

## RESILIENCY AND THE MODERN FILIPINO YOUTH

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Resiliency is life.

Gearing up towards strengthening the foundation of the Filipino youth, the Department of Education launched its first signature agenda dubbed as DepEd Matatag. According to the official statement released by the Department, it is aimed to further revamp the overall educational quality in the country.

With its catchy tagline “Bansang Makabata, Batang Makabansa”, the agenda set forth a rallying cry to cement the bedrocks of the Filipino nation. One of its main tenets is to create a curriculum that is well-responsive to the changing needs of the worldwide technological arena. Moreover, it aims to provide a positive and inclusive learning environment so as to craft a holistic Filipino youth.

However as we look closer to this agenda, it may feel like a bit of a one-sided effort in strengthening our nation.

In Filipino society, being resilient means standing strong amidst life’s challenging situations. And with countless calamities and tragedies, both natural or man-made, we have proven time and again that we are a resilient race - pliant as a bamboo and strong as molave, as our heroes put it.

But in these changing times, being resilient is merely not enough.

For illustration, we put a frog into a bowl full of water and start to heat it. As its temperature increases, the frog may begin to adapt to its new surroundings and change

its body state. However, as the water gets hotter and closer to 100 degrees Celsius, the frog may be too exhausted to adapt anymore. It may have exhausted all its energy already, and maybe too weak to jump out of the bowl.

Eventually, it will succumb to heat and die.

Sometimes, being too resilient makes a toxic attitude. Yes it is a great quality, as it creates a formidable attitude against challenging situations.

But as we create a resilient Filipino youth, let us not forget to also improve the situation where they are in.

Let us not make them suffer from the boiling water, and eventually be exhausted and “die.”

Instead, let us all rally for a better society.

Yes, resiliency is life, but it can also be the death of an over-resilient youth adapting to an environment which slowly consumes it.

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