

Minister of Social Issues

As an honorable man once said, education is the most powerful weapon, which you can use to change the world. Magandang Umaga, fellow citizens of the Philippines. My name is _____, the Minister of Social Issues. On behalf of the Golden Generation, I will display a three-step plan to improve the public education in the Philippines and better our nation. By giving us your vote, we give you a promise. A promise to lead this nation into educational excellence.

Comment [1]: Create an interesting introduction that captures your audience, lets them know who you are and what party you represent, and gives them an idea about the plan you will present.

Education is trusted to be the best gift any parent can give to their child. The wealthy are able to send their children to first class schools where they receive quality education. **The current crisis revolves around the public education system for the poor.** A Philippine Daily Inquirer survey found that 52 percent of Filipino's considered themselves "mahirap" or poor in September 2011. **(Gonzalez)** For these people living in strident poverty, basic necessities such as food and shelter are more significant than education. **The second issue** is the lack of expenditure on basic quality education. The Department of Education's Undersecretary referred to Filipino at public schools as "graduating people who are learning less and less." **(Santiago)** Our party believes that together we can change this to "graduating people who are learning more and more." **Thirdly**, our nation lacks quality teachers in public schools, which negatively impacts parent's viewpoints. A study conducted by UNICEF demonstrated that 30% of Filipino teachers were not officially certified by the Department of Education **(Education in the Philippines)** **We therefore recognize how crucial it is to change this system.**

Comment [2]: In this paragraph, you are proving that there is a problem. You need to give cited evidence as proof of the problem. It makes no sense to have a solution to a problem if you can't PROVE that the problem exists!

Our three-step plan to success is aimed at the poor.

The first step is to encourage these families to send their kids to school.

The next step is to improve the quality and infrastructure of public schools so students will maintain their attendance. We can then promise parents that their children will learn to be responsible, productive, and self-fulfilling.

The last step is to improve the quality of public-school teachers. This will assure that students not only get an education, but one of good quality.

Comment [3]: From this point, you will develop your solution. As you can see, this minister developed a three-step plan, and then explains that plan and supports their ideas with evidence. This is an EXEMPLARY minister brief.

An ADB Paper shows that if the child is working, the odds of them attending school is ten times less than if they were not working. This is because parents earn more money with a working child than with a child attending school. **(Value of Education)** We propose the government fund a feeding program at all public schools. By providing children a free meal at school, parents save money to use for other necessities. **This type of program has proven successful in Bangladesh, where school attendance rose by 14% after a feeding program was introduced in 2008 in schools in the city of Dhaka. (Roberts).** To fund this, we will evaluate and cut back on other ineffective poverty

Comment [4]: Notice this cited evidence here that offers proof that this kind of idea has worked in the past.

alleviation programs and non-priority items like uniforms and transfer the money spent on that to this. This ensures the money is being spent in the right place, the child attends school, receives nutritional benefits, and brightens the country's future.

While the feeding programs ensure that parents will allow their children to attend school, they need to know that the education their child will receive is top quality with great materials and infrastructure. Quality includes textbooks, classrooms and teaching materials. To fund this, we suggest adding a one percent tax to luxury items. This one percent from every shopping spree or LV handbag will go to a good cause. In 2011, Pakistan instituted a 1% tax on luxury items and raised more than \$20 million for schools. (Khan and Santos) We will also use the money from the tariffs that the Minister of Economics earlier suggested.

Comment [5]: More cited evidence that proves that this type of solution could work.

The last step is to hire and retain excellent teachers. Students will then gain a wealth of knowledge benefiting them in the future. The DepEd shows that you need to retain highly qualified teachers through adequate benefits including health care, housing and a good salary. We propose to get these needed funds by imposing a 5% tax on texts. If we impose this on some 2 billion-texts sent every day, around P365 billion can be raised in a year. Some of the pioneers of modern technology, including Bill Gates, believe a tax on texts could be a positive way to raise funds for schools. (Khan and Santos)

Comment [6]: More evidence proving this type of solution makes sense.

Essentially, our nation faces 3 problems educationally: poverty, lack of expenditure on the quality of basic education and good teachers. To solve this problem, our proposal is to get students to attend school with the feeding program, maintain their attendance with improved infrastructure and retain excellent teachers by adding teacher benefits. We will also use the P170 billion originally allocated to education, in the national budget to address these problems. As an honorable man once said, education is the most powerful weapon, which you can use to change the world. The Golden Generation deeply agrees with Nelson Mandela. Together, let's give the people what they deserve, an exemplary education. By giving us your vote, we give you a promise. Together we will make the dream of a better education to reality. Thank you for your time, and vote for the Golden Generation!

Comment [7]: Concluding paragraph reviews the problem and ideas and ends with a strong statement encouraging the voters to vote for the party.