

Invest in a Peaceful World

(Original)

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I have no choice; I was born Filipino. In the Philippines, my countrymen have a dictum that, "When the blanket is short, learn to curl for you to fit in it" at first I cannot understand what its meaning is and thought it is just an old chestnut. Until I see a dark, thorny, everyone is looking for help, judgement where there is no peace at all and crying for the life, they have but still in the place of suffering; silence, suddenly a voice in my head says: I'm not dreaming, it is not a fantasy because this is the reality.

When I was a child, instead of playing, my family pushed me to study well, so that I could be lifted out of poverty. It will also help my stand up against the harshness of the outside world wherein anyone can discriminate against you. In my life, there were times that I need to endure the days that we do not have any food on the table and going to school with only 5 pesos pocket money from my uncle whose job is a tricycle driver. Another instance is that our family must stand by for sunset until the electricity finally lights the house. These experiences left a non-pleasant mark on my memory.

Later, by the age of 14 I'm already a high school student and believe it or not, I become mature at a very young age. I am under pressure from society, in fact one of my neighbours slandered my future. She said that I was born poor, I will live and die poor and my family do not have any chance to surpass poverty. I was hurt by that, but it became my motivation to where I linked myself beyond boundaries. I know it is hard for me to race with intelligent students, but I said I needed to become one of them - so I did. Additionally, even though I did not like to be a babysitter, I have to put up with it for money. When I thought that every bad thing has dragged me, I cried and asked myself, "Is this the life I wanted?" Then I realized, there are people I did not see throughout my journey and that's my countrymen. I took to opening my eyes widely and clearly, it was so sad to see people

craving for a better living.

The fingers of mine pointed at me, I understand that education is not only simply studying and learning but it is a way we can make change and foster my country. I started taking ABM since I want to have a company or a business. I want to make an opportunity for those people who are unemployed, poor to have work and OFW so they do not need to go outside the Philippines. Not only that, I want to become rich in my own country not because I want to be popular but to use my money to help in donating it to DSWD in supporting every child in the street to have a permanent home for them. I will establish a new program called Uphillipino where I can have feeding programs, housing projects, and educational assistance for all Filipinos. I will use my voice to motivate and inspire others to take action and make life better. If we managed to do this, we no longer have to curl just to be fit in the world because we will make a blanket that scopes the whole universe in every way.

I realized and understood that we cannot change society, but we can change ourselves to have a better world. Life is not about how many battles you have won but how many losses you still stood up and fought. No one can limit your goals, not others, not the problems. We can finally say, "Even I have choice, I'm proud to be a Filipino and this is where I belong". By seeing these difficulties, I do not want poverty to have a pulse, we need to kill it before it kills us!