Long Paper

Extrapolating Presidential State of the Nation Addresses on Sports and Physical Education: An Analysis Using Voyant Tools

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Abstract

Purpose – The study sought to examine the substantive declaration in six Philippine presidents’ State of the Nation Addresses (SONA) from 1987 to 2022 regarding strategic directions and action programs on the future of sports and physical education (SPE).

Method – Through text analysis, the researchers selected the terms using quasi-statistics based on the following elements, included in Article IV, Section 19 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution: self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, and a healthy and alert citizenry.

Results – As a result, Corazon Aquino’s SONA appears to have the most mentioned words regarding the cited themes and their synonyms based on her speech from 1987 to 1992, at a rate of 90%. However, the state and direction of Philippine SPE were not fully conveyed in most of the Presidents’ SONAs, but they expressed their support through declarations of programs. One of the most remarkable moments in Philippine sports was when President Duterte empowered the National Academy of Sports (NAS) as part of his SONA implications for the development of sports in the country, in which he integrated a customized sports curriculum to support young Filipino players in developing their athletic abilities.

Conclusion – Hence, regardless of the Presidents’ SONAs, various themes and the milestones of Philippine sports in each administration since the 1987 Constitution have changed over time.

Recommendations – Policy-makers and other stakeholders involved in the promotion of SPE may utilize the implications of the study to establish a comprehensive roadmap anchored on the remarkable accomplishments of previous Philippine presidents that will lay the foundation for a strong future for sports and physical education in the Philippines.

Keywords – state of the nation address, sports, physical education, quantitative text analysis, Voyant Tools, Philippines

INTRODUCTION

Sports and physical education (SPE) are instrumental to the formation of life skills and development of values, aside from the rather “physical” benefits that may be acquired through them. Relative to this, Article XIV, Section 19 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution has always been in a stronger position of encouraging the promotion of SPE in schools and in various sports competitions from national to international levels. Therefore, the state
plays a significant role in realizing this constitutional mandate, along with the development
of statutory grounds for implementation. For instance, Republic Act 5708 or “The Schools
Physical Education and Sports Development Act of 1969” was promulgated to initiate the
advancement and funding of SPE in the Philippines. Cognizant to this, the Department of
Education shall establish programs in school sports and physical education to instill in
young citizens the appreciation of SPE as contributory to their holistic development. This
responsibility coincides with the provisions of the constitution in which the state shall lay
interest on the promotion of SPE through different local to international athletic undertakings to promote “self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of
a healthy and alert citizenry.”

In 1990, Republic Act 6847 or “The Philippine Sports Commission Act” was approved for
the purpose of establishing the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to unify the promotion
of sports at a national level by way of providing powers to such and making it as a national
policy-making body for sports promotion and athletic development in the country. In
addition, Republic Act 11214 or the “Philippine Sports Training Center Act” was
approved in 2019 with the notion that to be on a par with international sports competitions such as the
Olympic Games, the institutionalization of a national sports facility would be a strategic
move to realize the aspiration for sports excellence. The Philippine Sports Training Center
will be a sports complex hub for the pool of national athletes, and it will be constructed in
Bagac, Bataan under the management and supervision of the PSC.

With the constitutional foundation and statutory grounds institutionalized over time by
Filipino legislators, the president, being the Chief Executive, takes the initiative to promote
SPE activities in the various regions of the Philippines through national efforts and projects.
Over time, different laws were passed and approved, some of which were particular to
sports and physical education. While each president may potentially have distinct legacies
that may have paved the way for the promotion of SPE in the country, the issue on
sustainability and the tracking of the road map for quality sports and physical education
remains a challenge within the transition of one president to the next, which literatures
may have been scarce. Ergo, it would be of scholarly interest to see how the constitutional
mandate on SPE be implicitly reflected and manifested in their accomplishments, as can be
seen, for instance, in their State of the Nation Addresses (SONAs).

The Use of State of the Nation Address (SONA) as a Data Source for Research

The State of the Nation Address (SONA) is a significant gathering of various political
entities in the Philippines where the president, being the head of the state, gets to present
the current status of the country. It is a historic event that reflects the face of the country
in which the president discusses all the pertinent facts about the overall status of the
country. In addition, it is an opportunity for the current administration to announce all its
programs, plans, and policies that will benefit its constituency (Sy et al., 2019). The SONA,
in its basic sense, aims to show good governance, leadership, and strategic direction for
the country.
The presidential SONAs became the subject of various studies of varying contexts and disciplines (Ancho et al., 2020; Capistrano & Notorio, 2021; J. P. Miranda & Bringula, 2021). For instance, Ancho et al. (2020) qualitatively examined the SONAs of three Philippine presidents (Arroyo, Aquino, and Duterte) available on online repositories to unpack the manifestations of education in the nation’s state. Making sense of these data, they found out that economic development and education are synergistic entities that for education to be of greater heights, the government should capitalize on establishing a sound and strategic economic policy instrumentation. On the other hand, Capistrano and Notorio (2021) examined the direction of tourism in the Philippines by content analyzing the SONAs of the presidents from the time of Corazon Aquino (1986-1992) to the administration of Rodrigo Duterte (2016-2019). They found out that such speeches lead to three drivers of tourism such as policy, development, and prospects for the future. Meanwhile, Miranda and Bringula (2021) utilized sentiment analysis and topic modeling to unveil the “sentiments” and overarching topics manifested in the presidential speeches. Results indicated that positive sentiments enveloped the majority of the SONAs, and the keyword “development” was a dominant feature (Miranda, 2022).

**Use of Voyant Tools in Text Analysis**

Voyant Tools is a popular free web-based text analysis software package which aims to help users explore different patterns and themes behind a corpus (Sampsel, 2018). It is designed to be user-friendly and accessible, and it lives by its tagline “see through your text.” Few studies have previously used the software in various use cases (e.g., (Alexey, 2021; Miguel, 2022; Schumann, 2022). For example, in the study of Miller (2018), they explored whether the capabilities of Voyant Tools was suitable for their revitalization project. Their study showed that Voyant Tools was valuable for their interpretative project. In addition, by using the software, Miller mentioned that it helped them frame important terms which led them to greater understanding and interpreting their data. Their study further concluded that Voyant Tools can work hand-in-hand with their existing content management system (CMS) which allows them to interact with live data. These results complement the studies of Gregory et al. (2022) and Rambsy (2016) in which they concluded that Voyant Tools help them generate deeper understanding on their use cases. In a separate study, Hendrigan (2019) used Voyant Tools as a way to shed light and provide understanding on the different faculty research outputs of their department. Hendrigan concluded that the software is a viable heuristic approach to novices in digital humanities methods as it requires little steps to conduct analysis and requires no programming support in contrast to other existing software packages. In another study, Prebor (2021) demonstrated that Voyant Tools is a promising tool for text analysis that can empower an individual to acquire valuable information and insights into the prevalence, location, and common themes found within a text corpus. These studies have shown that Voyant Tools is a good tool that provides a wide range of applications to different use cases as it allows even beginners with no technical knowledge to use it and extract important insights.
With the various efforts provided by the Philippine government to rationalize sports and physical education as drivers to promoting a healthy and alert citizenry, which is instrumental to nation-building, and given the potential of SONAs as significant data source for exploration of various content and contexts, there is certainly a need to explore how sports and physical education are prospectively viewed in the speeches of the former Philippine presidents. Therefore, this study was a springboard for an examination of the mandatory declarations of the country’s state by the chief political executive where sports and physical education were the foci of interest.

**OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The study sought to examine the substantive declaration of six Philippine Presidential SONAs from 1987 to 2022 regarding the strategic directions and action programs for the future of SPE in the Philippines. Specifically, this study sought to answer the following:

1. How may each of the Philippine president SONAs define the situation of Philippine SPE in terms of self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, healthy, and alert citizenry?
2. What insights may be reported from the most frequently used words found in SONAs in relation to the predetermined themes?
3. How do the Philippine presidents convey the current state and future direction of Philippine SPE?
4. What milestones related to Philippine SPE can be attributed to each administration?

**METHODOLOGY**

The study was designed to provide a reliable report on the implications for the future of SPE in the Philippines. This research relied on the quantitative text analysis approach, which is known as computational analysis, to identify words that exist in documents, posts, and transcribed data (Basu, 2019). In particular, a quantitative text analysis was used to determine the development and future directions of Philippine SPE. This study tried to convey insights from each Philippine presidential SONA relevant to the themes that give assent to SPE in accordance with the 1987 Constitution, such as self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, and a healthy and alert citizenry. In addition to utilizing descriptive statistics, a quasi-qualitative approach was applied to present a thorough interpretation of the future direction of Philippine SPE. Employing these approaches may aid the study in further building better descriptive reports regarding the future of Philippine SPE.
Data Source and Data Collection Procedures

Personal websites such as the Official Gazette and the Presidential Communication Operation Office (PCOO) Website were used as primary sources for this study. These reputable websites are among the most widely trusted in the Philippines and publish presidential orders, republic acts, court papers, and other official documents. The websites also include information on government initiatives and policies, as well as statements and news from various government branches. Under the decree of Act No. 453 and Commonwealth Act No. 683, the official gazette, along with the PCOO website, became the official journal of the Philippine Republic. Moreover, those main sources were used as a basis for this research’s implications on the future of Philippine SPE through the presidents’ SONAs.

The dataset covers the implications, strategic direction, and future of Philippine SPE through the presidents’ state of the nation address speeches. Every year, the Philippine president is required to deliver the SONA to update the populace on the nation’s status; highlight policy achievements; and report and address urgent issues that the country is facing. This tradition started in 1935 but suspended during the martial law period in the country and resumed during the first term of President Aquino in 1987. Only the transcripts of the Philippine presidents’ SONAs delivered under the 1987 constitution were included and collected. A total of 35 SONAs from 1987 to 2022 were collected from various websites.
in the Philippines like the official gazette and the PCOO websites (Table 1). The compiled 35 SONAs served as the dataset for this study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>No. of SONA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1987 - 1992</td>
<td>Corazon C. Aquino</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998 - 2001</td>
<td>Joseph E. Estrada Jr.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 - 2010</td>
<td>Gloria M. Arroyo</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 - 2016</td>
<td>Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 - 2022</td>
<td>Rodrigo R. Duterte</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of SONA transcripts analyzed</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Cleaning, Pre-processing, and Data Analysis**

On the collected speeches of the six Philippine presidents (i.e., served as the dataset in this study), data cleaning and processing were undertaken. Data cleaning is used to find and rectify flaws in the data for a variety of operations or activities (Ilyas & Chu, 2019). Since raw data (i.e., speeches in their original form) typically leads to inaccurate data analytic outputs, data quality is one of the most critical parts of data management. All of the thought approaches, and mentions of the Philippine SPE curriculum in the speeches are then integrated to generate the study's dataset. Through cleaning the data, special characters and numbers, as well as punctuation marks, are removed. The concatenated words from speeches have been segmented and converted to lowercase. In addition, to keep the dataset constant, a list of Filipino words was translated into English. The cleaned dataset served as the corpus of this study for further analysis using Voyant Tools.

A corpus was used to examine the rhetorical values of speech addressing the situation and approach to Philippine SPE. The instincts of each Philippine president on the significance of SPE in the country was highlighted using descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution and percentage. Google Sheet was used to count the themes found in the article IV section 19 of the 1987 Constitution (i.e., self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, and a healthy and alert citizenry). Furthermore, quantitative text analysis techniques were applied to identify the total mentions as well as the insights and approaches of each Philippine president to provide accurate statistics on the future direction of Philippine SPE. According to Slapin (2018), quantitative text analysis is a self-regulating method for extracting large amounts of text from various speeches or publications. Quantitative text analysis, also known as computational analysis, identifies words that exist in documents, posts, and transcribed data, which consists of five steps (Basu, 2019). According to Kuckartz (2014), in quantitative text analysis, there are three procedures that need to take place, such as thematic, type-building, and evaluative. It has become easy to use data analysis and quantitative text analysis because they are more authentic and accurate analyses.
For analysis and visualization, Voyant Tools was utilized to properly visualize the word links found within the corpus. Voyant Tools is a web-based text analysis and visualization software that allows researchers to easily analyze and explore a corpus in a variety of ways (Sampsel, 2018). It offers a wide range of functions such as frequency counts, word clouds, network, etc. One of the functions utilized in this study is word link. It is a function that helps in identifying patterns and relationships in a text. In particular, this process has been used to gain insights into the ways that different words are used together. This overall process was defined by Danowsky (2010) as the number of times each word pair is associated with another word. In this study, the word links for each Philippine president regarding the most mentioned words in each administration were reported.

Figure 2. Process flow of data collection and analysis.
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Situation of SPE in accordance with the 1987 Philippine Constitution

In analyzing the corpus on the number of mentions of SPE themes in the Philippines under the 1987 constitution, it appears that Aquino's SONA has the most mentioned words regarding those themes based on her speech from 1987 to 1992, with 92 mentions. In the next administration, the mention of these themes dropped to 48 times under Ramos' SONA from 1992 to 1998. In Estrada's SONA from 1998 to 2001, only 15 times were these themes mentioned because they were performed in only three terms. However, under the leadership of Arroyo, from 2001 to 2010, SPE was mentioned 74 times. In the administration of Aquino III, these five themes mentioned in his SONA dropped by 29 times from 2010 to 2016. In addition, Duterte mentioned in his SONA the five themes of Philippine SPE increased by 80 times from 2016 to 2022. Furthermore, the word “healthy” preceded as the most mentioned word, as it was previously documented in five themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution, including self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, healthy living, and alert citizenship.

The five themes of Philippine SPE in accordance with the 1987 Constitution were analyzed together with their synonyms. These themes were lifted from the Article XIV, Section 19 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Table 2 presents similar words related to the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 Constitution, such as self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, and a healthy and alert citizenry, which appear in each sentence analyzed from presidents' speeches. The addresses were manually collected and analyzed paragraph by paragraph, examining how each sentence with mentions of each theme reflects the current situation and future direction of Philippine SPE, regardless of tone or context.

Insights from the Analysis and Visualization of Word Links using Voyant Tools

President Aquino (n = 5)

Illustrated in Figure 3 is the word link of Aquino's speech regarding the most mentioned words based on her SONA from 1987 to 1992. The words “great,” “people,” and “democracy” are the core of her context in speech, which had an interrelation with the word “teamwork” as one of the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution. Regardless of her context, those words represent one of the building blocks of SPE.
Table 2. The five themes of Philippine SPE in accordance with the 1987 Constitution together with their synonyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-discipline</th>
<th>Teamwork</th>
<th>Excellence</th>
<th>Healthy</th>
<th>Alert citizenry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reliance</td>
<td>Cooperation</td>
<td>Great</td>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>Vigilance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determination</td>
<td>Unity</td>
<td>Ability</td>
<td>Clean</td>
<td>Sharp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>Harmony</td>
<td>Superiority</td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>Citizenship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restraint</td>
<td>Together</td>
<td>Accomplishment</td>
<td>Food sufficiency</td>
<td>Criticized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolve</td>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>Skill</td>
<td>Robust</td>
<td>Civic discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm</td>
<td>Relationship</td>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Economic discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware</td>
<td>Friendship</td>
<td>Quality</td>
<td>Vigorously</td>
<td>Social equity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline</td>
<td>Interconnection</td>
<td>Talents</td>
<td>Fiscal discipline</td>
<td>Fiscal discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>Team</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sufficiency</td>
<td>Alliance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moral</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valor</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patience</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honesty</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**President Ramos (n = 6)**

The word link of Ramos' speech regarding the most mentioned words based on his SONA from 1992 to 1998 is shown in Figure 4. The terms “health,” “care,” and “self” are at the core of his speech, which is linked to the words “alert citizenry,” “healthy,” “excellence,” and “self-discipline,” which are known as the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution.
Figure 3. Visualization of word links based on President Aquino’s SONAs.

Figure 4. Visualization of word links based on President Ramos’ SONAs.
President Estrada \((n = 3)\)

Based on his SONA, the words “corps,” “exchange,” and “diplomatic” are the foci of his speech, which are interrelated with the word “self-discipline” as one of the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution (Figure 5). Those synonyms who appear in SONA with a different context serve as the foundation of Philippine SPE.

![Figure 5. Visualization of word links based on President Estrada’s SONAs.](image)

President Arroyo \((n = 9)\)

The terms “governance,” “discipline,” and “health” appear to be at the focus of Arroyo’s SONA together with the related words under the themes of Philippine SPE in the 1987 constitution, which are “teamwork”, “self-discipline”, and “health” (Figure 6). Those words appear in SONA in a different context but are represented as elements of Philippine SPE.

President Aquino III \((n = 6)\)

The words “quality,” “care,” and “health” are the core of his context in speech, which has an interrelation with the words “healthy,” “teamwork,” and “self-discipline” as some of the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution (Figure 7). Therefore, even though those terms are used in different contexts and tones, they represent the substance of Philippine SPE.
President Duterte ($n = 6$)

Regardless of his context, the words “health,” “shall,” and “applause” are shown as the central points of his SONA, which are associated with the words “health,” “excellence,” and “teamwork,” known as the components of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution, which embody the essence of SPE in the Philippines (Figure 8).
Figure 8. Visualization of word links based on President Duterte’s SONAs.

Table 3 reveals the most mentioned words found in the presidents’ SONAs from 1987 to 2022. After undergoing content and quantitative text analysis, the word “health” (n = 62) appeared to be the most frequently mentioned word and is followed by the word “people” (n = 24). The word “care” (n = 20) is also seen in the rankings. The list continues with the inclusion of the word “government” (n = 19), and “self” (n = 19). Overall, there are 5,948 words with 1701 unique word forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>health</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>people</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>care</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>government</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>self</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview on the State and Future Direction of Philippine SPE

As a result of the text analysis, from 1987 to 2022, the state and direction of Philippine SPE was not fully conveyed in most of the Presidential SONAs. However, they conveyed their support to SPE through declarations of programs. From 1987 to 2001, in the administrations of Aquino to Estrada, Philippine SPE gained national identity through participation in the Olympics and other international competitions. From 2001 to 2010,
President Arroyo included sports in her SONA, highlighting Manny Pacquiao's excellence in the field of boxing. Even though it was not her central theme in her speech, sports were gaining prominence among the Filipinos, which led to their popularity. However, according to the PCOO, Aquino III promoted physical education as an essential component of the curriculum and encouraged the development of sports in the Philippines, which led to gender inclusiveness of participating in a sport. Thus, one of the most remarkable moments in Philippine sports is when President Duterte empowered the National Academy of Sports (NAS) as part of his SONA implications for the development of sports in the country, in which he integrated a customized sports curriculum to support young Filipino players in developing their athletic abilities. According to Bailey (2006), physical education and sports are the main societal institutions for fostering physical competence and promoting physical activity for each individual. Regardless of the President's SONAs various themes, the state and direction of Philippine SPE have changed over time.

**Milestones of Philippine Sports and PE under Each Administration**

Sports are an important tool and program for social change in making a better and healthier world. It keeps people and the community at large vibrant and healthy. Sports create emotion on a broader scale that is not matched by any other activity (Cha, 2009). In the Philippines, it's no stranger that Filipinos are very popular and known to be athletic and sports-oriented people, as the country witnesses and produces sports icons and celebrities (Blanco, 2016).

**Corazon C. Aquino (1987 – 1992)**

In 1987, under the administration of Aquino, Philippine sports gained some traction through Section 19. Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, which asserts that the country should promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league sporting events, and amateur sports, along with training for international tournaments, to stimulate self-discipline, collaboration, teamwork, and efficiency, which are necessary for the growth of a healthy and alert citizenry. Under her administration, sports in the Philippines started to become popular, which led to the implementation of the declaration period from 1990 to 2000 as the Decade of Physical Fitness and Sports, which means that every sector, department, agency, office, and local government are managed and assigned to support the decades of physical fitness and sports. Through this declaration, the state will have the ability to develop and promote in every person a healthy and alert citizenry.


In 1992, sports in the Philippines grew in identity under Ramos' leadership, which made space for a few programs that improved the quality of sports that year. According to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 6847, or the so-called Sports for All, sports would be integrated from the barangay to the national level and acknowledged in the Olympic Games during his presidency. The Philippine National Games were the centerpiece of
Ramos’ programs during his administration, according to the official gazette Philippines, which was published in accordance with R.A. 6847, executive order 163, and the national physical fitness and sports development council. Therefore, through enlightenment on sports, the government also passed a law that year to help sports gain more popularity over time, which culminated in Administrative Order 352, which grants athletes that competed in previous Olympics, Asian Games, or other sporting events a gratuity reward and a monthly incentive allowance plan. Ramos also proclaimed February 14, 1995, as the Great Filipino Workout Day, at which time all Filipinos are encouraged to pursue physical fitness activities. This is referred to as the project or strategies of DOH’s National Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Control Program (NCVD PCP), which is one of the major components of the National Physical Fitness and Sports Development Program of the government.


In 1998, Estrada emphasized the importance of SPE in the country as a support to the excellences of the previous administrations in terms of the empowerment of the essence of sports. In his administration, sports were gaining their own individuality under executive order no. 81, where the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (DECS) transferred its programs and activities to the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) as well as establish the DECS position on school-based sports. However, in his three years as president of the Philippines, he enhanced and paid attention to the physical education program and sports, which eventually led to executive order No. 94, which established the Philippine Youth Games, or Batang Pinoy, known as the national sports program for children. Even in his short term, Estrada sustained the development of sports in the country as a response to the need to foster physical fitness, self-discipline, and teamwork excellence for a healthy and alert citizenry.


In 2001, under the term of Arroyo, the grassroots program of Philippine sports was established and strengthened. Under her administration, Filipinos have excelled in international sports competitions, such as boxing, which won the first gold medal at the 2008 summer Olympics but was not included in the medal tally because the Wushu tournament was a demonstration sport in the Olympic Games. In the succeeding years, Arroyo prioritized Philippine sports at all times. Under Republic Act No. 9850, she declared the Arnis as the national martial art and sport of the Philippines, and the State has made it a priority to instill a sense of patriotism, nationalism, and awareness of the significance of national icons and heroes in the history of the nation. In order to promote nationalism, social progress, complete human emancipation, and growth, the state must prioritize education, science and technology, the arts and culture, and sports.
Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III (2010 – 2016)

In 2010, under the presidency of Aquino III, sports in the country grew in popularity and participation, which paved the way for gender equality in sports. Upon the successful direction of sports, President Aquino III gave empowerment to the existence of Philippine sports through his program under his administration. In 2013, in order to promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league tournaments, and amateur sports, including training for international contests, Republic Act No. 10588, popularly known as the “Palarong Pambansa Act of 2013” was put into effect. In 2015, Aquino implemented another law, which is R.A. No. 10676, also known as the “Student-Athletes Protect Act.” This act protects the amateur nature of student-athletes in the Philippines by regulating their residency and prohibiting the commercialization of student-athletes. In the same year, Aquino also implemented the R.A. No. 10699 or known as the “National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act,” which promotes excellence in sports by looking after the welfare of national athletes and coaches competing for the country and by providing benefits and incentives for national athletes.

Rodrigo R. Duterte (2016 – 2022)

According to the PCOO regarding the state of Philippine sports, President Duterte emphasizes athletics as a useful way to teach children crucial values for nation building. Under his administration, sports are the central part of his term and his great way to teach young people the qualities needed to establish discipline, collaboration, and perseverance. In the succeeding years of sports in the Philippines, he continues to support sports athletes not only for the existence of sports but also as a response to his campaign against drugs. However, to enrich the development of sports in the country, Duterte signed the Republic Act No. 11470, which is known as the NAS, which integrates the high-quality secondary education program with a sports-specific curriculum. According to Saldejano (2020), in the last Southeast Asian Games where the Philippines was the host country, Philippine athletes won the overall championship meet with 149 gold, 117 silver, and 121 bronze medals.

Consequently, each administration’s milestone of Philippine sports has evolved over time. From a simple recreation in the Philippines, it eventually grew in popularity internationally. The progress of Philippine sports and physical education over the years has been attributed to the promotion of self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence, all of which are essential for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The outcomes of the study identified the SONAs of the six presidents in the Philippines, describing the five themes of Philippine SPE through quantitative text analysis. In the years from 1987 to present, the mentioned themes were unstable. The study concludes the following: (1) the administration of Corazon Aquino has the most mentioned words, at 90 times; (2) the word "health" is the most frequently used word in SONA and was followed
by the word "people"; (3) the current state and future directions of SPE did not gain momentum in SONAs but in the president's declarations; (4) as conveyed by the Philippine presidents through some SONAs and declaration programs from 1987 to 2022, the state and direction of Philippine SPE changed overtime; (5) Most of the presidents paid attention to improving and empowering SPE. To be specific, Rodrigo Duterte empowered the NAS as part of his SONA; (6) each president implemented different types of laws with implications for the country's future in SPE; (7) each administration's milestone of Philippine sports has evolved over time; (8) from a simple recreation in the Philippines, it eventually grew in popularity internationally; (9) the progress of Philippine SPE over the years has been attributed to the promotion of self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence, all of which are essential for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry; and (10) one of the most remarkable moments in Philippine sports is when President Duterte empowered the NAS as part of his SONA implications for the development of sports in the country, in which he integrated a customized sports curriculum to support young Filipino players in developing their athletic abilities.

Future researchers may consider collecting data from presidents' proclamation speeches aside from SONA to be subjected to similar analysis. Exploring the themes of Philippine sports and physical education under the 1987 Constitution through the president's historical memory in each administration is highly suggested to further justify the results of a study. Aside from the themes of Philippine SPE under the 1987 constitution as well as the republic acts of Philippine presidents regarding sports, it is suggested to also include the number of medals won by the country through participating in South-east Asian Games. Furthermore, since the scope of the study was constrained to the six Philippine presidents through the essence of physical education and sports in the Philippine curriculum under the 1987 constitution, exploring the administration of post-president Marcos regarding the existence of sports which started with the “gintong alay” would be of interest for future researchers' association to the research outcomes. Since the milestone of Philippine sports in each administration was not properly highlighted in some of the SONAs, future researchers are recommended to explore beyond the limitations of this study to further represent the research findings.

LIMITATIONS

The dataset used in this study was accumulated using personal websites such as Official Gazette and the PCOO Website. These trustworthy websites publish presidential orders, republic acts, court papers, and other government documents. The presidential SONAs were constrained by the existence of Philippine SPE in the curriculum. The presidents who were covered in this research study are supposedly selected by referring to the 1987 constitution. On the other hand, the SONAs served as the dataset for the researchers' text analysis upon uncovering the future of Philippine SPE. The dataset included important details such as the number of mentions of the five themes of Philippine SPE, as well as sample sentences on how each administration delivered them. The entire study's results
and discussion were derived from the following details extracted from Presidents’ SONAs: republic acts and some limited sources are explored.

Another limitation of this study is the uneven distribution of SONAs from different presidents. Words associated with particular topics, like SPE, may occur less frequently because some presidents may have given more SONAs than others. To overcome this potential limitation, future research might take into account normalizing the data by accounting for the number of SONAs delivered by each president.

**IMPLICATIONS**

Numerous implications can be drawn from the results of this study. For example, by analyzing the distribution on the ways how presidents utilized their SONAs in relation to SPE, current and future policymakers or presidents can gain better insights on the way presidents viewed SPE. Likewise, since this study compiled the different milestones of different administrations in relation to SPE, it provided an overview on the accomplishments related to the government efforts to promote SPE in general. Thus, this study may serve as a basis and help in laying the groundwork and roadmap for succeeding policymakers on which government initiatives to continue, those need to be strengthened, and receive continued and additional funding. In addition, by highlighting the accomplishments and the way presidents portray SPE, it helps other researchers, policymakers, and other people-in-charge in determining the areas needed for improvement that can lead to more successes, targeted, and effective measures in relation to SPE.

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**DECLARATIONS**

**Conflict of Interest**

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

**Informed Consent**

The use of informed consent was not applicable as there were no human participants involved in the conduct of the study. All data used in this study are public data.
Ethics Approval

Ethics approval was not likewise employed because the very nature of the study was grounded on a quantitative text analysis of Philippine Presidents’ speeches which are openly available online.

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