IDENTITY CRISIS AMONG FILIPINOS

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Identity crisis seems to be one of the many problems that Filipinos are facing unaware, this problem has been deep-rooted since the arrival of Spanish in the island of the Philippines. According to Harper (2010), from different reviews conducted by Far Eastern Economic Review, Reader’s Digest, Harvard Law Review and French Vogue, sociologists and psychologists concluded that Filipinos are experiencing identity crisis because of the methods that are working in other countries became worthless here in the Philippines. Unity among Filipinos seem to be an impossible scenario. If someone will give a time to study the regime of the presidents of the pasts and up to the present, it is agreeable that though each of them promised change but end up like the others.

Relatively, because of colonization of different races there were many influences that shape the lives of the Filipinos, just like polo- an act of building churches and forts without paying the wages of the workers because these Spaniards believed that it is the people’s privilege and it is the payment for the construction of those infrastructures. This still influences the situation of the working forces in the country where workers are still underpaid for the work that they are doing. Teachers are one of the victims of the greedy government who demands for quality education but cannot provide what is appropriate salary for the teachers. Literature often says that teaching is one of the noblest occupations that someone can have, however due to low salary wage, stress of congested classrooms, dealing with hundreds of students a day, this occupation is something you cannot recommend to your children.
After the Spaniards, here came the Americans who designed and name places in the country after their cities and names. It is very sensible that if Filipinos are busy trying to fight for freedom, they cannot create their own identity. People from other countries were attracted to the beauty of the country and they are keep on coming that made a law maker to legalize their immigration resulting to over population of the cities. These squatters influence us in every way, from foods, clothes, religion and up to the attitude toward a situation. Education’s curriculum is also changing from time to time trying to adapt to the changes brought by other races, inclusion of Spanish language then English to Nippongo and now Hangul of Korea.

Teachers in Araling Panlipunan taught us that our ancestors were Malays but later on we learned that they are Austro-Asians. It can be sensed the author’s as well as the country’s confusions, who are we anyway? It is evidently observed that because of our ancestors, our leaders think they are one of the Americans that they have to visit the country once in a while. Let us accept the truth that presidents from the past really did not help the nation to solve the problem about identity crisis because they are busy from their own benefits that can get from the country. The truth is really saddening, instead of building peace, one of them declared civil war, the other one robbed his own country and the one that saved us from dictatorship failed to lead the nation to betterment as she knew nothing about politics and governing.

However, in my point of view, it is not really late to resolve the problem about identity crisis. Filipinos are intelligent, if we will be given right government and opportunities we will not need any help from strangers. If every Filipino will be given quality education and better living opportunities then there is a way that we can act as one.
References:


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