

VOTER'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Khristopher Ian D. Magboo and Rowena Cristina D. Dela Cruz

CapizState University, Main Campus, Roxas City, Philippines

E-mail: tophemacky@gmail.com, weng_dlcruz@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The need to understand people's participation in a general election gives better understanding of the dynamics of politics in the smallest unit of local government. Political participation, in its active sense, includes participation in political campaigns and debates, attending caucuses or strategy meetings of political parties, voting during elections, standing as candidates for elections and holding of government and party posts (Igwe, 2002).

In the Philippines, the barangay is the smallest unit of local government and it was the objective of this study to determine the level of political participation of the registered voters of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City in terms of wants and needs, political choice, incentives and interests and the political activities participate in.

The study employed descriptive-correlation method with 334 registered voters as respondents. Data was gathered December 2014 using a survey questionnaire. Results showed that political participation was in the form of attendance to meetings, managing campaigns, reading and distributing of leaflets and handouts, attending voter's education programs, poll watching, standing as candidates, holding government post and voting. Registered voters of Barangay Dumology, Roxas City, Philippines had a moderate level of political participation, mostly driven by political choice with high preference for a candidate with good track record, education and performance. Incentives and interest did not motivate their political participation and there was no significant difference in their political participation when grouped according to age, estimated monthly family income and highest educational attainment but has a significant difference when grouped according to sex. Contrary to the report of the United Nations Development Program (2005) that women have lower levels of political participation than men, the women of Barangay Dumolog showed higher political participation attributed to the fact that they receive information first hand and are more informed than men who are out on the sea making a living.

Increased political participation manifests in discussion dialogue, public debates and policy evaluation and formation during campaign periods, and on voting turnouts during election. The Commission on Election may tap the participation of non-government organizations and religious sectors in conducting voter's education programs to enhance voters' political participation.

Keywords: Political Participation, Barangay, Voter's Education

Introduction

The barangay is the smallest local government unit in the Philippines. The people in a barangay compose the voters of a municipality or city. The national and local candidates for different government positions go to the barangays to campaign and hold political caucuses. It is a common scenario in the Philippine politics that barangay voters make or break a candidate at the municipal levels. The participation of the barangay voters is important since their political sentiments matters to local and national issues.

Political participation includes involvement in political campaigns and debates, attending caucuses or strategy meetings of political parties, voting during elections, standing as candidates for elections and holding of government and party posts (Igwe, 2002 as cited by Tamayo, 2011).

According to Velasco (2007), if politics is the problem, then politics is also the answer. There is a need to frame citizen participation in politics and governance as explicitly political project of transforming power relations. Indeed, the very objective of this study is to help in structuring mechanisms to increase the political participation of the people.

The need to understand the people's participation in a general election gives further understanding of the dynamics of politics in the smallest unit of local government and their exercise of their rights of suffrage under 1987 Philippine Constitution. The people in general must take advantage of democracy for not all countries in the world are free to participate directly in the conduct of government affairs especially in choosing government leaders.

Research Problem

This study aimed to determine the level of participation of the registered voters of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City, Capiz, Philippines to the National election held last May 2013.

Specifically, this study sought to answer questions: (1) What is the level of political participation of the registered voters as a whole and in terms of: a) wants and needs; b) political choice; and c) incentives and interests? (2) What are the political activities that registered voters participate in? (3) Are there significant differences in the level of political participation of the registered voters when grouped according to sex, age, estimated monthly family income and educational attainment? (4) Are there significant differences in the level of political activities of the registered voters when grouped according to sex, age, estimated

monthly family income and educational attainment? (5) Are there significant relationships between the level of political participation and political activities of the registered voters? And (6) What inputs can be derived from the results of the study?

This study leaned heavily on the rational choice theory of Richards (2009). Political participation according to rational choice theorists, believed that “a lack of willingness to participate by majority is a sign not of their ignorance, but of their rationality” This theory is based on voters’ wants, needs and interest in participating politically. Participation in this theory is based on the want for change in the political system.

The rational choice theory of Richards is further supported by Rosenstone and Hansen (2003) who opined that people participate in politics not so much because of who they are, but because of the political choices and incentive they are offered. They believe that participation is explained by rational choice theory (RCT), which holds that people behave in whichever way best serves their own self-interest. A rational choice is, thus, the result of calculation above the costs and benefits involved in the options presented in any given decision-making situation (Rosenstone and Hansen, 2003).

Sodaro (2008) validated the theory presented by Rosenstone and Hansen. According to the standard variant of rational choice theory, individual voters are “rational” to the extent that they know what their own preferences and priorities are; they gather as much information as they can about the various candidates and understand their positions on the issues, and they also understand what the likely consequences will be if this or that candidate gets elected and voted for in office. Sodaro (2008) added that some rational theorists have maintained that voters are truly rational only when they seek to promote their own material self-interests. This rather narrow definition stresses personal selfishness as an essential ingredient of rationality.

Conceptual Framework

Independent Variable

Dependent Variable

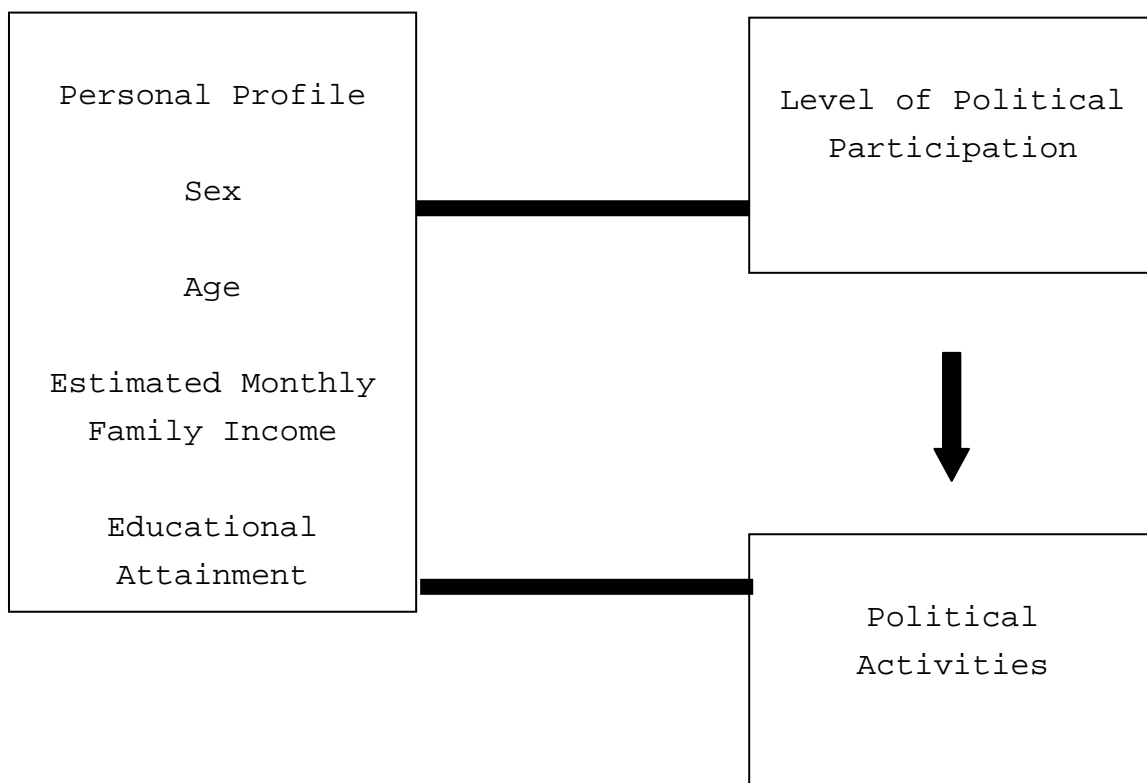


Figure 1. Schematic framework of the relationship between independent and dependent variables.

This study covered 334 out of 2,009 registered voters of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City, Capiz, Philippines who participated in the May 2013 election selected through stratified random sampling. The study was conducted from December 16 to December 29, 2014 at Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City. The researcher utilized a self-made questionnaire and sought the help of field assistants in gathering the needed data which were subjected to both descriptive and inferential analysis. The questionnaire was processed through SPSS and used T-test, Anova and Pearson-r in its analysis.

Review of Related Literature

Political Participation. Citizen becomes involved in the political process in two ways: Participant activities are those in which the average citizen makes some attempt to influence policy making. Subject activities are those, in which the average citizen is involved in policy implementation (Almond. et. Al., 2010).

Sodaro (2008) said that voting is the main form of mass participation in virtually all democratic countries. Voter turnout rates differ from country to country. Although the degree of political participation in democracies can vary considerably, the forms of mass participation are generally the same. Typically they include voting, political parties, interest groups, and social movements.

Sisk et. Al (2001) distinguish traditional participation from enhanced participation. Traditional participation includes representative democracy, standing for office, voting for candidates, active in political parties, election monitoring, communicating with elected officials, and involvement in the legislative or official policy-making process. Enhanced participation includes direct democracy, citizen initiatives, information-gathering, consultation, community decision-making, dispute resolution mechanisms and peace building efforts and involvement in civil society processes. Definitely, enhanced participation occurs in discussion dialogue, debate, and problem-solving in formal or informal processes of policy evaluation and formation. Traditional participation on the other hand occurs through standing for office, voting for candidates, and being involved in the debate over issues decided at the ballot box (Sisk et. al, 2001).

Sisk, et al. (2001) pointed out that there are a variety of reasons for encouraging and facilitating citizen participation and collaboration. Perhaps fundamentally, participation is intrinsic to the core meaning of democracy. It is essential for good governance as it improves information flow, accountability, due process, and gives voice to those most directly affected

by public policy.

Citizen becomes involved in the political process in two ways: 1) Participant activities are those in which the average citizen makes some attempt to influence policy making and 2) Subject activities are those, in which the average citizen is involved in policy implementation (Almond, et al., 2010).

Sodaro (2008) said that voting is the main form of mass participation in virtually all democratic countries. Voter turnout rates differ from country to country. Typically they include voting, political parties, interest groups, and social movements.

Sisk, et al. (2001) distinguished traditional participation from enhanced participation. Traditional participation includes representative democracy, standing for office, voting for candidates, active in political parties, election monitoring, communicating with elected officials, and involvement in the legislative or official policy-making process. Enhanced participation includes direct democracy, citizen initiatives, information-gathering, consultation, community decision-making, dispute resolution mechanisms and peace building efforts and involvement in civil society processes. Definitely, enhanced participation occurs in discussion dialogue, debate, and problem-solving in formal or informal processes of policy evaluation and formation. Traditional participation on the other hand occurs through standing for office, voting for candidates, and being involved in the debate over issues decided at the ballot box (Sisk et. al, 2001).

Sisk, et al. (2001) pointed out that there are a variety of reasons for encouraging and facilitating citizen participation and collaboration. Perhaps fundamentally, participation is intrinsic to the core meaning of democracy. It is essential for good governance as it improves information flow, accountability, due process, and gives voice to those most directly affected by public policy.

Lawson (2005) explained that election is considered one of the most exciting and dramatic phases of the democratic process. Innumerable numbers of public officials are selected by the sovereign people at regular periods to exercise the political authority in the name of the people and for the people. Their offices are the bastions over which election battles are waged – centers of political leadership and power.

Sodaro (2008) said that there are numerous factors that affect voter turnout. In addition to personal attributes such as one's educational level, interest in the campaign, sense of political efficacy, patterns of voter turnout are also affected by such things as voter registration requirements, the tightness of race, the effectiveness of political parties in getting

out the vote, and even the day of the week on which elections are held.

Velasco (2007) said that in an ideal world, elections are won by convincing platforms and credible track records of public service. Every vote is counted, squarely and accurately. Electoral fraud and intimidation are unheard of. In between elections, civil society groups participate by monitoring elected officials' performance, engaging them critically in the policy-process and hammering out community development plans. She added further that if the politicians do not own up to their campaign promises, support shifts to the incumbent's challenger in the next election.

Political Participation and Sex. The women's role in the society has expanded to equal that of men. Studies showed that men tend to be more active participants than women. This was largely because women's average education level was lower than that of men. Since, education gap between them closed. Participation at the same time performance of women is now about the same as that of men (Mckenna, 2007).

In most developing countries and even in most economically developed democracies of North America, Europe, and elsewhere, women have lower levels of economic activity and lower level of political participation than men, at times substantially so. Around the world and throughout history, women have often treated as inferior to men. Social customs and laws have enforced discrimination. Until relatively recently, even in developed countries, women have been barred from such societal participation as owning property, holding public office and voting (Jackson and Jackson, 2009).

Political Participation and Age. The result in California Voter Participation Survey (2005) informs that non voters are the youngest group, with two in five under 30 years old and a strong majority (59%) under 40 years old. Frequent voters are the oldest, with only 14% under 30 and 28% under 40. Almost half of frequent voters are over 50, compared to just 23% of non voters. Put another way, non voters are three times as likely to be over 65.

Some observers explain by using the "life experience" hypothesis, which holds that as people grow older they acquire resources that promote political participation. They gain experience, knowledge, skills, and social connections that better prepare them to take part in the democratic process (Rosenstone and Hansen, 2003).

Urban poor associations provide electoral support to power-hungry candidates based on cool calculations that factor in the candidate's propensity to deliver infrastructure projects once in power, their wider political circles and demonstrated support for urban issues (Velasco, 2007).

According to Sodaro (2008), as a general rule, people tend to vote primarily in

accordance with their socio-economic status. Wealthier people tend to vote more than less well-to-do voters. While income level frequently play a major role in influencing how people vote, so do variables such as party identification, ethnicity, religion, gender, age and ideology.

Political Participation and Income. Gree and Gerber (2008) claimed that both voting are correlated with income. Email usage is common among registered voters. The persons who voted in the highest proportions were persons with high incomes and high levels of formal education, persons in the professional and managerial occupations, and persons living in metropolitan areas (Ranney, 2000).

Boundless (2014) provides that independently, income has some effect on whether or not people vote. Wealthier people are more likely to vote, regardless of their educational background. Wealthier and better educated people tend to vote more often, participate more in political activities, and donate more money to causes than poorer or less educated people. They also have greater access to the resources that facilitate political activity, including contact with people in powerful positions.

Gigawin (2004) revealed in his study that monthly income level significantly predicts voting behavior. Several studies on voting have shown that those with higher incomes are more likely to vote. Lero (2008) explained that communities with lower incomes are more likely to vote because they more susceptible to political operators and electoral fraud mechanisms. Unlike those with higher incomes who may engage in the political process through personal connections or civic involvement, voting remains the major way low-income people can be involved in the political process.

Gigawin (2004) claimed that the monthly income level of a voter usually goes with his educational attainment. Thus, the higher the monthly income level, the higher the educational attainment a voter has and the more favorable his behavior will be when the effects of candidate's personality, the things he can derive from voting, and the issues involved during elections are presented to him.

Highest Educational Attainment. Jackson and Jackson (2009) explain that a country's education represents an important path to political power. In developed societies political leaders tend to be the product of a few elite universities, and individuals who attain such an education are primarily from the middle class. Screening biases typically leave the working classes politically underrepresented even in countries where schools are free and open to all.

The ability to make comparative analysis on political ideologies and to take interest in political news is strong among college-educated people. Furthermore, college educated people are also like to have more skills and conducts that promote political involvement, form which can flow consistent opinions (Patterson and Halter, 2006).

In countries rocked by internal strives and conflicts brought about by diverse culture, religious, ethnic groups, races, dialects, creeds, loyalties, or social classes, the school is tasked with exploring ways and means of reducing if not totally eliminating friction and conflicts brought by racial, religious, ideological or socio-political biases and prejudices. The school is expected to be an agency to bring about national solidarity and love of country by integrating different groups in order that they will adopt a common national ideology, national consciousness, and national identity (San Juan and Centeno, 2011).

Ranney (2000) explained that persons who voted in the highest proportions were persons with high incomes and high levels of formal education, persons in the professional and managerial occupations, and persons living in metropolitan areas

The very recent study conducted by Caldea (2014) revealed that the voters in Pawa, Panay, Capiz when they are taken as a group are idealistic in their voting attitude. The voters tend to chooses candidates based on their personal qualities and image projected by that candidate. They have a high preference for a candidate with good track record, good educational background, has knowledge in governance and who possesses approachable personality. It was found out also in the same study that the idealistic voting attitude demonstrated by majority of the respondents indicates that voters are rational in their basis for choosing a political candidate.

Methodology

The descriptive-correlation method was used in the study. The study was conducted at Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City. The respondents were the 334 registered voters of the barangay chosen using stratified random sampling from the list of voters taken from the office of the Commission on Elections of Roxas City.

Table 1. Respondents of the study.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Sex:		
Male	153	45.8

Female	181	54.2
Total	334	100
Age:	5	1.50
18 years old	73	21.10
19-29 years old	227	68.00
30-60 years old	29	8.70
61 years old and above	334	100
Total	224	67.10
Estimated Monthly Income:	74	22.20
Php 1,000 - 5,000	6	1.80
Php 5,001 - 10,000	8	2.40
Php 10,001– 20,000	334	100
Php 30,000 and above		
Total		
Highest Educational Attainment:	8	2.40
No Formal Schooling	79	23.70
Elementary Level	128	38.30
High School Level	95	28.40
College Level	18	5.40
Vocational Graduate	6	1.80
Post Graduate	334	100

Total

The stratified random sampling method was utilized in selecting the actual total respondents. The Sloven's formula was utilized to get the sample size of the respondents.

$$N_i = N_T \frac{1}{1 + N_T (e)^2}$$

Where:

N_i = Sample Size

N_T = Total Number of the Population

e = Margin of error

The pure random sampling or lottery type sampling was used to determine the sample size. The sampling was taken from the 2,009 registered voters of Barangay Dumolog based on the data provided by the Commission on Election.

The research instrument used to gather data was specifically structured to answer the objectives of the study which is to describe and analyze the level of political participation of the registered voters in the election. The researcher employed a self-made questionnaire. The questionnaire composed of two parts: part I gathered data about the personal profile of the respondents. Part II consisted of data about the level of political participation of the respondents in terms of wants and needs, political choice and incentives and interests while part III received data about political activities that the registered voters participated in.

The instrument was submitted to a panel of experts for validity evaluation, which included the school administrator and two professors from Capiz State University, Main Campus. Some modifications were made on the instruments based on the corrections and suggestions.

The questionnaire was also subjected to a reliability test. Thus the Cronbach alpha of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences or SPSS was utilized to measure the reliability of the instrument. The instrument was pre-tested to 30 respondents of another barangay, Barangay Baybay, Roxas City. The results showed an alpha coefficient of .914 for the part II of the questionnaire and .812 for part III which mean that all parts of the instruments are reliable.

After the validity and reliability of the questionnaire, the instrument was reproduced and distributed to the respondents. The list of the registered voters was secured from the

Commission on Elections from which the number of population sample and actual respondents of the study were based.

The researcher sent a letter to the Punong Barangay of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City to seek his approval to conduct the survey. After the approval, field assistants were tapped and utilized to do house visits and individually conducted the questionnaire to the selected registered voters. Once accomplished, these were immediately submitted for encoding, consolidation, processing and analysis.

The gathered data were processed and to facilitate analysis, the raw data were scored using the scoring guide as basis. The items on level of political participation and level of political activities were scored as follows:

Score	Score Interval	Response	Verbal
Categories	Interpretations		
5	4.45-5.00	Always	Very High
4	3.45-4.44	Often	High
3	2.45-3.44	Sometimes	Moderate
2	1.45-2.44	Rarely	Low
1	1.00-1.44	Never	Very Low

After the conduct of the survey, responses to the questionnaire were collated and prepared for presentation, analysis and interpretation. The descriptive statistics used were frequency count, mean and percentage to describe the number of observation recorded in the respondents' characteristics. Frequency count and mean were utilized to describe the level of political participation of the respondents and the political activities that the registered voters participate.

For inferential purposes, the statistical tool that was utilized was t-test at 0.05 level of significance in order to determine the differences on the extent of political participation and

political activities when the registered voters were grouped according to sex. The one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to measure the significant differences in the level of political participation and political activities of the registered voters when they were grouped according to their age, estimated monthly family income, and educational attainment. Pearson r was used to determine the significant relationship between the level of political participation and political activities of the registered voters.

The level of significance was set at alpha 0.05. Statistical data were computer processed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences.

Findings

Level of Political Participation When Taken as a Whole

As a group the voters scored highest in political choice. This implies that the political participation of the registered voters of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City was driven by political choice. This result was consistent to the claim of Rosenstone and Hansen (2003) that people participate in politics not so much because of who they are but because of the political choices they are offered. They believe that participation is explained by their rational choice which holds that people behave in whichever way it serve them best.

Level of Political Participation of the Voters in terms of Wants and Needs, Political Choice and Incentives and Interests

The registered voters of Barangay Dumolog, Roxas City had a low level of political participation as a whole. Data gathered discloses that despite the low political participation in terms of wants and needs, and on campaigning for scholarship or promise of job, the voters registered highest score in political participation. This result implied that the registered voters exercise their rights of suffrage and promises made by politicians were not the reason for their political participation.

The level of political participation of the voters in terms of their political choice was moderate. It further shows that the voters got highest mean score in “voting during the election because the incumbent candidate has good track records or performance” while the lowest mean score was taken from “voting during the election because of the endorsements of the religious groups.” The result was in consonance to the very recent study of Caldea (2014) that voters in Pawa, Panay, Capiz had a high preference for a candidate with good track record, good educational background, has knowledge in governance and who possesses

approachable personality. If they are informed of the good performances of the candidates, they may tend to participate more and, this may improve their participation during elections.

In terms of incentives and interests, results showed that the level of political participation of the registered voters was low. The item statement that got the highest mean was taken from voting during the elections because the candidate resides or has ancestral roots in their barangay, city or province. On the other hand, the item statement that got the lowest mean was voting during election because of job or scholarship with verbal interpretation of low level of political participation. Incentives and interests did not motivate their political participation.

Political Activities that the Registered Voters Participate

The two most participated political activity were voting during elections and reading of leaflets and handouts with a very high and moderate level of political participation respectively.

Difference between Political Participation and Political Activities of the Respondents when Grouped According to Demographic Profile

When the respondents are grouped according to sex, results showed that there was a significant difference as to the level of participation and political activities of the registered voters in favor of the female respondents. The result contradicts with the report of the United Nations Development Program (2005) that women have lower levels of political participation than men. One of the reasons why women tend to participate more in the political processes was because they were more informed about the election as compared to men. Most men in Barangay Dumolog were concerned about making a living while women remained in their homes to take care of their household. The women received information first hand and have more chances of attending the different political activities compared to men.

The respondents were grouped according to age and results showed that there was no significant difference as to the level of political participation and political activities of the registered voters when they are grouped according to their age, estimated monthly family income and highest educational attainment.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions are hereby presented:

The level of political participation of the registered voters was generally low but was very high during casting of votes. The registered voters had the least participation in volunteering as campaign managers or poll watchers.

There was no significant difference in the level of political participation of the registered voters when grouped according to age, estimated monthly family income and highest educational attainment. However, there is a significant difference in the level of political participation when they are grouped according to sex with the women having a higher political participation than men.

Finally, the level of political participation of the registered voters and their political activities are said to be significantly related to each other.

The conclusions of the present study led to certain implications.

The level of political participation of the registered voters was generally low. This only implied that there is a need to improve their political participation in order for them to fully appreciate their rights of suffrage as granted by the Constitution of the Philippines.

The registered voters were driven by political choices rather than needs or incentives. This implied that the voters were not enticed by money, gifts, material promises, or favors to participate in the different political activities.

It was found out that the registered voters had a very high level of political participation during casting of votes. This implied that on the day of the election, the registered voters go to the polling precincts and actively participate in choosing the next leaders of the country. However, they failed to engage themselves to volunteer as campaign managers or poll watchers.

It was in the result that females tend to participate more compared to males in different political activities. This is attributed to the fact that women at Barangay Dumolog were left in their homes to take care of the household while men were busy earning a living for their families making them available to receive first hand information and participate in political activities.

Age, income and education of the registered voters did not affect their political participation. This is a positive indicator that they are responsible citizens and their political participation is not affected by such factors as age, income or education.

Since there was a significant relationship between political participation and political activities, results implied that if the people were motivated to participate in the different political activities, their level of political participation may also improve.

Recommendations

Mechanisms and programs such as intensive information dissemination, holding of public rallies in the barangay or conducting voter's education program that are carefully designed to engage registered voters in participating in the different political activities maybe undertaken to increase political participation. These activities may encourage residents to participate during elections as watchers and help prevent anomalies and safeguard votes.

In order to strengthen the participation of the people in attending voter's education programs, the Commission on Election may conduct intensive public information dissemination to explain the importance of voter's education programs. The COMELEC may also tap the participation of non-government organizations and the religious sectors in conducting voter's education programs.

The Department of Education may include in the school's curriculum the voter's education program. This may be included as a topic in AralingPanlipunan or Social Science subjects. Book authors may look into strengthening the sense of patriotism and nationalism through responsible voting. The importance of participating in different political activities and helping in safeguarding the precious votes of the people during election may also be given emphasis.

References

- Almond, Gabriel A. 2010. *Comparative politics today: A world view*. United Kingdom: Pearson Books. 9th edition.
- Buenavista, Kristine. 2005. *The level of political participation of the artian students in the University of San Agustin Student Council election*. unpublished undergraduate thesis. University of San Agustin. Gen. Luna St. Iloilo City.
- Caldea, Arlette. 2014. *Voter's attitude towards candidates and voting practices in Pawa, Panay, Capiz: A basis for a voter's education program*. Unpublished graduate thesis, Colegio de la Purisima Concepcion, Roxas City.
- California Voter Foundation. 2005. *California voter participationsurvey*. <http://www.calvoter.org>. Retrieved December 3,2014.
- Gigawin, Randy. 2004. *Voting behavior of voter's in Banica,RoxasCity*.Unpublished master thesis. Filamer Christian University, Roxas City.

- Gree, Donald P. and Gerber, Alan S. 2008. *Get out the vote: How to increase voter turnout.* USA: Brookings Institution Press. 2nd Edition.
- Igwe, Obasi. 2002. *Politics and Globe Dictionary*, Jamoe Enterprises Nigeria, Enugu.
- Jackson, R. and Jackson, D. 2009. *A comparative introduction to political science (Value pack with my research lab).* USA: Pearson Publishing Co.
- Klein, Hans. 2005. *The right to political participation and the information society.* Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA.
- Lawson, Kay. 2005. *The human polity: A comparative introduction to political science.* Boston: Houghton MifflinCo.
- Lero, Cecilia. 2008. Election forensics – The effect of socioeconomic characteristics on voting behavior in the Philippines. wordpress.com/2008/07/lero-election-forensics-june-2008.pdf; Retrieved September 9, 2012.
- Mckenna, George. 2007. *The drama of democracy: American government and politics.* Connecticut: The Dushkin Publishing Group. 3rd Edition.
- Nachura, A. E. 2009. *Outliner/Reviewer in political law.* Quezon City, Philippines: VJ Graphic Arts, Inc.
- National Association of Secretaries of states. 2006. *New millennium survey; American youth attitudes on politics, citizenship, government and voting.*
- Patterson, Thomas and Halter Gary M. 2006. *The American democracy.* NY: McGraw-Hill Higher Edition.
- Ranney, Austin. 2000. *Governing: an introduction to political science.* Singapore: Prentice Hall.
- Richards, Greg. 2009. *State and society: political participation.* www.Geocities.com. Web Retrieved May 20, 2014.
- Rosenstone, Steven J. and Hansen John Mark. 2003. *Mobilization, participation, and democracy in America.* Longman Publishing Co.
- Salao, Ernesto C. 2005. *The 1987 constitution of the Republic of the Philippines including the Omnibus Election Code.* Manila: Rex Bookstore.
- San Juan, Wilfredo R. and Centeno, MA. Luz J. 2011. *General sociology (With anthropology and family planning): A conceptual, experiential and interactive*

approach. Mandaluyong City: Books Atbp. PublishingCorp.

Sisk, Timothy. 2001. Democracy at the local level: The international idea handbook on participation, representation, conflict management, and governance. International IDEA, Stronborg, SE 10334 Stockholm, Sweden.

Socioeconomic Factors. Boundless Political Science.

2014.Boundless,14Nov.2014.<https://www.boundless.com/political-science/textbooks/boundless-political-science-textbook/political-participation-and-voting-9/why-people-vote-68/socioeconomic-factors-375-7635/>; Retrieved December 11, 2014.

Sodaro, Michael J. 2008, Comparative politics: A global introduction. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Tamayo, Ma. Rosario (2011). Women's political participation in the Province of Batangas. Published material in the International Peer Reviewed Journal Volume 2 September 2011. International Association of Multidisciplinary Research Journal Social Science Section.

Then Rolf H.W. and Wilson Frank Lee. 2001. Comparative politics:An introduction to seven countries. Upper Saddle River; NJ: Prentice Hall. 4th Edition.

United Nations Development Program. 2005. Human development program 2005. New York: UNDP.

Velasco, Djourina. 2007. Marginalized groups and political participation: perspectives from the Philippines. Society for international development. www.sidint.org/development. Retrieved December 28, 2014.

Wolfinger, Raymond E. and Rosenstone, Steven J. 2014. Who Votes?. USA: Yale University PR.