level. According to proponents of federalism, the federal structure of government will result in significant structural change by allowing local governments to regulate their economies and chart their own course. The strain of good governance on public officials, particularly under the planned federal arrangement, necessitates a high degree of knowledge, abilities, and behavior in dealing with local issues. Decentralization of authority and local autonomy have been key topics in federalism that individuals, particularly government officials, should be aware of. Because decentralization and local autonomy are considered the core principles of federalism, this article incorporates the views of local governments on several inherent principles of federalism. Decentralization has become a nearly universal feature of modern states, with practically all countries adopting it. Some political scientists' works and opinions support federalism's decentralization principle, notably the devolution of authority. Devolution of power will allow responsibility for certain decisions to be transferred from the national level to a sub national level, such as a regional government or a state. Each level has some genuine autonomy from the others, and each level is primarily responsible to its constituents and electorates. As a result, it empowers the regional state to develop

solutions, use strategic advantages in natural resources to promote regional development, implement policies, and make important decisions on its own. The concept of decentralization entails an efficient public administration in which local governments are empowered to manage their own regional development. Governments are expected to be more democratic and accountable to citizens as a result of the various levels of governance. The government's decision to change the government system has sparked a wide range of opinions about the country's economic impact. Despite the benefits outlined by supporters of federalism, opponents argue that the proposed structure will result in overlapping functions and policies among states, as well as the disintegration of the republic as a whole and political dynasties. In federalism, each component province must be able to contribute a proportionate amount to the state's economy. Provinces that are financially strong but fiscally weak may experience frustration and disengagement. Local governments with minimal experience with fiscal management will have an impact on the region's economic progress. The Filipino people are always perplexed by these arguments. Federalist supporters see the system as a way for citizens to have a direct say in policy decisions in their own states or regions. Others, on the other hand, contended that federalism safeguards special interests' privileges. The government, through the DILG and other organizations, has already begun a federalism awareness campaign to inform Filipinos about their proposal for substantial structural change. Various studies and polls have been performed to ascertain the extent to which Filipinos are aware of the proposed federal system. Despite many organisations' efforts to educate the public through an awareness campaign and the use of social media, some are still confused, and others are uninformed of the proposed governance system. Only one out of every four Filipinos is aware of the proposed Federal System of Government, according to data gathered in a June 2018 study by the Social Weather Systems, and only 37 percent of those surveyed support it, while 34 percent oppose it. According to a linked survey done in June by Pulse Asia, 69 percent of Filipinos had little knowledge of the planned federal structure of governance. The majority of people polled acknowledged to knowing little to nothing about the idea. Given that President Duterte is presently encouraging Congress to change the type of government to federal, believing that this would have a significant impact on the country's future, most residents have become more aware of the need to participate more actively in the talks. Despite his reservations regarding public support, President Duterte pledged to support the federalism process in his first State of the Nation Address (SONA) in 2016, stating that a referendum might be held in 2019. To help ordinary citizens understand what is at risk in the move, Atienza (2018) proposes a more intense federalism awareness campaign that focuses on how the change in governance can influence their lives. The administration should link federalism and the entire proposal to modify the constitution to how it pertains to people's everyday issues. People should be given a larger and deeper understanding of the concept and ideas of federalism as a form of governance, as well as assistance in gaining a better and more comprehensive understanding of federalism for key government officials and members of society. The public will be able to participate in the process of transforming the government system by expressing their issues and concerns in this way.

Objectives of the Study

This study primarily determined the level of awareness on some features of federalism of the community residents in the municipalities of Bongabong and Pinamalayan in the Second District of oriental Mindoro. It specifically aimed to determine the profiles of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, and educational

attainment, level of awareness of the community residents on some features of federalism in terms of structure, division of power, check and balance, fiscal management, advantages and disadvantages, and the extent how does then extent of awareness vary when respondents are grouped according to profile variables. This study also provides a Training Program based on the result.

Conceptual Framework

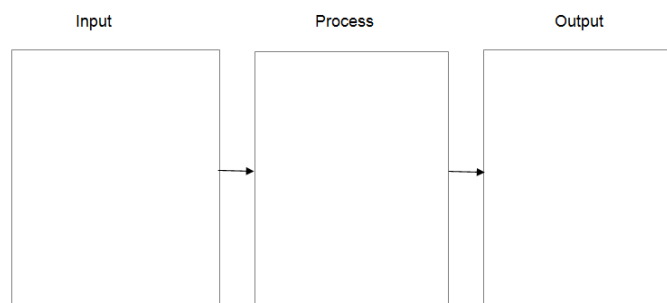


Figure 1: Research Paradigm box

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The descriptive method of design was used in this study. Descriptive research is a study designed to depict the respondents in an accurate way. It describes people who take part in the study. It aimed at finding out the what is, and survey methods are usually utilized to collect descriptive data (Borg & Gall, 1989). The participants of the study were the community residents of the first-class municipalities in the Second District of Oriental Mindoro, Bongabong and Pinamalayan. The researcher used convenience sampling method. The respondents of the study were of 404 respondents which was computed using Slovin's formula from a total of 158,245 total populations of the concerned municipalities were randomly selected. The subjects of the study were the community residents of the respondent municipalities who were 18 years old and above because they were more aware of political issues and could contribute their ideas on the issues and concerns of this study. The data collection tools used in the research are questionnaire and documentary analysis. The questionnaire is the instrument that the researcher used in gathering the desired information for the study and was patterned according to the problems stated in the study. The questionnaire is divided into two parts. Part 1 is the profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, and educational qualification. The second part is a structured questionnaire with four options that measure the extent of awareness of the respondents as regards some features of the federal system of government in terms of structure, division of powers, check and balance, fiscal management, advantages and disadvantages of federalism. In the conduct of the study the respondents were assured that the information gathered in the will be treated with strict confidentiality. In order to protect the rights of the participants', informed consent was also considered in the conduct of this study. The researcher also used several documents in the study which include public documents such as books, journals, newspaper and blogs. Flyers, training materials and strategic plans were also considered in this study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following is the presentation of results and discussions.

Table 1: - Respondents in Terms of Age

Age	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
18 - 21 years old	51	12.60	3
22 - 25 years old	117	29.00	1

26 - 29 years	25	6.20	6
30 - 33 years	41	10.20	4
34 - 37 years	31	7.70	5.5
38 - 41 years	15	3.70	7
42 - 45 years	31	7.70	5.5
46 years and above	93	23.00	2
Total	404	100	

The study revealed that most of the respondents are in the bracket 22-25 years of age or 29%. This signifies that the respondents belong to the younger generation.

Table 2: - Respondents in Terms of Sex

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	192	47.50
Female	212	52.50
Total	404	100

Table 2 shows the respondents in terms of sex. Among the respondents, 212 or 52.50% are female and 192 or 47.50 are male. This implies that majority of the respondents from the municipalities of Pinamalayan and Bongabong were females.

Table 3: - Respondents in Terms of Civil Status

Civil Status	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Single	194	48.00	1
Widow/er	45	11.20	3
Married	165	40.80	2
Total	404	100	

As revealed by the result of the study in terms of civil status of the respondents, out of 404, 194 or 48 percent were single; 165 or 40.80 percent were married; while the remaining 45 or 11.2 percent of the respondents were widow/er from the municipalities of Pinamalayan and Bongabong.

Table 4: - Respondents in Terms of Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Doctoral Degree	7	1.70	6.5
with Doctoral Units	14	3.50	5
Master's Degree	7	1.70	6.5
with Master's units	26	6.40	4
Bachelor's Degree	132	32.70	2
High School Graduate	180	44.60	1
Elementary Graduate	38	9.40	3
Total	404	100	

Of the 404 total respondents, 180 or 44.6 percent were high school graduates; 132 or 32.7 percent were with bachelor's degree; 38 or 9.4 percent were elementary graduates; 26 or 6.4 percent were with master's units; and 7 or 1.7 percent of the respondents are with doctoral degree and masters' degree. The result established the fact that majority of the respondents from the Pinamalayan and Bongabong were high school graduates.

Table 5: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism in Terms of Structure

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The Federal Republic shall consist of 16 Federated Regions, of the Bangsamoro and the Cordilleras.	2.32	Slightly Aware
2. The Executive department shall be headed by a President, A vote for the presidential candidate shall be counted as a vote for his vice-presidential candidate.	2.26	Slightly Aware
3. The legislative department shall consist of Senate and House of Representatives.	2.02	Slightly Aware
4. The government of the Federated Region shall consist of the Regional Legislature, the Regional Executive, and the Regional Judiciary.	1.88	Slightly Aware
5. There shall be Constitutional Commissions composed of the Federal Service Commission, Federal Commission on Election, Federal Commission on Audit, Federal Commission on Human Rights, Federal Commission, Federal Competition Commission.	1.63	Slightly Aware
6. Every Region shall be represented by at least two Senators elected by the qualified voters in the Federal Region.	1.61	Slightly Aware
7. The Regional Assembly shall provide for a Regional Supreme Court, Regional Appellate Court, Regional Trial Courts and such lower courts and special courts, in component provinces, cities, and municipalities, and define their jurisdiction in accordance with the Constitution.	1.55	Slightly Aware
8. Except for the Bangsamoro and the Federated Region of the Cordilleras, the legislature of each Federal Region shall be known as the Regional Assembly, half of it shall be composed of members from each province and half representing political parties through proportional representation.	1.53	Slightly Aware
9. The House of Representatives shall be composed of not more than 400 members unless otherwise provided by law, 60% of which shall be elected by plurality votes where each single-member legislative electoral district shall have one seat in the House of Representative and the remaining 40% shall be voted nationwide through a system of proportional representation.	1.51	Slightly Aware
10. There shall be Federal Supreme Court, Federal Constitutional Court, Federal Administrative Court and the Federal Court.	1.51	Slightly Aware
Composite Mean	1.78	Slightly Aware

The Table 5 shows the level of awareness of the respondents on federalism in terms structure. It shows that the federal republic shall consist of 16 federated regions, of the Bangsamoro and the Cordilleras got the highest weighted mean of 2.32. The items which state that the House of Representatives shall be composed of not more than 400 members unless otherwise provided by law, 60% of which shall be elected by plurality votes where each single-member legislative electoral district shall have one seat in the House of Representative and the remaining 40% shall be voted nationwide through a system of proportional representation and that there shall be Federal Supreme Court, Federal Constitutional Court, Federal Administrative Court and the Federal Court got the lowest weighted mean of 1.51.

The result implies that the respondents from Pinamalayan and Bongabong have little knowledge of some features of federalism in terms of structure. This finding has similarities with the study of Eclevia *et al.*, (2010) where the respondents do not possess sufficient knowledge on the basic concepts of federalism. Although the DILG is tasked to take a lead in the nationwide awareness campaign to educate the public about federalism, this showed that there is no massive information dissemination on federalism conducted in the respondent municipalities.

Table 6: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism in Terms of Division of Power

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The Executive Power of the Federal Republic is vested in the resident. The President shall have control of all executive departments, bureaus, and offices under Federal government.	2.87	Moderately Aware
2. The president shall be the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines	2.49	Slightly Aware
3. The Federal Legislative power is vested in the Congress, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.	1.83	Slightly Aware
4. The Regional executive Power shall be vested in the Regional Governor.	1.53	Slightly Aware
5. The Congress by a vote of 2/3 of both Houses in joint session assemble voting separately, shall have the sole power to declare the existence of war.	1.45	Least Aware
6. The Judicial Power shall be vested in the Federal Supreme Court, the Federal Constitutional Court, the Federal Administrative Court, the Federal Electoral Court, and in other courts as may be established by law.	1.44	Least Aware
7. All contests relating to election, returns and qualifications of Senators and members of the House of Representatives shall be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal electoral Court.	1.43	Least Aware
8. Regional Assembly shall be vested with Legislative Power.	1.42	Least Aware
9. The Congress has the power to prescribe the qualifications of the lower court judges.	1.41	Least Aware
10. The Congress shall have the power to define, prescribed and apportion the jurisdiction of various courts.	1.37	Least Aware
Composite Mean	1.73	Slightly Aware

The indicator which state that the president shall have control of all executive departments, bureaus, and offices under a federal government got the highest score. The item which states that the Congress shall have the power to define, prescribed and apportion the jurisdiction of various courts got the lowest weighted mean. Research findings indicate that the respondents are slightly aware on some features of federalism in terms of division of power. As pointed out, the federal form of government, as professed by the respondents were slightly aware of the division of power which implied that respondents should be aware of the division of powers used on federalism dividing governmental powers between the federal government and the individual state governments. As stated by the finding of Elazar in his study, that under the proposed federal system, each federated region shall be given independent powers to craft strategies for economic development for the benefit of their constituent citizens. Added is the point of view of Bednar that by implementing the federal system, the people are empowered and become more integrated into the political process and will reap the benefits in the form of projects and laws catered specifically to their needs.

Table 7: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism In Terms of Check and Balance

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The grounds for impeachment are culpable violation of the Constitution treason, bribery, graft and corruption, other high crimes, and betrayal of public trust.	2.44	Slightly Aware
2. The President in the executive branch can veto a law, but the legislative branch can override that veto with 2/3 votes of each house branch can override that veto with 2/3 votes of each house.	2.14	Slightly Aware
3. The Office of the Ombudsman shall be responsible for the prosecution of all the graft and corruption cases.	1.99	Slightly Aware
4. The President, Vice-President. Members of the Federal Supreme Court Federal Constitutional Court, Federal Administrative Court, Federal Electoral Court, and members of the Constitutional Commissions may be removed from office through impeachment.	1.85	Slightly Aware
5. Except in cases of impeachment, the President may grant amnesty subject to concurrence of the majority of the members of Congress.	1.47	Least Aware
6. The Federal Government and Federated Regions shall ensure that taxation shall be uniform, equitable and progressive.	1.45	Least Aware
7. No treaty or international agreement shall be valid or effective unless concurred by at least 2/3 of all members of the senate.	1.41	Least Aware
8. The Federal Supreme Court may review in an appropriate proceeding filed by any citizen, the sufficiency of factual basis of the proclamation of martial law and the suspension of the privilege of the writ.	1.38	Least Aware
9. The President may contract or guarantee foreign loans on behalf of the Republic of the Philippines with prior concurrence of the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.	1.36	Least Aware
10. The Congress shall prescribe the qualification of lower court judges.	1.31	Least Aware
Composite Mean	1.68	Slightly Aware

Respondents were slightly aware of federalism in terms of check and balance. Among the items, the grounds for impeachment are culpable violation of the Constitution treason, bribery, graft and corruption, other high crimes, and betrayal of public trust got the highest score. The item which states that the Congress shall prescribe the qualification of lower court judges got the lowest score. This manifestation showed that respondents should determine properly the structured federal system, and its benefits on the check and balance like government accountability on safeguards against corruption since the local governments can be engaged much easier by the people and within a more manageable setting and some of its pitfalls when abused. As stated by Pimentel, federalism was designed to balance the power of the national and state governments.

Table 8: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism In Terms Fiscal Management

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The federal government shall have the power to levy and collect all taxes, duties, fees, charges, and other impositions except the power to tax granted to the Federated Regions.	1.98	Slightly Aware
2. All appropriations, revenues or tariff bills, bills authorizing increase of public debt and private bills shall originate exclusively in the House of Representatives but the Senate may concur with the propose amendments to such bills.	1.51	Slightly Aware
3. The Federal Government shall have the exclusive power over Monetary policy and federal fiscal policy, banking and currency.	1.5	Slightly Aware
4. The Federal regions shall have the power to levy and collect taxes, licenses and fees.	1.44	Least Aware
5. The Federal Region shall have the exclusive power over financial administration and management.	1.44	Least Aware
6. The federal region shall be given a share of not less than 50% of all the collected income taxes, excise tax, value-added tax and customs which shall be equally divided among them and automatically released.	1.41	Least Aware
7. The federated regions shall be entitled to 50% of all net revenues derived from the exploration, development and utilization of all-natural resources within the territory.	1.41	Least Aware
8. The federated region of the Cordilleras shall be entitled to 75% share of all net revenues in the exploration, development and utilization of natural resources in the region.	1.41	Least Aware
9. There shall be a Federal Intergovernmental Commission tasked to administer the equalization Fund and assist the Federated Regions in need in order to attain economic viability.	1.39	Least Aware
10. The Congress, through the Annual General Appropriations Act, may provide additional finances for the regions to effectively and efficiently deliver government services to their constituents.	1.39	Least Aware
Composite Mean	1.49	Least Aware

Similarly, respondents' judgments of several aspects of federalism revealed that they are the least knowledgeable in terms of fiscal management. The item stating that the federal government shall have the power to levy and collect all taxes, duties, fees, charges, and other impositions, except those granted to the federated regions, received the highest score, while the item stating that a federal intergovernmental commission shall be tasked with administering the equalization fund and assisting federated regions in need to achieve economic viability received the lowest score. As a result of the preceding results, the respondents were the least knowledgeable about the structure of federalism in terms of fiscal management. Because of the technical jargon employed, ordinary folks find it difficult to comprehend themes on fiscal management. Despite the fact that social media provides information on this aspect of federalism, respondents were unable to grasp the ideas that underpin fiscal management. In federalism, fiscal management refers to the separation of governmental functions and financial relationships between tiers of government. This assumes that a federal government can solve problems that the government has today, such as income distribution, efficient and effective resource allocation, and economic stability, with a federal system of government. Pimentel (2017) emphasized the importance of reforms in federalism specifically changes in fiscal management as it will address the current LGU concerns on the devolution of finances. Federalism strengthens the revenue raising powers of the LGU by restructuring the Internal Revenue Allotment or IRA to address the horizontal fiscal imbalance. People must be well informed that through fiscal federalism reforms, regions are given the freedom to determine their over-all direction.

Table 9: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism In Terms of Advantages

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The devolved powers will allow the federal regions to mobilize their resources for development without being hindered or controlled by the national government.	2.51	Moderately Aware
2. Federalism build a just and enduring framework for peace through unity of our ethnic, religion and cultural diversity.	2.49	Slightly Aware
3. Federal government is necessary to more efficiently cater the needs of the country despite its diversity.	2.41	Slightly Aware
4. The poorer region and local government shall be given additional fund from national government through the "equalization fund" or subsidy program.	2.39	Slightly Aware
5. The federal system will bring about equitable development across the country by sharing political and economic power with regional and local government across the country.	2.31	Slightly Aware
6. With policies, programs and decisions devolved to the regional and local government, local leaders will assume greater responsibility for leadership and service delivery.	2.2	Slightly Aware
7. Federal system of government is characterized by localized governance. Provincial government representatives live in proximity to the people so they are in a better position to understand the problems existing in the locality.	2.17	Slightly Aware
8. In federal government, division of work between the central and regional government leads to optimum utilization of resources.	2.13	Slightly Aware
9. People will be more interested in local governance because it is closer to them and deal with under development, local poverty, unemployment, injustice, inadequate social services, infrastructure and low productivity.	2.12	Slightly Aware
10. The structure, processes and responsibilities of the federal government will challenge and energize the local government for creativity, initiative and innovation, spur interstate competition and foster local state self-reliance.	2.11	Slightly Aware
Composite Mean	2.28	Slightly Aware

Results showed that respondents were slightly aware of the advantages of federalism form of the government. The data revealed that the item which got the highest mean is the item which states that the devolved powers will allow the federal regions to mobilize their resources for development without being hindered or controlled by the national government while the item which states that the structure, processes, and responsibilities of the federal government will challenge and energize the local government for creativity, initiative and innovation, spur interstate competition and foster local state self-reliance got the lowest score. The slightly aware response on the advantages of federalism form of government implied that respondents have limited knowledge on the positive effects of federalism in the social, economic and political aspects. Thus, massive information dissemination on the advantages of federalism should be done. This found support with the idea of Weiss and Tschirhart (1994) who emphasized setting the target and defining the problem. One should identify a specific issue that the campaign will deal with before actual planning begins to avoid ambiguities in further steps. The DILG shall also use technology through social media to communicate the advantages of federalism. The federalism road show in the respondent municipalities may be done, and present the draft of constitutional amendments to hear the comments of the public.

Table 10: - Awareness of the Respondents on Federalism In Terms of Disadvantages

Items	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Federalism creates confusion because the different levels of government make it difficult for citizens to know what different governments are doing.	3.14	Moderately Aware
Federalism can lead to corruption.	3.17	Moderately Aware
Federalism will create conflict of authority.	2.93	Moderately Aware
Federalism will promote regionalism. Each state may formulate policies which might detrimental to other regions.	2.74	Moderately Aware
Federalization will create disintegration of the whole republic.	2.66	Moderately Aware
A federal government is very expensive to operate.	2.64	Moderately Aware
The competition among different regions in the federal system, each pursuing its own developmental strategy is bound to have an adverse effect on the overall development of society.	2.59	Moderately aware
Federalism may frame incorrect policies.	2.56	Moderately Aware
Federalism can lead to inequality between the federal regions and lead to unhealthy competition and rivalry between them.	2.54	Moderately Aware
Federalism can lead to duplication of government and inefficient overlapping or contradictory policies in different parts of the country.	2.03	Slightly Aware
Composite Mean	2.70	Moderately Aware

The assessments of respondents as to some features of the Federal form of government showed that they were moderately aware of the disadvantages. The item which state that Federalism can lead to corruption got the highest score while the item which states that Federalism can lead to duplication of government and inefficient overlapping or contradictory policies in different parts of the country got the lowest weighted mean. The influence of news through social media highlighting the threats of federalism created negativity bias where people pay more attention to negative news like disadvantages of federalism. This is supported by the idea of Weiss and Tschirhart who stated that the audience determines the types of media used and the message delivery approach. By enhancing the message with a way to take action, the messaging is actively engaging the audience. The use of the different delivery approaches in the information dissemination awareness campaign will help the public understand the basic information on federalism. Likewise, the discussions on the delicate issues and concerns will be more engaging to the public through the use of media in the awareness campaign.

Table 11: - Comparison on Extent of Awareness on Some Features of Federalism

Profile	Structure		Division of Power		Check and Balance		Fiscal Management		Advantages		Disadvantages	
	t/f-value	Probability Value	t/f-value	Probability Value	t/f-value	Probability Value	t/f-value	Probability Value	t/f-value	Probability Value	t/f-value	Probability Value
Age	14.64**	< 0.01	17.17**	< 0.01	13.60**	< 0.01	16.57**	< 0.01	19.96**	< 0.01	18.71**	< 0.01
Sex	5.76**	< 0.01	3.18**	< 0.01	2.40**	< 0.01	3.15**	< 0.01	4.71**	< 0.01	4.65**	< 0.01
Civil Status	9.57**	< 0.01	6.80**	< 0.01	7.81**	< 0.01	7.09**	< 0.01	8.10**	< 0.01	9.11**	< 0.01
Edu Attain.	46.97**	< 0.01	100.18**	< 0.01	74.46**	< 0.001	96.56**	< 0.01	79.11**	< 0.01	88.04**	< 0.01

** Highly significant

There was a significant difference in the awareness of the respondents on some features of federalism when grouped according to their profile. This is indicative of heterogeneity of the respondents' assessment of federalism. The finding implied that the persons with a higher level of education understand better some features of federalism. They are more interested and knowledgeable about current political issues and have greater time and opportunities to avail of information on what is happening to our country. The highly significant findings showed that the awareness of the respondents on some features of federalism varies when grouped according to their profile variables. The finding implied that the older persons understand the issues on federalism better since they are more concerned and interested in what is happening in our country particularly on political matters. Likewise, persons with a higher level of education understand better some features of federalism. They are more interested and knowledgeable on current political issues because they have greater access to information about federalism.

Proposed Training Program for Awareness Campaign

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher proposed a training program which includes the strategies and activities to be used in the conduct of awareness campaign program. These include partnership development with other agencies, organizations and institutions, creation of core committee, orientation, training, pre and post assessment, mid-exercises, open forum, focus group discussion and simulation. Other activities are updating of standardized data and materials, the invitation of expert consultants, and campaign through social media campaign to intensify awareness on federalism.

Introduction

The Proposed Training Program is anchored on the findings of the study on the awareness of the respondents in the vision/mission, some features and important issues and concerns on federalism. The overall findings revealed that respondents are least aware on some features of federalism, hence, this proposed training program provided a blueprint for the conduct of awareness campaign which can be used by the DILG, LGUs, people's organizations, Youth Organizations, and other interested institutions. To address the weaknesses as revealed in the findings, this proposed training program provides needs analysis, tools, and strategies to ensure the effectiveness of awareness campaign. The use of these strategies will deepen the understanding of the young leaders on the vision/mission and delicate issues inherent in some features of federalism. This will also assist the respondents in making informed decisions when the time for referendum for federalism comes in. The following are the findings and strategies incorporated in the proposed training program. The LGU's, youth organization and people's organizations have varied opinions. Some participants have insufficient knowledge on the vision/mission of federalism. To provide broader and deeper knowledge of the vision /mission of federalism, different tools and strategies were incorporated in the proposed training program. In addressing the result of the vision/mission of federalism, the proposed training program provides three core strategies, awareness, training, and education. Although these three are used interchangeably, they are different at their core. The purpose of awareness is to enhance the knowledge of the participants on the vision/mission of federalism so that they could recognize the principles and delicate issues before making a decision. Awareness activities include brainstorming, pre-assessment using questionnaires on the knowledge of participants on the vision/mission of federalism. This will be followed by an orientation on the vision/mission of federalism focused on federalism principles, some features, delicate issues and stories of some federal countries. Other activities are mid-exercises, progress reports, and development of a solution-based approach followed by data analysis. While training is considered as an excellent approach in awareness campaigns, it does not always work as planned. Thus, there will be pre-training to be participated by volunteers who have attended orientation and who will assist in the preceding awareness campaign. They will undergo a comprehensive training workshop which includes various activities such as leveling of expectations, presentation of training objectives, discussion on federalism by module, assessment, and post-training. After which, assessment of potential trainees for awareness campaign will be done to select a speaker's bureau. Education integrates all the knowledge and competencies acquired during the training. The speaker's bureau will formulate a plan of activities for awareness campaigns on federalism in coordination with the DILG, LGU's, people's organizations and other interested institutions. The target population for awareness campaign is the community residents, academic institutions, and other youth organizations. Education activities include plenary meetings with DILG, LGU, youth leaders and people's organizations for planning and creation of core

committees. This will be followed by the distribution of workload among implementers in the conduct of awareness campaigns on vision/mission on federalism. Other activities are updating of standardized data and materials, the invitation of expert consultants, pre-assessment of knowledge of target population on federalism, open forum on critical issues and concerns related to vision and mission of federalism, and post-assessment. Social media campaigns will also be done to intensify awareness of federalism. Through this proposed training program, the researcher aims to enhance the knowledge of the community residents in the municipalities of Pinamalayan and Bongabong on some features of federalism. This proposed training program is a result of research conducted to determine the extent of awareness of the community residents, LGU's, youth development organization and people's organizations on the vision/mission, some features, issues, and concerns of federalism. The researcher provided strategies that will enhance the awareness campaign program on federalism. This proposed training program may serve as a guide for the DILG, people's organization, and other interested organizations in the conduct of awareness campaigns on federalism.

Objectives

The proposed training program aims to educate the community residents on some important features of federalism under the final draft of the Constitution of the Republic of Bayanihan Pederalismo in coordination with DILG, LGUs, youth development organizations, and people's organizations in strengthening their awareness campaign on federalism. This training program for community residents of Pinamalayan and Bongabong aims to comprehensively explain delicate issues and concerns surrounding federalism. Lastly, the training program will lead the community residents to participate in the discussion of shifting government system to a federal structure.

Specifically, this training program aims to:

1. Ensure massive information awareness on various sectors of the society, down to the barangay level;
2. Improve partnership with other LGUs and private institution in conducting orientations and forum for federalism awareness;
3. Utilize social media for the information campaign program; and
4. Provide standards of assessment support using monitoring and evaluation of the newly formed program.

Content

The content of the awareness campaign program shall provide comprehensive knowledge on the final draft of the Constitution of Bayanihan Pederalismo with specific topics on some features of federalism. Delicate issues and concerns may also be considered in the discussion of the following topics to enlighten the grey areas of federalism.

The federal government structures

The proposed number and composition of federated regions, the composition of federal regions, branches of the government, representations of each region in the national level, creation, composition, and functions of the Regional Assembly, Constitutional Commissions, and Federal Courts.

Division of power focused on the following topics:

Powers to be exercised by the central government and regional state, executive power, regional executive power, federal legislative power, and judicial power.

Check and Balance focused on:

1. Veto and amnesty powers of the president, functions of the Ombudsman, federal supreme court, power of the Congress to prescribe qualifications of the lower court judges, power of the president to contract foreign guarantee loans, and process of impeachment.
2. Fiscal Management
3. Collection of taxes, Monetary and fiscal policy, financial administration and management of the federal region, the share of a federal region in the revenue, equalization of the fund, net revenues in the exploration, development, and utilization of funds.
4. Advantages and Disadvantages
5. Economic, social and political aspects.

Methodology

For optimum learning, adult learning methods shall be utilized such as the following:

- pre and post-assessment
- lecture/discussion
- video presentation
- use of visual aids
- focus group discussion/open forum
- social media

Output

1. The community residents are expected to enhance their knowledge on some features of federalism;
2. The implementers of the program will be able to conduct a series of dialogues or consultation to discuss delicate issues and concerns surrounding federalism;
3. The implementers are expected to recognize the voice of the people in the process of finalizing the federal draft of the Constitution.

Date and venue

The date and venue of the training will be determined by the implementers in coordination with the LGUs concerned.

Participants

The participants of this activity are community residents of Pinamalayan and Bongabong, the first-class municipalities in the second district of Oriental Mindoro.

Budgetary Requirements

The awareness campaign program expenses shall be shouldered by the program implementer which may include DILG, educational institutions, people's organization, and other interested parties. The number of expenses shall depend on the target number of participants. The amount will cover supplies, materials, meals, training modules, transportation, and other miscellaneous expenses. Likewise, it covers the honorarium of the resource speaker.

Responsibility

The activity will be managed by the core committee created by the concerned agency in coordination with the DILG, LGUs, educational institutions, people's organizations and other organizations.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the significant findings of the study, the respondents who mostly belong to the younger generation and who received secondary education have insufficient knowledge of some features of federalism. Likewise, there is a varying level of awareness on the features of federalism when grouped according to profile variables.

Anchored on the conclusions of the study, the following recommendations were derived:

1. Public feedback should be obtained and comments and suggestions of the stakeholders must be considered in improving the draft federal charter.
2. The proposed training program on campaign awareness on federalism is recommended to be used by the DILG, LGU's, people's organizations and other interested agencies/institutions once validated to provide the people sufficient knowledge on the vision/mission, some features of federalism and important issues and concerns.
3. An in-depth study on the possible impact of federalism in the economic, social and political aspects is recommended.

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