A world without rules, policies and standards is tantamount to a world of chaos. Hence, dated back to ancient times, our ancestors gradually framed a society where peace and harmony exist through established laws and precepts. In the long process of putting the world in order, the early worlds had faced transgressions and conflicts for many of these regulations were subjected to trial before proven correct, valuable and applicable to a certain group of people. Until the humanity had arrived at such era as today’s world where everything ‘seems’ to be in in full order. Since then, the mankind has been circumscribed by the law of the land that at some points contradictory to its purpose liberize certain privileged persons – most often than not, those who were given a high post.

In the Philippine context, RA 6713 also known as Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees from which ethics, integrity and accountability for good governance are underscored governs the morality and conduct of human resource. This only means that as early as 1987, its date of birth, this nation had ensured that the public Filipino workforce adheres to our mandate to “establish a career service, adopt measures to promote morale, efficiency, integrity, responsiveness, and courtesy in the civil service, strengthen the merit and rewards system, integrate all human resource development programs for all levels and ranks, and institutionalize a management climate conducive to public accountability” stated in the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

However, the country has been in constant and what seems to be an interminable battle cry due to acts of deception, corruption and immorality done by the public officials and employees. Appalling as it to express, all offices, agencies and departments had already been tainted with fraudulent stories.
Pessimists claim that we can never outdo this problem and that it is a hopeless case; however, a negative mindset will only worsen the situation. There is still a huge hope to surmount this long-drawn dilemma; if only each of us will contribute.

As I see it, RA 6713 clamors for the education’s crucial role in honing individuals holistically. It is ‘education’ that must be the key to eradicate a world of monkey businesses. Education must intensify the implementation its mandate to develop a person who is Maka-tao, Maka-Diyos, Maka-Kalikasan and Makabayan.

The Pearl of the Orient Seas, as the country is known for, has a rich reservoir of skilled and talented people yet it is not only these two God-given gifts that will make a nation thrive – it is, after all, good character. It is ‘good character’ that enables a person to properly use his or her talents and skills. Take Japan as a great example. The country has inculcated values education in the early years of their basic education. Love for work, respect for fellow men along with many moral lessons are given much weight in the beginning years of a learner. This approach to education is undeniably proven fruitful and effective as Japan is hailed as one of the prosperous countries in the world.

At this moment in time, even in the face of a pandemic, it is such a shame to the young generation that they wake up to news of deceit and turmoil on a daily basis. Leaders who should serve as models are nothing but the culprits that only aggravate every Filipino’s situation. The standards of right and wrong have been twisted for the sake of other people. Justice is only handed to privileged people. Those strong-willed who voiced out what others are afraid to say are being muted. The nation has been tricked to focus on unimportant matters. Every single day, Filipino citizens tirelessly try to get by without the support and understanding of the government, itself.

Only if every Filipino is raised to conform to the norms of conduct that govern the principle of ethics and promotes integrity amidst temptation and mediocrity will the nation be able to surpass its deep-rooted adversities and challenges.
Character education must be put into spotlight once again. It must be treated as important as that of knowledge and competencies. More than ever, these trying times only say that one’s will can easily be swayed.

We, people in the education sector, must work hand in hand to develop a child who believes that his or her skills and talents are only of good purpose if they have been used to promote peace, abundance, just and integrity among humankind.

Reference:
