

Editor's Notes

Being offered the daunting task of being the editor-in-chief of the Social Science Diliman: A Philippine Journal of Society and Change was something I did not expect after recently transferring to the University of the Philippines – Diliman. Transitions are quite difficult, but thankfully, with the patience of my predecessor, Dr. Ariel C. Lopez, as well as Dr. Jhud Mikhail Aberilla, director of the Research Dissemination Office, and Eloisa Rochelle G. Quebral, editorial assistant, for teaching me the ropes. This issue is the birthing pains of my journey.

It is quite serendipitous to have two articles relating to each other. Agudera et al., with their piece entitled *Palit(ang) Tari: Pagsusuri sa Online Sabong Gamit ang Pilosopiya at Teorya ng mga Kapital ni Pierre Bourdieu*, feature the cultural practice of cockfighting and gambling in the Philippines, particularly the transition to digital gambling, e-sabong, which became prevalent during the COVID-19 pandemic when the live participation of gamblers was not allowed. The authors used Bourdieu's theory of capital to highlight the complexity of the practice, and despite the suspension of e-sabong in 2022, the information is still important, considering that the practice still persists illegally.

Liwanag et al., with their paper on Healing and Surgical Practices of *Tigtahi* of Baybay City, Leyte, allow readers to rethink the other actors in the world of sabong. Despite the move toward digitization of gambling in the previous article, it still focused on the two known human roles in space, the gambler, and the breeder. This article prods us to ask the question, "What happens after a cockfight?" The *tigtahi* or veterinarian for fighting cocks would then need to treat their patients to ensure that they could live to fight another battle. The ethnography highlights the knowledge and practices of some learned from "tradition." There is also the knowledge of crafting their own tools for treatment, as well as the recognition and interpretation of new knowledge from veterinary medicine.

Finally, the last article by Asa on Why Did Workers' Strikes Increase Under Duterte? engages in the broken promises of then-President Duterte, who ran on a pro-labor platform, particularly promising to end the practice of endo or end of contractualization. Not only does the piece remind the readers that simple solutions by a populist are never effective, but it also engages with the realization that Filipino laborers are quite vulnerable due to weak support for labor unions. This further ties in with the previous article, which highlights further vulnerabilities of those working in the informal sector, such as *tighati*.

Goddard-Paz comments on the section *Concerning a Geology of the Island of Luzon* by Richard Freiherr von Drasche-Wartinberg by contextualizing the book and its importance not only to historians, but also geographers who would benefit from the historicization of the various sites they are visiting for their fieldwork.

Dr. Maruja Asis is the featured social scientist for the issue, as interviewed by Celero. With the importance of the issue of migration and its popularity as a research topic, the introduction of Dr. Asis and her contributions through the Scalabrini Migration Center highlight the diversity of trajectories one can engage in in this field.

Finally, the issue includes three book reviews: *Saints of Resistance: Devotions in the Philippines under Early Spanish Rule*, *Historia mínima de Filipinas* (2019/2020), and *Regional Identities in Southeast Asia: Contemporary Challenges, Historical Fractures*.

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Editor-in-Chief

December 2023