IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING PHILIPPINE HISTORY SUBJECT IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

by:

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As a Filipino citizen and history teacher, learning and teaching Philippine History in High School curriculum is very important. The History of the Philippines is important for students to have knowledge not only the history of our country but also our very identity as a Filipino.

It will serve as a way for the students to have real love for the country which will be a key for having a progressive country.

The loss of Philippine History Subject in High School is one of the reasons why it is easy for some of the Filipinos to believe false historical information about the Philippines History.

In the new K12 curriculum, there is no Philippine History subject in High School, although it can be included in teaching, but it is different if the focus of the teaching is Philippine History itself.

According to Almonte-Acosta S.A. (2011), that “All commonly advocates that schools should aim to develop civic conscience and teach the duties of citizenship, love of country, patriotism, and nationalism.”

Fortunately, some countries in Southeast Asia like Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand are teaching the history of their country in year’s equivalent to the Junior and Senior High School in the Philippines.
The lessons of Philippine History will be the foundation for our country to prosper, learn from experiences and events of history and not to repeat the mistakes of the past.

The elimination of Philippine History Subject in High School will bring ignorance of Philippine History. One of the examples is many of those who watched the movie “General Luna” asked Apolinario Mabini just sat in all his scenes. It is sad to know that of our countrymen do not know enough about our past. The paralysis of Apolinario Mabini, the so-called “the Brain of the Revolution”, they did not know. Perhaps currently some of our citizens also do not really know the person of Jose Rizal.

The Department of Education should pay attention to this, re-evaluate, and bring back Philippine History subject in High School.

Our history is past events and experiences that took place in different chapters of life. It could be story of someone’s life or the history of a war. It can also be the story of a disaster or the history of a government and leaders. Past events like this can provide and teach us insights on how to deal with new events that will come into our lives. Choosing who we will vote for in the coming election is one of the examples, because of reading history we can know the personality of a candidate before we choose him to serve us.

Each of our citizens has a duty and right to know our history with the return of the revisionism will be prevented or reduced and will not use by traditional politicians for personal gain or interest.

At the time when historical misinformation is rampant, historical revisionisms that even some of in higher positions in government propagated historical misinformation.

Let us not let our history forgotten. It is time to return the Philippine History subject in High School.
References:


House Bill Number 8621. “An Act Mandating the Inclusion of Philippine History in the High School Curriculum