YOUNG FILIPINO... PAST AND PRESENT

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“The youth is the hope of our future.”
--Dr. Jose Rizal

This quote from our national hero is one of the most cliché quote that I’ve ever known. I was thinking on a drastic change from the young people of the past compare to the present. When I saw some teens doing some post, upload photos and videos in different social media applications such as Facebook and the likes that affects out values. There are even some teens who spends their night together with their friends without the awareness of their parents. By the way, have you ever observed if there are still young boys and girls who gives courtesy to older persons, such as “pagmamano” or saying “po” and “opo”? Have you ever observe how a teen answer the old ones especially their parents on bad-mannered way?

I just think of how the younger Filipinos spends their time on their generation and compare it on the present generation and compare to some notable people on the past based on some notable factors.

Patriotism -Did you know that General Gregorio Del Pilar, also known as “Goyo” fights for our country at the age of 20 and died at the age of 24? (Possibly, nowadays, most of us still having fun on our college or professional life at the age of 20-24, without any awareness on the issues that this country went through.)
Persistence - Did you know that at the age of 13, John Gokongwei Jr. (founder of JG Summit Holdings, Owner of Cebu Pacific Airlines and Robinsons Mall) started working for this family? After their family fortune lost due to death of his father. Did you know that Sen. Manny Pacquiao, at his teenage years, left his family for Manila in hopes to train as a boxer and establish a career? Nowadays, at that was there any young man or woman aware of helping his/her family??

Values – There is a YouTube video, a video-documentary by Mr. Lourd De Veyra (Broadcast Personality, Musician) entitled “WOTL (Word of the Lourd) – Lumalanding Kabataan” as it tackles the values of the young Filipino on sex, teenage pregnancy, abortion, and if the parents can control their children. How the conservative values of our young people went missing?? How many were juvenile delinquents?? Was there any way we can bring back the good values that were neglected??

What if our national hero is still alive nowadays?? Possibly he will have some regrets on his hopes towards our youth. But I do think that we can solve the problem before it’s too late. We can empower them.

Family and Community have a vital role on empowerment of youth.

1. In the family, as parents or love ones, we have to guide them and listen to their sentiments, and bring them to God.
2. In the community, (based on “What Does it Mean to ‘Empower’ Youth?” by Andrea Boayke & Carmen Procida)
   - Include youth in decision-making processes
   - Honor the youth voice.
   - Understand and implement their honest opinions and ideas.
   - Be willing to share your adult power and privilege in order to make the community a better place for both young people and adults alike.
It’s never too late to make good things right, we can do it with good coordination and trust on God.

References:

https://www.inspiringquotes.us/author/9366-jose-rizal