

Status of Cases Cognizable by The Lupon Ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay Laoac, Pangasinan

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INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Barangay is considered as the smallest unit of the government in the Philippines. It performs the initial operations such as the formation and employment of programs, activities, policies, and others that involved the community (De Torres, 2019).

As a brief history of barangay, It was known as balangai during the precolonial period and is currently the lowest political administrative unit of the Philippine Government. Started as a form of village governance by local chieftains known as datos or rajahs, barangay governance struggled through the colonial Spanish period (when barangays were renamed barrios) and the American era (when they were known as rural councils). In the post-colonial period, it struggled with the highly centralized Philippine state, where citizen engagement was quite low or almost nonexistent. (Maralli, 2018)

During the martial law years 1972-1986, President Marcos mobilized the barangay councils to provide support for his national agenda of social and political reforms through the Bagong Lipunan, or the New Society. But in 1992 the enactment of the Local Government Code and the Urban Development and Housing Act made the barangay a strong foundational base for the deepening of democratization and decentralization of local governance in the twenty-first century. (Porio,2019)

The Philippine Congress passed Republic Act No. 9285, or the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004, declaring the state's policy to actively support party autonomy in resolving disputes or the parties' freedom to create their agreements to resolve their conflicts. To this aim, the state will encourage and aggressively promote the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as a critical tool for achieving swift and fair justice and declogging court dockets. To accomplish this, the state must make available the means for ADR to be used as an effective instrument and alternative instrument and alternative procedure for resolving relevant instances. (Strazisar,2018)

As observed in the Philippine Court system, an overload and backlog needed judicial reform that affected mainly the poor seeking alternative dispute resolution to address their issues and problems. Thus, Congress was discussing an alternative dispute resolution to achieve speedy trial, impartiality, and non-adversarial justice, which engages active private sector participation in the administration of justice. The Barangay Justice System, or the Katarungang Pambarangay, was institutionalized through Presidential Decree 1508, promulgated in 1978, and the Local Government Code of 1991 as a strategy for improving and making the justice system more responsive to the needs of communities. This is also the result of a challenging devolution of powers and functions from the central government to the barangays and represents the only decentralized justice program that has been legally and politically recognized. Philippines' cases are one of the primary issues that need to be solved to have peace and order in the entire area. However, the National government has long struggled to solve a crime. In addition, corruption has had a significant impact on the country's economic progress and people (Del Rosario, 2019).

According to De Torres et al. (2019), Barangay serves as the primary planning and implementing unit of government in the Philippines. As the basic political unit, it implements the policies, plans, programs, projects,

and activities in the community. It participates in the implementation of several national programs and projects such as the country's government plan. It is also considered as a quasi-judicial body where the barangay government consists of one (1) executive, legislative and judiciary body.

As stated by Presidential Decree 1508 known as Katarungang Pambarangay Law, it established a system of amicably settling disputes at the barangay level. Whereas, the perpetuation and official recognition of the time-honored tradition of amicably settling disputes among family and barangay members at the barangay level without judicial resources would promote the speedy administration of justice and implement the constitutional mandate to preserve and develop Filipino culture and to strengthen the family as a basic social institution and the indiscriminate filing of cases in the courts of justice contributes heavily and unjustifiably to the congestion of court dockets, thus causing a deterioration in the quality of justice also in order to help relieve the courts of such docket congestion and thereby enhance the quality of justice also in order to help relieve the courts of such docket congestion and thereby enhance the quality of justice dispensed by the courts, it is deemed desirable to formally organize and institutionalize a system of amicably settling disputes at the barangay level (Alejandro, 2022).

Moreover, According to the Philippine – Canadian International Development Agency (2018), The primordial objective of the Katarungang Pambarangay is to reduce the number of court litigations and prevent the deterioration of the quality of justice which has been brought about by the indiscriminate filing cases in the court but when Presidential Decree 1508 first decreed the setting up of the Barangay Justice System, the law had the following objects: (a) To promote the speedy administration of justice, (b) To minimize the indiscriminate filing of cases in courts, (c) To minimize the congestion of court dockets, (d) enhance the quality of justice dispensed by the courts, (e) To perpetuate and recognize the time-honored tradition of amicably settling disputes at the community level (Gonzalez,2022).

However, some problems in our Barangay are lack of implementing rules and ordinances and disunity among members of barangay leaders, because they disagree with each other when it comes to the implementation of programs and ordinances. In connection with this are in the section of finance and budgeting of money of Barangay. Some barangay leaders did not use this money in an effective and useful manner, instead deducting some part of this budget for personal gain so that the material needed for construction and building facilities and weakness of its building construction Principle Consistent with justice and improvements (Paguntalan,2018).

In the Philippines, most particularly in Mindanao, their discussion with judicial and local government officials also suggested that a revitalized Katarungang Pambarangay might help reduce the backlog of formal cases pending in the Philippine court system. The positive benefits of a revitalized system of alternative dispute settlement where the poor people would have greater access to some means of redress of complaints and peace and harmony might be promoted at the local level. (Mindanao journal,2018).

In the implementation of Katarungang Pambarangay or Barangay Justice System in the Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan, every citizen has the right to avail herself/himself of the service of the Lupon and with the support of Barangay Captain to resolve the issues or conflicts among the complainant.

One of the roles of Katarungang Pambarangay is the process to keep the community intact and to improve access to justice for the poor in a less expensive litigation. Thus, the researchers endeavored to analyze the disposition cases in the Brangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan that were filed from 2021.

The administration of justice is one of the basic services of the government for its constituents. It must be accessible to everyone seeking it. As the most basic political unit, the barangay is the first in the hierarchy in the administration of justice. The establishment of Katarungang Pambarangay System in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan fulfils this function.

All cases covered by the Katarungang Pambarangay must be brought first to the Barangay concerned and must undergo conciliation proceedings before it can prosper into a full blown case in court. The assessment of the performance of the Katarungang Pambarangay is necessary in order to provide inputs for the government process and policy improvement.

The researchers highly motivated in recognition to the roles played by local public officers especially the members of the lupon for their unexhausted efforts. Also, this study will be undertaken to give a realization to the value of the old practice of Filipinos of arranging disputes in the barangay level, it has proven that in this dynamic society if ours, it is still an effective remedy to the common problems that plaque the courts.

Conceptual/Theoretical Framework of the Study

In this paper, researchers set theories that increasingly seem to have a strong relationship with one another theories of social contract theory, dispute resolution theory, mediation theories, and emotional and psychological healing theory that offer an explanation of the Katarungang Pambarangay or Barangay Justice System process might be effective in settling disputes.

In the social contract theory, a specific population within a given designated area gave up as much power to a government as needed to promote the well-being of all. Specifically, the community population and the leader have a contract. The state has power and authority over the territory. The community receives certain services such as a safe, crime-free area in which to live and keep their rights protected. This theory was developed in the 17th and 18th centuries by philosophers such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau. The U.S Political system is based on the social contract theory. (Content Team. Social Contract Theory. October 16, 2016.)

According to Whattings (2021), this study is anchored on Conflict Resolution Theory, which states that disputes are innate components of human life that occur everywhere but vary in duration, severity, settlement methods, results, and effect. Despite the mediation's lack of authority to impose an outcome on disputing parties, mediation involvement may well assist that party's position and interest, shifting the party's attention from the past to the future, bridging the differences between the parties devising solutions. Furthermore, the researchers believe that Katarungang Pambarangay, or Barangay Justice System, is a system for resolving disputes amicably at the barangay level. Its goal is to improve the speed of administering justice to relieve the courts of amicable criminal and civil matters.

Theories of Mediation, According to Ury, Brett, & Goldberg, there are three methods that can be used in conflict resolution. These three methods are applicable to mediation. These three methods give rise to three different theories of conflict resolution. The first and third theory is applicable to facilitative and transformative models of mediation, while the second is applicable to evaluative and expert-advisory mediation. The first theory is "The theory of Power-oriented Conflict Resolution" in this theory when someone exhorts power this means the other person has influences that can lead to forced submissions. The second method is "The theory of Rights-oriented Conflict Resolution" this resolution of conflict can involve the legal system to assist in resolving conflict. Another way to resolve disputes is to rely on an independent standard with perceived legitimacy or fairness, such as an independent standard with perceived legitimacy or fairness, such as the law or a contract between the parties, to determine which party is "right". The last method is "The theory of Interest-oriented Mediation". In this method, interests are people's needs, desires, concerns, or fears, the things they care about or want. Interests underlie people's positions, the tangible items they say they want when they make or reject claims. It involves probing for deep-seated concerns, determining which interests are more important than others, devising creative solutions that reconcile interests, and making trade-offs and concessions. But interest-based agreements are possible in many disputes. (1st editon, Cambridge, 2003).

Deterrence is a theory that dissuades terrible behavior or criminal activities with the menace of direful penalties/punishment that prevent or stop committing a crime or future crime by frightening the Barangay individuals. Most people believe that providing a threat of punishment in Barangay would be a deterrent to every individual to reduce and lessen the probability and level of opprobrious activities in our Barangay, which will help maintain the peacefulness of the people in the Barangay. In connection to the speculation in the study by Sampson (2010), Neighbourhoods with high levels of crime are often densely populated, mixed-use (businesses and residences in the same area) areas with concentrated poverty, a transient population, a high proportion of single-parent households, and dilapidated buildings. Children and adolescents living in neighborhoods characterized by crime or disorganization are more likely to become victims of violent crime and perpetrate violent acts. Children who witness crime and violence are more likely to experience social and emotional

problems such as aggression, stress, withdrawal, delinquency, and low school achievement. According to the study of crime prevention by Alonzo (2011), Cities across the country have used youth curfews to address growing public concern about juvenile crime and violence. By reducing the number of youths on the street during certain hours, curfews are assumed to lower the risk factors associated with youth crime. In addition to preventing crime, curfews are also argued to protect youth from dangerous situations. Policymakers have widely cited curfews as an effective tool for reducing crime. This concept entails the importance of a safe and sound environment for children and family members. People must consider the children's progress to ensure that they will develop as better individuals by acquiring a positive climate and ideal attitude.

Specific deterrence is designed—by the nature of the illegal sanctions—to deter only the individual offender from committing that crime in the future. Proponents of particular deterrence also believe that punishing offenders severely will make them unwilling to re-offend in the future. A drunk driver, for example, would be deterred from drinking and driving because of the unpleasant experience they suffered from being arrested or having their license taken away or their car impounded.

Theory of Alternative Dispute Resolution, According to Faris, J.A(2015), The system of Alternative Dispute Resolution, commonly known as ADR, comprises multiple informal processes. Traditional processes of negotiation, mediation, and arbitration are primary processes within the system of ADR. The elements of the primary processes have been combined with those of public processes to form hybrid ADR processes original only to the method of ADR. These hybrid processes are rent-a-judge, the mini-trial, summary jury trial, neutral evaluation, and mediation/arbitration. Under the auspices of ADR, derivative processes have also been developed, such as expedited arbitration, documents-only arbitration, final-offer arbitration, and quality arbitration. Each process is distinct and separate, having its unique form, function, and method of transforming a dispute. Outwardly, this represents a diverse collection of disjunctive processes.

As grounded on the aforementioned theoretical framework, figure 1 shows the process flow in the study's conduct in determining the status of cases cognizable by the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan. In this study, the input topic requires contrasting cases filed to the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa from January to December 2021. Identifying the percentage of the total number of cases filed before the Lupon from January to December 2021 were; (a) amicably settled, (b) issued a certification to file an action in court (c) Pending before the Lupon. It determines the percentage of cases involving; (a) juveniles, (b) Barangay council members (c) Family Members. The Process contains the documentary analysis and interpretation of data. The Output contains the Status of cases cognizable by the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan. The input-Process-Output model is a helpful graph that identifies and categorizes the study's outcome. It is concerned with constructing decisions about instructional procedures and resources supported by individual learning styles (Galera et al., 2018).

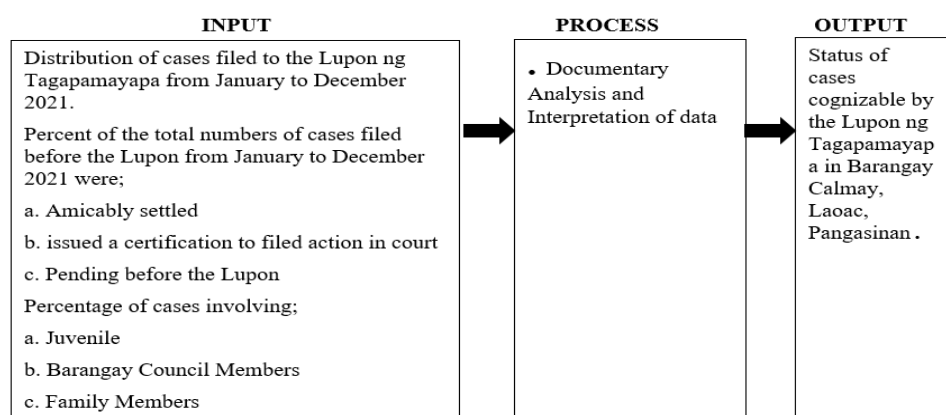


Figure 1. Paradigm of the Study

Statement of the Problem

This study aimed to determine the Status of Cases Cognizable by the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan.

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions;

1. What is the distribution of cases filed to the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa from January to December 2021?
2. As to disposition, how many percent of the total number of cases filed before the Lupon from January to December 2021 were;
 - a. amicably settled;
 - b. issued a certification to file an action in court; and
 - c. pending before the Lupon?
3. As to participation, what is the percentage of cases involving;
 - a. Juvenile;
 - b. Barangay Council Members; and
 - c. Family Members?

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

This study primarily focused on the Cases Cognizable by the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay Laoac, Pangasinan. It also includes the determination of cases filed to the lupon, the total number of cases filed herein that were amicably settled, those, filed in court and still pending in lupon, and the persons involved in cases filed in the lupon.

METHODOLOGY

This chapter shows the research design, population, and locale of the study, data gathering tool, and statistical treatment data.

Research Design

The quantitative method of research, particularly documentary analysis was used to determine the status of cases cognizable by Lupon ng Tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan. Quantitative method is a fact-finding study leading to adequate and accurate interpretation of findings which is why it is suited to be used in this research.

Population and Locale of the Study

The respondents of this study were the Lupon Tagapamayapa and the secretary of the Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan. When all were available at the time of field visit, a focus group discussion was conducted among Barangay Captain and Lupon Members. Focus Group Discussion were preferred to one on one interviews as the simultaneous validation and checking of documents gathered for Barangay Calmay.

Data Gathering Tool

In order to garner the status of cases cognizable by the lupon ng tagapamayapa in Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan, we give a letter asking for permission to collect data, addressed to the barangay offices that possess pertinent data. We waited for their confirmation in collecting the available data and critically analyzing the data gathered.

The settlement book or records of the Barangay Calmay were the basis of data gathered.

Validity and Reliability of the Instrument

With proper letter of request, the Barangay Captain permitted us to have access of their record with a reminder that it will be treated with confidentiality.

Data Gathering Procedure

The researchers asked permission to have access on the record of cases filed in Barangay Calmay by securing a letter addressed to the Brgy. Captain of Barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan.

The data obtained was tallied, collated, and tabulated, after which data analysis is done.

The analyzed data was interpreted and organized in the light of the specific problems.

Statistical Treatment of Data

To treat the data gathered, the following statistical methods were used:

Frequency counts or percentage was used in this study.

Where:

P= Percentage

F= Frequency

N= Total number of cases

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter presents the analysis, discussions, and interpretation of data gathered to answer the questions of the study. It includes the overall discussions on the status of cases cognizable by the lupon ng tagapamayapa in barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan.

Distribution of Cases filed to the Lupon for Cognizance from January to December 2021

Any conflicts that arise can lead to bad relations between the two parties. Through katarungang pambarangay (Barangay Justice System), it helps both parties to a conflict focus on effectively resolving their differences and reaching a bargaining agreement that works for all parties involved (Guia & Mangubat, 2021). Most of the respondents of the study experienced applying preservation relationships. Since the barangays are the smallest political unit in the country and are primarily based on kinship ties, it is important to amicably settle any disputes among their members to guarantee the preservation of their relationships (Rojo, 2020). They tend to do so for the reason relationships are the source of individual humanity, it needs to be acknowledged the issues of imbalances of power and equality in relationships to the legal institution to maintain and preserve the relationship of individuals (Bagshaw & Stud, 2017).

Table 1 below presents the distribution of cases filed to the lupon for cognizance from January to December 2021.

Table 1

Month	No. of cases	Percentage
January	1	5
February	3	15

March	4	20
April	0	0
May	0	0
June	4	20
July	3	15
August	3	15
September	2	10
October	0	0
November	0	0
December	0	0
Total	20	100

As gleaned from the table, the number of cases filed in the months of January to December are the following: there are four (4) cases filed in the month of March and June that there has the highest month crime occurrence, three (3) cases filed on the months of February, July, and August, two (2) cases filed on the month of September, one (1) case filed on the month of January, and zero (0) on the months of April, May, October, November, December. This is line in the statement in criminology that there is more incidence of violent crimes during warm months from April up to July having its peak in May. This is due to festivals, excursions, picnics, and other sorts of festivities wherein people are more in contact with one another.

According to the Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 Section 384, “Barangay is the basic political unit in the Philippine government which serves a primary planning and implementing unit of government policies, plans, programs, projects and activities in the community. It also serves as a forum for the expression, crystallization, and consideration of the views of the people and the amicable settlement of disputes among its residents.” Being the smallest political unit in the country, it is then in the most strategic position to facilitate the resolution or mediation of community disputes (Antonio,2022).

In the study of Murphy P. Mohammed, the barangay or Katarungang Pambarangay is a system for the amicable settlement of disputes at the barangay level. It aims to promote the speedy administration of justice and to relieve the courts of conciliable criminal and civil cases. The Barangay Justice System is neither a court of justice nor a judicial tribunal where cases are heard and decided before a judge or a jury. It is an administration body at the barangay level where community members may reconcile their differences without resorting to judicial process, thus avoiding expensive settlement disputes before the court. This is also in relation to the study of Mohammed in the crime of physical injuries and violation of curfew set by barangay officials which started at 10:00 PM and ended at 4:00 AM. The said ordinances are widely known in the barangay, but still, some of the residents violated them. Teenage boys usually violated the curfew ordinance because of late-night sessions of alcohol drinking.

Percentage of Cases as to Disposition

The Barangay Justice System provides an alternative mode for dispute resolution to the costly and lengthy process of settling disputes in regular courts. Instead of going through the very technical procedure of filing formal pleadings and presenting evidence in courts, the parties of a dispute are given the opportunity to try to talk to each other and resolve their disputes amicably. It is also envisioned to complement the courts in administering justice. For cases that are covered by the Barangay Justice System, it is compulsory for the parties to go through the Barangay Justice System proceedings first before going to court (Catalan, 2020).

Table 2 presents the percentage of cases as to disposition based on the data gathered from the lupon ng tagapamayapa of barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan.

Table 2

Month	No. of cases Amicably settled	Percentage	No. of cases issued certification in court	No. of cases in Lupon
January	1	5	0	0
February	3	15	0	0
March	4	20	0	0
April	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0
June	4	20	0	0
July	3	15	0	0
August	3	15	0	0
September	2	10	0	0
October	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0
Total	20	100	0	0

As gleaned from the table, there were twenty (20) cases filed in barangay, there were twenty (20) percent in the months of March and June that were settled, fifteen (15) percent in the months of February, July, and August that were settled, ten (10) percent in the month of September that was settled, and zero (0) percent in the months of April, May, October, November, and December. Overall these twenty (20) cases filed in the months of January to December 2021 were settled amicably. There were no cases filed in court and no cases filed in lupon.

The result shows the effectiveness of the lupon ng tagapamayapa of barangay Calmay, Laoac, Pangasinan. Based on the data, it indicates that the justice system and the process of settling the cases filed in the lupon were amicably dealt with good and effective resolution. It highlighted the deficiencies of the LGUs or the Local Government Unit in the implementation of the Katarungang Pambarangay Judicial Service System hence, its high time to revise the Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code 1991 in providing a more effective and efficient delivering speedier and quality justice through non-adversarial under Local Government or LGU's for the security and welfare of the residents and the community.

The results of the study encourage continuing intensified information dissemination on the basis of the Law on dispute settlements to arouse peoples' consciousness on the intentions, objectives of the law-triggering and motivating them to realize its importance and render civic duty.

Lim (2019), stated that the Katarungang Pambarangay System helps the parties by giving them the freedom to come to their own agreements to settle their disagreement in the Barangay without resorting to filing a lawsuit. As a result, the barangay acts as a unit of local government that includes both executive and legislative as well as judicial powers.

Similarly to Peningeo (2021), an amicable settlement is a process of settling disputes within the barangay level, which is participated by disputing parties, the barangay officials, Lupon members as mediators or conciliators, and arbitrators. This was done through face-to-face communication and agreement of the disputing parties with the presence of a punong barangay, lupon member, or an elder to resolve a conflict. The practice of amicable settlement played a significant role in de-clogging cases filed in court and facilitated the speedy administration of justice (Benter, 2016 & Valera, 2008); it values Filipino traditions in settling disputes. Thus, Barangay Lupon, elders and officials in charge of the administration of justice at the barangay level, should be aware of how vital their roles and functions are. Their decision-making capacity is significant in attaining justice and the preservation of order within the barangay level.

Percentage of Cases Involving Juvenile, Brgy. Council, Family Member

Under the Barangay Justice System, the main strategy for settling disputes is to provide a venue for the disputing parties to search for a solution that is mutually acceptable. Hence, the primary role of the system is not to decide disputes and impose a solution on the parties but to assist the parties in discussing the possible amicable settlement of their disputes. For this reason, the personal appearance and participation of the disputing parties is necessary, while the non-appearance of the parties will have corresponding sanctions. Also because of the need for the disputing parties' personal participation in the conciliation proceedings, disputes involving non-natural persons like corporations are not subject to the conciliation proceedings of the Barangay Justice System.

Table 3 presents the total number of cases involving juveniles, Brgy. council, and family members.

Table 3

Month	Juvenile	Percent age	Brgy. Councils	Percent age	Family Members	Percent age	Others
January	0	0	1	5	0	0	
February	1	5	0	0	2	10	
March	0	0	0	0	4	20	
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	
June	0	0	1	5	3	15	
July	1	5	0	0	2	10	
August	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
September	0	0	0	0	2	10	
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total	2	10	2	10	13	65	15

As gleaned from the table, out of 20 cases filed in the lupon, there were 2 juveniles involved, 2 involved Brgy. councils, 13 involved family members, and the other 3 are cases involving people under different categories such

as collecting of debt, oral defamation, and physical injury. The highest percentage of involving cases in barangay is domestic violence or family members involve.

Barangay governance plays a vital role in the empowerment of the local government units in the country. This is linked with the leader's accountability, fairness, and transparency in the exercise of his duties and functions as a servant in his community. The results also indicated that majority of the Barangay Chairpersons were able to deliver very satisfactory public services in their barangays which also indicated that the core values of governance namely fairness, transparency and accountability were strengthened by the barangay chairmen during their term of office. The study concluded that the Local Government Code of 1991 paved the way for greater local autonomy to bring government closer to the doorsteps of the people.

Chibani (2017) states "Domestic violence is a very important social issue because it has a large negative effect on the victims. Even though Domestic violence can be caused by either males or female it is usually caused by male due to their large physical advantage. The psychological signs begin when the abuser overly control the victim, coercive and attempt to answer all questions for the victim. Also, some signs on the victim may reflect the violence like may appear quiet and passive, also as depression and anxiety. On the other hand, the physical signs are the most symptoms realized and visualized, abuser assault may lead to many injuries type. From the physical signs, tympanic membrane rupture, scrapes and cuts on the face, neck scrapes, abdominal cuts and arm scrapes. Some injuries on the body may seem similar to injuries from other causes but the locations may increase the idea of family violence. From this injuries we know injuries distributed around the breasts, body and genitals, because the area are usually hidden by clothes throughout that head and neck are the site of 70% of violence. Some characteristics of family violence injuries are bites, rope and cigarettes burns also as bruises.

Intimate partner violence is the systematic, intentional use of physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse that one person in a domestic relationship exerts over their partner in order to maintain power and control. In our society, we tend to focus on the external evidence of intimate partner violence such as a bruised lip or a fractured wrist. Likewise, most of society typically aids the survivor by tending to the physical results of intimate partner violence. With such emphasis on the physical nature of intimate partner violence, one might wonder what happens to the remnants of the survivor's abused psychosocial self.

According to Essix (2021), juvenile delinquent behavior has continued to rise despite attempts by the legal system and policymakers. Much of the research contributing to the understanding of juvenile delinquency and recidivism has been focused on risk factors believed to push an individual to show signs of delinquency. Limited research has been conducted to explain how policies affect juvenile behaviors. The current study examined risk factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency to determine if a factor may have been overlooked in prior juvenile studies. Based on anomie and strain theory, a qualitative method of general inquiry was used to gain a better understanding of the contributing factors to juvenile delinquency.

Simply put, the Barangay Justice System offers a cordial, affordable, and quick forum for the resolution of conflicts where the parties are free to openly explore options for amicably resolving their conflicts without turning to the courts.

Summary of Findings

Based from the findings of the study, the following findings were; 1) The number of cases filed in the months of January to December are the following: there are four (4) cases filed in the month of March and June that there has the highest month crime occurrence, three (3) cases filed on the months of February, July, and August, two (2) cases filed on the month of September, one (1) case filed on the month of January, and zero (0) on the months of April, May, October, November, December. The common cases elevated in Barangay Calmay were oral defamation, physical injury, VAWC, and the collecting of debts. Findings No.2) There were twenty (20) cases filed in barangay, there were twenty (20) percent in the months of March and June that were settled, fifteen (15) percent in the months of February, July, and August that were settled, ten (10) percent in the month of September that was settled, and zero (0) percent in the months of April, May, October, November, and December. Overall these twenty (20) cases filed in the months of January to December 2021 were settled amicably. There were no cases filed in court and no cases filed in lupon. Findings No.3) Out of 20 cases filed in

the lupon, there were 2 juveniles involved, 2 involved Brgy. councils, 13 involved family members, and the other 3 are cases involving people under different categories such as collecting of debt, oral defamation, and physical injury. The highest percentage of involving cases in barangay is domestic violence or family members involve.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations made in the study.

Conclusions

Based from the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

- 1.The distribution of cases filed to the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa from January to December of the year 2021 based on the gathered data was 20.
- 2.As to disposition, the percentage of the total numbers of cases filed before the Lupon were 100% amicably settled.
- 3.Most of the cases referred to the Lupon were family related.

Recommendations

Based on the conclusions, the following recommendations are forwarded:

- 1.The barangay should strengthen their implementation on campaign about crime prevention like attending seminars, symposium and livelihood programs.
- 2.The community should continuously maintain the 100 percent settling of disputes in the barangay.
- 3.The barangay should ensure programs to lessen involvement of family members in cases committed in their place by house visitation by the BHW's, attending seminars and barangay assembly.
- 4.Further studies related to this study is recommended to be conducted

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