

National Identity of Youth in Relation to Their Political Involvement and Voter Turnout

June Young Ahn¹
Monica Aliceson G. Berenguel²
Uihwan Oh³
Marie Antoniette L. Rosete Mde⁴

Abstract

This study investigates the relationship of national identity to political involvement and voter turnout of the Filipino youths wherein national identity is described as a sense of belongingness (Grinder, 2010). When a person has a positive emotional attachment towards his/her own nation - no discrimination involved - is called patriotism (Muller Peters, 1998). To measure and represent their views about national identity, voter turnout and their political involvement was used to be the most appropriate variables to analyze if Filipino youths are considering their national identity as an asset or a liability. This research tests the correlation between national identity to political involvement and voter turnout. This means that if Filipino youth have a high national identity, the more probability that the youth will be interested in the politics encouraging them to vote for their preferred politicians. Data were gathered from a sample of 321 between ages 18 to 25 years old, 3rd year and 4th year commerce students from the University of Santo Tomas where all the students could have registered themselves to vote during the recent election. Students were asked to answer in a 6 Likert scale form where score of 1 shows the lowest and 6 being the highest. Results illustrate that National identity is slightly positively related with political involvement. National identity was also proven with evidence to be positively related with voter turnout but in a relatively lower proportion compared to the rate of political involvement. Therefore, researchers concluded that Filipino youth should go beyond from loving the country through actively involving themselves into current politics and voting their preferred candidates.

Keywords: National Identity, Voter Turnout, Political Involvement, Filipino Youth

¹ College of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines

² College of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines

³ College of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines

⁴ Assist. Prof, College of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Santo Tomas, Philippines