The Extent of Implementation of Ra 9211 and P.D. 1619 on Public Secondary Schools in Tampilisan, Zamboanga Del Norte

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ABSTRACT

Protection against the harmful effect of liquor and cigarette is a government thrust to maintain a healthy living. This study aimed to determine the compliance on the restriction of liquor and cigarette sale to minors within school radius in any schools in Tampilisan, Zamboanga Del Norte. It employed a descriptive survey method of research using a questionnaire to gather data; employing Chisquare test in finding the difference on the perception of respondents; utilizing the 244 PNP personnel, barangay officials, and community people. This study answered the questions on the extent of compliance on the restriction of liquor and cigarette sale to minors and tested the hypothesized difference on the perception of respondents. Findings led to the conclusion that the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors is to a small extent while on cigarettes is to a moderate extent. Pearson Chi-square test indicated that there is a highly significant difference on the perception of the three groups of respondents on the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors based on barangay ordinance

and a significant difference based on school policies. On the sale of cigarettes, there exists a highly significant difference in their perception. Thus, a concerned community that aimed for the betterment of the youth for today and the incoming generations produces a peaceful, sound, and a healthy environment.

Keywords — Social Science, the extent of compliance, restriction on the sale of liquor and cigarette, minors school radius, barangay ordinance, school policies

INTRODUCTION

Tobacco is the only legal drug that kills many of its users when used exactly as intended by manufacturers. The World Health Organization has estimated that tobacco use (smoking and smokeless) is currently responsible for the death of about six million people across the world each year with many of these deaths occurring prematurely (WHO, 2019).

Government warning which says "cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health" is imprinted on each cigarette pack. Public utility vehicles or buses, public and private offices, and institutions usually bear the warning "No Smoking," "This is a Smoke-free Institution," or "Smoking is strictly Prohibited" to warn, inform, or alarm the public of the dangerous effect of cigarette smoking to one's health. But people who used to smoke don't give much attention to it.

According to Awang (2003), curiosity, peer pressure, and loneliness were the top three reasons given for trying cigarettes and that there is a positive association between parents who smoke and children who smoke. The tobacco industry is specifically targeting youth as future customers." He added that among Filipino youth aged 13 to 15 years, three in 10 currently use tobacco products, smoke cigarettes, chew tobacco and use 'shisha' (a water pipe for smoking), which is gaining popularity in Mid-Eastern restaurants in select urban areas in the country.

Araya of The Philippine Star (2018) in his latest survey, stated that the chances are high that Filipino children, with ages 11 to 16, have already tried smoking cigarettes. The probability that a child has already lighted his first stick – or worse, is a full-blown smoker – is even greater when members of his family are smoking too. The survey also revealed that the social environment plays a role in the smoking behavior of young people. Peer influence is the primary reason for trying out smoking or going back to smoking after quitting and there are more family members smoke in the homes of students who are current smokers.

The result of the study conducted by Cheruiyot, Retura, Arasa, and Kiprono (2013) disclosed that females smoked more than the males and that these teenagers were very much aware of the effects of cigarette smoking on the biological, physical and social implications. Despite this awareness, the drive to perform the behavior is strong. They recommend the formulation of programs and campaigns on anti-smoking with an emphasis on the religious aspect that should start as early as in elementary school. On the other hand, Chapman and Freeman (2009) proposed that retail licenses should be heavily restricted and tradable, becoming valuable commercial assets, where the threat of loss or revocation would act as an incentive for strict adherence to the measures proposed.

Republic Act No. 9211, "An Act Regulating the Packaging, Use, Sale, Distribution, and Advertisement of Tobacco Product and for other Purposes" bans smoking in public places like the centers of youth activity such as play school, preparatory school, basic and tertiary education schools in all levels, hostels, recreational facilities for minors, elevators, stairways, location in which fire hazard are present, gas station, storage areas for flammable liquids, within the buildings and premises of public and private hospitals, clinics, health centers, laboratories, public conveyances, public facilities including airport, ships terminals, train, bus stations, restaurants and conference halls except for separate smoking areas, and food preparation areas.

Anent to this, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has signed an executive order that imposes a wide-ranging ban on smoking in public reinforcing some of the toughest anti-tobacco measures in Asia. Smoking cigarettes will be banned in many public places while selling tobacco within 100 meters (330 feet) of schools and other areas where children gather and could attract jail terms (AFP 2017). According to Alex Cook from the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health at the National University of Singapore, as cited by Thomas (2019), there is clear evidence linking smoking bans to improve cardiovascular health outcomes, fewer deaths from smoking-related illnesses and the denormalization of tobacco use.

In China, Luo, Wan, Liang, and Li (2015) recommended that the Chinese government should try every means to build its tobacco control publicity and implement various forms of public education campaigns to enhance smokers' knowledge of the health consequences of smoking. In addition, he said that China should emphasize the enforcement of the existing smoking prohibitions and regulations by implementing local tobacco control legislation and total prohibitions in all public places and workplaces. Rashid, Manan, Yahya, and Ibrahim (2014) based on the result of his study, had also recommended that health promotion and education concerning the harm of tobacco smoke in

Malaysia, which has mainly targeted smokers, must change. Health education concerning the risks of second-hand smoke must also be given to non-smokers and efforts should be made to denormalize smoking.

Today, the government imposed restrictions to business sector on the sale of cigarette which is stipulated in Section 10 of Republic Act no. 9211 which states that "The sale or distribution of tobacco product is prohibited within one hundred (100) meters from any point of the perimeter of a school, public playground or other facility frequented particularly by minors".

On the other hand, regarding the sale of liquor to minors stipulated in Section 5 of P.D. No. 1619 which states that "The sale of, and offer to sell, to minors of liquors or beverages containing an alcoholic content of thirty per centum or above (60 proof or above) is hereby prohibited and shall be punishable by imprisonment ranging from six months and one day to four years and a fine ranging from six hundred to four thousand pesos". Larsen, Smorawski, Kragbak, and Stock's (2016) study revealed that alcohol is a central part of students' lives. They recommended that when developing and implementing alcohol policies on campus, seeking student input in the process and addressing alcohol policies in the larger community will likely improve the success of the policies.

LaMotte (2018) of CNN Philippines reported that alcohol was the leading risk factor for disease and premature death in men and women between the ages of 15 and 49 worldwide in 2016. Those deaths include alcohol-related cancer and cardiovascular diseases, infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, intentional injury such as violence and self-harm, and traffic accidents and other unintentional injuries such as drowning and fires. The World Health Organization as cited by Furiscal, Pancharuniti, and Keiwkarnka (2008) supported this report when they revealed that the burden of disease from alcohol exceeds tobacco because harmful consequences lead to death and disability in the younger years of life. The result of their study revealed that favorable attitude towards drinking, being able to afford liquor and parental influence was significantly associated with alcohol drinking behavior. On the other hand, Swahn, Palmier, Segarra, and Sinson (2013) also disclosed that seeing alcohol ads in newspapers and magazines, sports events, concerts or fairs were significantly associated with increased reports of drunkenness. There are significant associations between alcohol marketing exposure and increased alcohol use and drunkenness among youth in the Philippines. These findings highlight the need to put policies into effect that restrict alcohol marketing practices as an important prevention strategy for reducing alcohol use and its dire consequences among vulnerable youth.

The study of Pamienta (2018) documented that the earliest possible age at which their respondents used alcohol was at five years old and peer influence is a major risk factor. They claimed to have been influenced by their friends. Related to this, according to the researches of the Department of Health (2006) in the United States, people who reported to have started to drink before the age of 15 were four times more likely also to report meeting the criteria for alcohol dependence at some point in their lives.

In Thailand, Luecha, Peremans, Dilles, and Rompaey (2018) showed that alcohol consumption tends to be quite high in Thai's early adolescents, especially girls. They claimed that result of their study could inform parents, health care providers, school directors, and local administrative organizations, for addressing alcohol prevention activities, increasing efforts to delay and to reduce early alcohol use. In the Philippines, Pagkatipunan (2018) concluded that alcohol-related advertisements and alcohol outlets were plentiful near Metro Manila colleges even when there were ordinances which prohibit giving licenses to establishments to sell alcoholic beverages while Anderson, Chisholm, and Fuhr (2009) suggested that making alcohol more expensive and less available and banning alcohol advertising, are highly cost-effective strategies to reduce harm. Additionally, they said that in settings with high amounts of unrecorded production and consumption, increasing the proportion of alcohol that is taxed could be a more effective pricing policy than a simple increase in tax.

Because of the ill effect of alcoholism and smoking to minors, researches on the extent of implementation of RA 9211 and P.D. 1619 need to be conducted. It is hoped that the University and the DepEd in their school policies, in collaboration with the LGU in their ordinances, would be able to work hand in hand to put into action and enforce what has been formulated for the protection and welfare of the younger generation against the harmful effect of liquor and cigarette.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study aimed to look into the extent of implementation of RA 9211 and P.D. 1619 on public secondary schools in Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte. It intends to determine the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of liquor to minors and the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of cigarette to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte. It also tests the statistical questions focusing on the difference on the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors based on PD 1619 and barangay ordinance and the difference on the extent of compliance

on the sale of cigarette to minors based on school policies within the school radius in the municipality under study.

FRAMEWORK

This study is anchored on Republic Act No. 9211; "An Act regulating the Packaging, Use, Sale, Distribution, and Advertisement of Tobacco Product and for other Purposes" states the following:

Section 9. **Minimum Age Sales.** Under this act, it shall be unlawful: a.) For any retailer of tobacco products to sell or distribute tobacco products to any minor; b.) For any person to purchase cigarettes or tobacco products from a minor; c.) For a minor to sell or buy cigarettes or any other tobacco products; and d.) For a minor to smoke cigarettes or any other tobacco products. It shall not be a defense for the person selling or distributing that he/she did not know or was not aware of the real age of the minor. Neither shall it be a defense that he/she did not know nor had any reason to believe that the cigarette or any other tobacco product was for the consumption of the minor to whom it was sold.

Section 10. **Sale of Tobacco Products within School Perimeters.** The sale or distribution of tobacco product is prohibited within one hundred (100) meters from any point of the perimeter of a school, public playground or other facility frequented particularly by minors.

This study is also anchored on Presidential Decree No. 1619 "Penalizing the use or possession or the unauthorized sale to minors of volatile substances to induce intoxication or in any manner changing, distorting or disturbing the auditory, visual or mental process" which states that:

Section 5. The sale of, and offer to sell, volatile substances to minors without requiring the written consent of their parents or guardians as a condition for such sale or offer to sell shall be punishable by imprisonment ranging from six months and one day to four years and a fine ranging from six hundred to four thousand pesos: Provided, That when the minor is eighteen years or over and is duly licensed to drive a motor vehicle, such written consent shall not be necessary when the volatile substance sold or offered for sale is gasoline or any other motive fuel for motor vehicles.

Section 6. The sale of, and offer to sell, to minors of liquors or beverages containing an alcoholic content of thirty per centum or above (60 proof or above) is hereby prohibited and shall be punishable by imprisonment ranging from six months and one day to four years and a fine ranging from six hundred to four thousand pesos.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study made use of the descriptive method of research particularly survey technique employing a researcher-made questionnaire-checklist to gather relevant data of the study to the 244 respondents of the study comprising the PNP personnel, barangay officials and the community people of the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte. The research participants are engaged in the six (6) Secondary Schools as coverage of the study. No private high schools operating in the above-mentioned municipality. These schools are government-owned in which five (5) of these are of the DepEd and the other one (1) is a State University Laboratory High School.

This study is descriptive in purpose, gathering salient information on the extent of implementation of RA 9211 and P.D. 1619 on public secondary schools in the municipality under study.

Research Site

This study was conducted at the six secondary schools of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte, namely, School A (Tampilisan National High School), School B (Galingon National High School), School C (Situbo National High School), School D (Tininggaan National High School), School E (New Dapitan National High School) and School F (JRMSU-Tampilisan Campus Laboratory High School).

Respondents of the Study

The respondents considered in this study were the thirty-four (34) PNP personnel, forty (40) barangay officials, and one hundred seventy (170) community people comprising the teachers, store owners, and the residents along the school premises in the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte.

Instrumentation

The instrument prepared by the researcher was submitted to a committee of research experts who are Doctorate holders in their field of specialization for its validity.

Each statement of the instrument has a 4-point Likert item; Not at all, to some extent, to a moderate extent, to a great extent. A Cronbach's alpha test was run on sample size of fifteen (15) people who are not included as respondents of

the study to measure the reliability of the questionnaire and the results revealed a value of 0.72 which indicates a high level of internal consistency for the scale used in the study.

Prior to the fielding of the instrument, the researcher asked permission from the office of the Municipal Mayor, Chief of Police, Barangay Captain, and District Supervisor to gather data to the respondents of the study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 presents the summary on the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of liquor to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan.

As shown on the data, all respondents from the five barangays perceived that the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of liquor to minors in Tampilisan is to a Small Extent except the barangay officials from School E which says it is to a Moderate Extent.

Generally, with an overall weighted mean of 2.18, the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of liquor to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan is to a Small Extent.

This implies that PD no. 1619 and the school policy that restricts the sale of liquor to minors is rarely obeyed or complied by the concerned people in the municipality of Tampilisan because of the possibility that most of the high schools in the municipality under study are located quite a distance from the barangay sites where liquor is openly sold.

The result is similar to the study of Milam (2012) which disclosed that among young adults, there was a positive relationship between alcohol outlet proximity to the home, even after controlling for neighborhood environment. On the other hand, Swahn, Palmier, Segarra, and Sinson (2013) revealed that alcohol marketing, specifically by providing free alcohol through a company representative, was associated with drunkenness among youths after controlling for demographic and psychosocial characteristics, peer environment, and risky behaviors. They recommend that policies that restrict alcohol marketing practices as an important prevention strategy for reducing alcohol use and its dire consequences among vulnerable youth be put into effect.

Table 1. Summary Table on the Extent of Compliance on the Restriction on the Sale of Liquor to Minors within the School Radius in the Municipality of Tampilisan, ZN

	PNP		Brgy. (Brgy. Official		Com. People		Total	
	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	
1. School A	2.48	SE	2.05	SE	2.09	SE	2.21	SE	
2. School B			2.17	SE	2.24	SE	2.21	SE	
3. School C			2.33	SE	2.14	SE	2.24	SE	
4. School D			2.14	SE	2.05	SE	2.10	SE	
5. School E			2.54	ME	1.90	SE	2.23	SE	
6. School F			2.25	SE	1.95	SE	2.10	SE	
Overall WM	2.48	SE	2.25	SE	2.06	SE	2.18	SE	

Rating Scale:	Description:
3.26 - 4.00	GE to a Great Extent
2.51 - 3.25	ME to a Moderate Extent
1.26 - 2.50	SE to a Small Extent
1.00 - 1.25	NA Not at All

Table 2 shows the extent of compliance on the sale of cigarette to minors within the school radius in Tampilisan, Zamboanga Del Norte based on school policies.

Based on the data, according to the respondents in Tampilisan, with a total weighted mean of 3.41; School B, 3.28; and School E, 3.37, the extent of compliance on the sale of cigarette to minors is to a Great Extent. However, in School D and School F, it is to a Moderate Extent with a total weighted mean of 3.22 and 3.09 respectively; while in School C, 2.38, it is to a Small Extent.

Generally, with an overall weighted mean of 3.14, the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of cigarette to minors in Tampilisan is to a Moderate Extent. This implies that authorities and the concern people frequently regulate RA 9211 and the school policies on the sale of cigarette to minors by most of the barangays in Tampilisan. The result is in consonance with the study of Cheruiyot, Retura, Arasa, and Kiprono (2013) which disclosed that the teenagers were very much aware of the effects of cigarette smoking on the biological, physical and social implications. In addition to this, the Office of the Surgeon general (2010) suggests that on preventing tobacco use among youth and young adults, school-based interventions could reduce or postpone the onset of smoking among adolescents by 20–40%.

Table 2. The Extent of Compliance on the Restriction on the Sale of Cigarette to Minors within the School Radius in Tampilisan, Zamboanga Del Norte Based On RA 9211 and the School Policies

	PNP		Brgy.	Brgy. Official		Com. People		Total	
	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	WM	Des.	
1. School A	4.00	GE	3.33	GE	2.91	ME	3.41	3.41	
2. School B			3.66	GE	2.90	ME	3.28	3.28	
3. School C			2.85	ME	2.11	SE	2.48	2.48	
4. School D			3.57	GE	2.86	ME	3.22	3.22	
5. School E			3.83	GE	2.90	ME	3.37	3.37	
6. School F			3.25	ME	2.92	ME	3.09	3.09	
Overall WM	4.00	GE	3.42	GE	2.77	ME	3.14	3.14	

Rating Scale:	Description:
3.26 - 4.00	GE to a Great Extent
2.51 - 3.25	ME to a Moderate Extent
1.26 - 2.50	SE to a Small Extent
1.00 - 1.25	NA Not at All

A. Based on PD 1619 and Barangay Ordinance

Table 3 presents the result of the Pearson Chi-square test which serves as the basis for the decision of whether to accept or reject the null hypothesis assumed as a statistical question in the statement of the problem.

The non-parametric Chi-square test for the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors was computed and resulted to a Chi-square value of 78.357^a at .000 significance which means Highly Significant at .05 alpha. Therefore, there is a highly significant difference on the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte. The data disclosed that the PNP personnel, barangay officials, and the community people tend to hold differences in their opinions regarding the extent of compliance on the restriction on the sale of liquor to minors. Moore et al. (2015) confirmed that teens used their social relationships to circumvent existing policies designed to limit underage access to alcohol. Their findings indicate that the majority of teens' drinking occasions occur in their own or someone else's home.

Table 3. Based on PD 1619 and Barangay Ordinance, Chi-square Table Showing the Difference on the Extent of Compliance on the Sale of Liquor to Minors within the School Radius in the Municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Interpretation	Decision
Pearson Chi-Square	78.357ª	6	.000	Highly Significant	Reject Null Hypothesis

B. Based on PD 1619 and School Policies

Table 4 presents the summarized Chi-square on the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte based on PD 1619 and school policies.

Pearson Chi-square test for the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors gained a Chi-square value of 21.040^a at .002 significance interpreted as Significant at .05 alpha.

This implies that the respondents arrived at a distinct perception regarding the implementation of the non-sale of liquor to minors within the school radius of Tampilisan. It can be noted that the community people perceived less as compared to the barangay officials because the latter are the ones who enforce the law. Paschall, Grube, Black, Flewelling, Ringwalt, and Biglan (2007) suggest that more frequent compliance checks by law enforcement agents should target convenience and grocery stores, and owners of off-premise outlets should require training of all salesclerks to ensure reliable checks of young-looking patron IDs and should post underage alcohol sales warning signs in clear view of patrons. Anent to this, Swahn, Palmier, Segarra, and Sinson (2013) in their study revealed that there are significant associations between alcohol marketing exposure and increased alcohol use and drunkenness among youth in the Philippines. They concluded that there is a need to put policies into effect that restrict alcohol marketing practices as an important prevention strategy for reducing alcohol use and its dire consequences among vulnerable youth.

Table 4. Based on PD 1619 and School Policies, Chi-square Table Showing the Difference on the Extent of Compliance on the Sale of Liquor to Minors within the School Radius in the Municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte

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	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Interpretation	Decision
Pearson Chi-Square	21.040ª	6	.002	Significant	Reject Null Hypothesis

Table 5 displays the summarized Chi-square on the extent of compliance on the sale of cigarette to minors within the school radius in the municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte based on school policies.

Non-parametric Chi-square test for the extent of compliance on the sale of cigarette to minors resulted in a Chi-square value of 47.063° at .000 significance is found to be Highly Significant at .05 alpha. The result led to the decision of rejecting the null hypothesis of no significant difference on the extent of compliance on the sale of cigarette to minors and concurrent acceptance of the alternative hypothesis of significant difference.

Data imply that a substantial disagreement between the perceptions of the three groups of respondents had existed. This means that the perceptions of the respondents greatly differ as grouped. The study of Williams, Kobayashi, Fujimoto, Swartz, Whitehead, and Bonifacio (2014) confirmed that controlling access to tobacco in retail outlets is an effective measure for reducing the use of tobacco among minors. They recommended that to control the sales of tobacco to minors in the retail environment, the states need to conduct annual, random, and unannounced tobacco sales compliance inspections.

Table 5. Based on School Policies, Chi-square Table Showing the Difference on the Extent of Compliance on the Sale of Cigarette to Minors within the School Radius in the Municipality of Tampilisan, Zamboanga del Norte

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Interpretation	Decision
Pearson Chi-Square	47.063ª	6	.000	Highly Significant	Reject Null Hypothesis

CONCLUSION

The extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors is to a small extent while on cigarettes is to a moderate extent. There is a highly significant difference on the perception of the three groups of respondents on the extent of compliance on the sale of liquor to minors based on barangay ordinance and a significant difference based on school policies. On the sale of cigarettes, there exists a highly significant difference in their perception. The community people perceived less as compared to the barangay officials since the latter are the ones who enforce the law in their respective barangay that made them perceived high in terms of its implementation.

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The findings of this study can be translated into an administrative intervention program to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation and enforcement of PD 1619 and to put into effect the school policies. The administrative intervention program is believed to be one of the tools to aid the higher authorities in strengthening the implementation of the law to restrict the sale of liquor and cigarette to minors. This program can be evaluated for its applicability and effectivity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Vendors in all schools of Tampilisan should always comply with restrictions on the sale of liquor with minors within or even outside the school radius to prevent them from intoxication or addiction to alcoholic drinks.

Restriction on the sale of cigarettes to minors in all school of Tampilisan should be complied at all times by vendors to prevent the youth from the temptation of smoking.

All barangays in the municipality of Tampilisan having no barangay ordinance on liquor and cigarette sale to minors should create one.

Implementers of barangay ordinances and school policies including vendors and parents in all schools of Tampilisan should work hand-in-hand to strictly implement restrictions on the sale liquor and cigarettes to minors by enumerating all items to be sold in stores along the school radius when acquiring barangay clearance, business certificate or mayor's permit to make Tampilisan a liquor and smoke-free municipality.

Law enforcers such as the PNP personnel should do a spot or random checking of stores along the school radius of Tampilisan to determine the kinds of items sold and recommend for the cancelation of business permit/license on the $3^{\rm rd}$ offense for non-compliance of the ordinance or school policy by the vendors along the school radius in Tampilisan.

All schools in Tampilisan should publish in tarpaulins ordinance and school policies inconspicuous areas on the non-sale of liquor and cigarette to minors within the one hundred (100) meters school radius.

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