# THE IMPACT OF OPLAN TOKHANG TO THE SURRENDEREES IN NABUNTURAN: BASIS FOR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Cris Leo J. Bollifer<sup>1</sup>, Jocel Jy M. Lagrada,<sup>2</sup> Kyla Crystel P. Horcasitas<sup>3</sup>, and Amparo L. Besagas<sup>4</sup>

UM Tagum College, Philippines

1,2,3Students, Department of Criminal Justice Education

4Faculty, Criminal Justice Program

1,2,3,4rpctagum@umindanao.edu.ph

#### **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed to determine the impact of oplan tokhang program to the Surrenderees in Nabunturan. Likewise, the study underscored the effectiveness of the said program in order to develop an enhancement scheme. A researcher- made questionnaire was administered to the identified Surrenderees who were selected through random sample technique. The gathered data revealed that both the PNP and community residents consider its effectiveness as very effective in encouraging drug users to voluntarily surrender, makes the drug users feel safe, a measure for self-rehabilitation, reduces the number of drugs.

**Keywords:** BS Criminology, oplan tokhang program, surrenderees descriptive study, Philippines.

#### INTRODUCTION

The War on Drugs pertains to the war against on individuals who are involved in illegal drugs, which experience addiction and abused medical condition. It is a rampant phenomenon happening nowadays and denotes negative issues in the community that lead to a very controversial issue. Its prevalence is needed to be given attention of citizens, officials, society, and the world (Tevik, K. et al., 2017).

This study entitled War on Drugs on the Lens of Barangay Officials is anchored from the following theories: The Just War Theory by Thomas Aquinas; Consensus Theory formulated by Emile Durkheim; Social Control Theory conceptualized by Travis Hirschi. Essentially, it is also a guiding foundation using Jeremy Bentham's work applying and analyzing the ethical theory of utility that describes the total pleasure which is derived from deeds and actions. Hence, it is important to note that securing the happiness of the greatest number of people is vitally more given attention thereby laws are created not to confer pain but to secure the greatest happiness of everyone.

This study is very alarming happening nowadays not just in urban but also in the rural areas. The prevalence of the use of drugs with addiction potential among people is known to be high and could cause many problems. It is also considered to be one of the root cause problems of the world affecting people, countries, its growth and development, and various institutions (Nurs, 2018).

Abusing chemical substances, like narcotic and illegal drugs, could severely affect a person. Specifically, it could lead to mental and physical health problems, including depression, anxiety, moral and social illnesses which are all considered as major public concerns not just in the United States but also the other countries across the continents. Unfortunately, those individuals being or feeling pressured, who experienced problems or conflicts in his/her

surroundings and personal life are oftentimes divert oneself to use drugs in order to lessenthe excruciating pains, struggles, poverties, and problems encountered (Berendt, 2011).

With the continuing usage and taking of abused, illegal drugs could cause societal problems and drug addiction. Drug addiction is one of the leading disorder with very high prevalence and devastating social, medical, moral, and financial consequences for the affected individuals commonly referred to us as drug addict or drug user. Drug users/addicts are referred as the ills of the society as they could not contribute to the growth and progress of the state. Additionally, according to the law authorities, drugs are an evil forces which must be eliminated completely (Hagele, 2014; Alexandrispolomarkakis, 2017).

This study aimed to determine the effectiveness of Oplan Tokhang to the Surrenderees. Specifically, it sought to answer the following:

- 1. To assess the Level of Oplan Tokhang to the Surrenderees in terms of:
  - 1.1 New opportunity;
  - 1.2 Peaceful lives; and
  - 1.3 Financial Literacy
- 2. To propose an enhancement program based on the result of the study.

#### **METHOD**

This section presents the respondents of this study, instrument, and research procedures observed by the study.

# **Research Respondents**

This study utilized random sampling technique in selecting research respondents about 140. They were informed as to the

nature of data gathering procedure as well as the purpose of the study conducted.

## Research Instrument/Material

A validated researcher-made questionnaire was utilized to retrieve data from the identified research respondents. This survey deals on the quantitative data about the said phenomena if it's truly exist (Fisher, 2017). The quantitative aspects are an appropriate schedule for gathering data designed for the target respondents to answer the questions. The process of gathering the data was based through the use of questionnaire. The focus of this study is to determine impact of Oplan Tokhang to the surrenderees in Nabunturan.

## Research Design and Procedure

This study used a quantitative non-experimental research design technique. This method is appropriate since the study intends to describe the status of the situation as it is existing at the time of the study to explore the causes of a particular phenomenon. In correlation research, it involves collecting data in order to determine whether the degree of relationship exist between two or more quantifiable variables (Gay, 2006).

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the results of the study according to the research objective raised by the study.

## Level of Effectiveness of Oplan Tokhang Program

Shown in table 1 are the mean scores for the indicators of oplan tokhang with an overall mean of 4.70 describe as very high with a standard deviation of 0.32 described of very high level could be attributed to the high rating given by the respondents in all indicators. This

means that the Impact of Oplan Tokhang to the surrenderees in Nabunturan, Davao de Oro is very much Observed.

This cited overall mean score is the result gathered from the following computed mean scores from highest to lowest: 4.77 or very high for public education with a standard deviation of 0.32; 4.70 or very high for new opportunity with a standard deviation of 0.34; 4.68 or very high for financial literacy with a standard deviation of 0.37. 4.65 or very high for peaceful lives with a standard deviation of 0.44.

Table 1. Level of Oplan Tokhang

Indicators	Mean	SD	Descriptive Level	
New Opportunity	4.70	0.34	Very	High
Peaceful Lives	4.65	0.44	Very	High
Financial Literacy	4.68	0.37	Very	High
Public Education	4.77	0.32	Very	High
Overall	4.70	0.32	Very	High

The main oplan tokhang that was observed among surrenderees in Nabunturan were the public education the first indicator who also possess a high mean result, it helps the surrenderers become better citizens, get a better-paid job, shows the difference between good and bad. Education shows the importance of hard work and, at the same time, helps us grow and develop. Thus, we are able to shape a better society to live in by knowing and respecting rights, laws, and regulations. Education certainly determines the quality of an individual's life. Education improves one's knowledge, skills and develops the personality and attitude. Most noteworthy, Education affects the chances of employment for people. A highly educated individual is probably very likely to get a good job.

This followed by New Opportunity, being the indicator with the second highest mean, new opportunity can open doors to other things, new friends, new ideas and a new confidence in life. Change can bring excitement or fear of the unknown- and that's usually due to whether the opportunity is predictable or takes us by surprise. New opportunity may force people into new roles and new ways of doing things. At the same time, change makes people give up established and valued ways of functioning; for many individuals, their sense of identity is linked to these established behaviors.

In terms of Financial Literacy, being the indicator with third highest mean, educating your kids from the start about spending money the right way is as essential as teaching good manners and habits. Financial literacy leads to savings for specific goals and spending only on what's necessary and what you can afford. It helps us understand the value of money so we can handle our finances better. Being financially literate will teach us the importance of budgeting and saving. We can better understand between our wants and needs and can prioritize things according to their essence in our daily lives. Financial literacy is important because it equips us with the knowledge and skills, we need to manage money effectively. Without it, our financial decisions, and the actions we take—or do not take—lack a solid foundation for success.

Lastly, in terms of peaceful lives, Peace nurtures the hope of forgiveness, community and reunion with those with whom we share the planet. The peace of many people together is big. When we see ourselves as separate from our community and from nature, then violence and strife arise. A peaceful life is a life that is lived with a balanced harmony inside you, and around you. It means that you feel content with whatever is going on in your life or around you, and nothing, and no one can disturb this inner peace of yours. Because all of life is interconnected, our fear, hatred and anger decrease the peace in the world, whereas our love, joy and gratitude increase the peace. Why is peace important?

Without it, the destructive tendencies of our species will continue to inch us closer to catastrophe. The respondents' responses on the level of oplan tokhang to the surrenderees in nabunturan appears on a very high level. This means that Oplan Tokhang to the surrenderees in Nabunturan, Davao de Oro is very much Observed.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) has finalized its operational guidelines for the revival of Oplan Tokhang. The PNP created the new operational guidelines to ensure that cops can no longer commit errors that might lead to the deaths of some civilians. The recently finalized guideline has two ways of conducting Oplan Tokhang.

The primary oplan tokhang that was seen among surrenderees in Nabunturan were the government funded schooling the principal marker who additionally have a high mean outcome, it helps the surrenderers become better residents, improve paid work, shows the contrast among great and awful. Schooling shows us the significance of difficult work and, simultaneously, assists us with developing and create. Along these lines, we can shape a superior society to live in by knowing and regarding privileges, laws, and guidelines. Schooling surely decides the nature of a singular's life. Schooling works on one's information, abilities and fosters the character and disposition. Generally essential, Education influences the odds of work for individuals. An exceptionally instructed individual is presumably liable to find a decent line of work.

This followed by New Opportunity, being the marker with the second most noteworthy mean, new chance can open ways to different things, new companions, novel thoughts and another trust throughout everyday life. Change can bring fervor or dread of the obscure and that is as a rule because of whether the chance is unsurprising or shocks us. New freedom might compel individuals into new jobs and better approaches for getting things done. Simultaneously, change makes individuals surrender set up and esteemed methods of working; for some people, their feeling of personality is connected to these set up practices.

As far as Financial Literacy, being the marker with third most noteworthy mean, instructing your children from the beginning with regards to going through cash the correct way is just about as fundamental as showing great habits and propensities. Monetary education prompts investment funds for explicit objectives and spending just on what's essential and what you can bear. It assists us with understanding the worth of cash so we can deal with our accounts better. Being monetarily proficient will show us the significance of planning and saving.

In conclusion, as far as quiet lives, Peace sustains the desire for pardoning, local area and gathering with those with whom we share the planet. The tranquility of many individuals together is enormous. At the point when we consider ourselves to be independent from our local area and from nature, then, at that point, brutality and struggle emerge. A quiet everyday routine is a daily existence that is experienced with a fair amicability inside you, and around you. It implies that you feel content with whatever is happening in your life or around you, and nothing, and nobody can upset this inward tranquility of yours. Since all of life is interconnected, our dread, disdain and outrage decline the harmony on the planet, though our affection, happiness and appreciation increment the harmony. For what reason is harmony significant? Without it, the damaging inclinations of our species will keep on crawling us nearer to disaster.

#### Conclusion

Based on the findings of the study, conclusions are drawn in this section. The level of Oplan Tokhang was very high for new opportunity, peaceful lives, financial literacy and Public Education and the overall mean of high for level of Oplan Tokhang. Also, we conclude that the Oplan Tokhang in Nabunturan were very much observed, the surrenderees were very cooperative, transparent and encourage open communication with their barangays, provide constructive feedback and not criticism, encourage innovation, develop trust, foster a positive work culture and maintain work ethics.

#### Recommendations

In the light of the foregoing findings and conclusions, the following recommendations are offered; PDEA/ Police Officials may conduct seminars- workshop on the best Oplan Tokhang to be observed and practiced within the community setting by the personnel to maintain the good communication between them and the community as a sign of respect. Moreover, the head of the Barangay may continue to improve in building up a better harmonious relationship environment among themselves together with the community. The Oplan Tokhang in Nabunturan may be raised to a very high level by providing more motivation to the surrenderees. This can be done by setting up formal and informal structures of awarding or rewarding the surrenderees.

# **Proposed Enhancement Program**

### Rationale

Since all the indicators of Oplan Tokhang have a very high mean level, we concluded making up an enhancement program for all of the indicators. Because we saw that oplan tokhang has an essential factor for all surrenders. The Oplan Tokhang, as the campaign against illegal drug use, gathered data revealed that both the PNP and community residents consider edits effectiveness as "very effective" in encouraging drug users to surrender voluntarily, making the drug users feel safe, a measure for self-rehabilitation reduces the number of drugs.

# **General Objectives**

The primary purpose of the proposed action plan is to embed a systematic and consistent approach psychological needs of an army and take advantage of potential opportunities while managing possible adverse effects and some helpful action plans and decision aids.

## 2022 Edition | THE PENDULUM | Vol. 17, Issue 1

#### **MATRIX OF ACTIVITIES**

The matrix activity shows the collection of numbers arranged into a fixed number of rows and columns corresponding with its activities above, showing the key result areas, objectives, strategies/activities, expected outcome, and persons involved that may consider the range of possible approaches generated to comeup with an action plan that may be utilized to address the identified issue concerning the psychological needs of an army.

The purpose of the matrix is to provide preliminary guidelines for creating a consistent and proper dissemination method of assessing psychological needs in each indicator to come up with potential opportunities while managing possible adverse effects, as well as the essential decision aids in managing risks.

## Matrix of Activities

KEY RESULT AREAS	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES ACTIVITIES	PERSONS INVOLVED	EXPECTED OUTCOME
New Opportunity	To be accepted by everyone. To be a better person.	Find new job. To engage in community	Surrenderees	To build a good relationship within the community
Peaceful Lives	To have a family. To live peacefully.	Socialize with others Build friendship.	Surrenderees	To live peacefully without vices.
Financial Literacy	To be financially stable. To know how to budget money.	Save more money Budget the money	Surrenderees	To be financially stable and afford things I want to buy.
Public Education	To be able to understand the things that I am not able to understand.	Attend seminars Enroll in school	Surrenderees	To learn something new.

#### REFERENCES

- Alexandris Polomarkakis, K. (2017). Drug law enforcement revisited: The "war" against the war on drugs. Journal of Drug Issues, 47(3), 39 404
- Beale, L. (2018). IT'S TOUGH TO DEPICT DRUG ADDICTION IN FULL SCOPE. BUT WHY? Los Angeles Times. Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/2130649649?acc ountid=31259
- Berendt, C. (2011, Sep 13). The fight against drug and alcohol addiction continues. McClatchy Tribune Business News. Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/889073672?accountid=3 1259
- Beaverton (2016). How the drug war ruins american lives. Ringgold Inc. Retrieved from:
  https://search.proquest.com/docview/1780566199?accountid=
  31259Blevins, G. A. (2012). The addicted brain: Why we abuse drugs, alcohol, and nicotine. Choice, 49(10), 1910.
- Chalmers, J., Marshall, A. (2016). In Duterte's war on drugs, barangay officials help draw up watch lists.
- Caputo, A. (2019). Deceptive dynamics in drug addiction and their role in control beliefs and health status reporting: A study on people with substance use disorder in treatment. Journal of Drug Issues, 49(4), 575-592. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0022042619853299
- Cherkis, J. (2015). "Dying To Be Free," Huffington Post, January, 28, A multimedia essay illustrating the moral discourse that prevents heroin users from getting humane and life-saving treatment.
- Cooper, H. L. F. (2015). War on drugs policing and police brutality. Substance use & Misuse. 50(8-9), 1188.

- Cottrell, R. C. (2016). How the drug war ruins American lives. Choice, 54(2), 247-248. Retrieved from: https://search.proquest.com/docview/1822946843?accountid=31259
- Creswell. J. (2013). Qualitative Inquiry Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches. United Kingdom: SAGE Publications, Ltd.
- Creswell, J. W. (2014). Research design: qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods approaches. SAGE Publications, Inc. United States of America. 4th ed.
- Diola, C. (2016). How Duterte's drug war can fail. Retrieved from https://newslab.philstar.com/war-on-drugs/policy
- Durkin, A. (2014). Legalization of marijuana for non-medical use: Health, policy, socioeconomic, and nursing implications. Journal of Psychosocial Nursing & Mental Health Services, 52(9), 22-6. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.3928/02793695- 20140721-03
- Enver, U., &EkṣiHalil. (2019). Inclusion of family therapy in rehabilitation program of substance abuse and its efficacious implementation. Family Journal, 27(4), 443-451. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1066480719871968
- Forrester, M. B., Kleinschmidt, K., Schwarz, E., & Young, A. (2012). Synthetic cannabinoid and marijuana exposures reported to poison centers. Human and Experimental Toxicology, 31(10), 1006-11. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0960327111421945
- Hägele, C., Friedel, E., Kienast, T., & Kiefer, F. (2014). How do we 'learn' addiction? risk factors and mechanisms getting addicted t alcohol. Neuropsychobiology, 70(2), 67-76. Retrieved from: doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1159/000364825
- Hansen, Helena, Netherland, Jules (2017). "White Opioids: Pharmaceutical Race and the War on Drugs that Wasn't.

- Goldsmid, S., & Willis, M. (2016). Methamphetamine use and acquisitive crime: Evidence of a relationship. Woden: Australian Institute of Criminology.
- Macher, R., Burke, T. W., PhD., & Owen, S. S., PhD. (2012). Synthetic marijuana. FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, 81(5), 17-22. Retrieved fromhttps://search.proquest.com/docview/1016776815?account id=31259
- Mena, R. (2019). Individual first aid kit for police officer and police officers' vehicles. Retrieved from: https://search.proquest.com/docview/2293426014?acc ountid=31259
- Mutlu, E., &Aşicioğlu, F. (2020). Abuse of prescribed psychoactive drugs. AnadoluPsikiyatriDergisi, 21(2), 195-202. Retrieved from: doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.5455/apd.53469
- O'Hare, P. (2013, Apr 24). Seizures soar as cops turn screw: WAR ON DRUGS. WAR. Daily Record Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/1337809779?acc ountid=31259
- Rogers, L. J. (2016). Drug cases still dominate federal docket but immigration crimes are closing the gap. Criminal Law Reporter, 99(14), 531. Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/1806213336?acc ountid=31259
- Schlosser, A. V. (2018). "They medicated me out". Contemporary Drug Problems, 45(3), 188-207. Retrieved from: doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0091450918781590
- Schwartz, P. (2005, Sep). THE WAR ON DRUGS. Foreign Policy, 51-52. Retrieved from: https://search.proquest.com/docview/224028462?accountid=3 1259

- Sharma, M. (2012). Impact of drug and alcohol addiction on brain. Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education, 56(2), 88-90.

  Retrievedfrom:https://search.proquest.com/docview/12
  23859820?accountid=312 59
- Stevens, L. (2015, Mar 27). Business news: FedEx seeks to dismiss drugshipping charges. Wall Street Journal. Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/1666937126?acc
- Tevik, K., Selbæk, G., Engedal, K., Seim, A., Krokstad, S., & Anne-S Helvik. (2017). Use of alcohol and drugs with addiction potential among older women and men in a population-based study. The nord-trøndelag health study 2006-2008 (HUNT3). PLoS One, 12(9)
- Tiger, R. (2017). Race, class, and the framing of drug epidemics: Understanding people in their social worlds understanding people in their social worlds. Contexts, 16(4), 46-51. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/1536504217742391
- Varcas, M. (2018). Barangay officials make tough choices in Duterte's drug war. Retrieved from: https://www.bworldonline.com/barangay-officials-make-tough-choices-in-dutertes-drug-war/
- Varlet, V. (2016). Drug vaping: From the dangers of misuse to new therapeutic devices. Toxics, 4(4), 29-n/a. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/toxics4040029
- Vestal, C. (2017, May 28). DRUG TRAFFICKING: Methamphetamine surge picks up speed: The popular drug remains a threat, moves into cities. The Atlanta Journal Constitution.
- Vestal, C., & Stateline.org. (2017). Methamphetamine surge picks up speed: The popular drug remains a threat, moves into cities. Dayton Daily News. Retrieved from https://search.proquest.com/docview/1902858196?accountid= 31259