



Editorial

The Social Ethics Society Journal of Applied Philosophy now gears up towards Global Standardization of Philosophical Research

Menelito P. Mansueto, M.A.

Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology

Email: menelito.mansueto@g.msuit.edu.ph

The Social Ethics Society Journal of Applied Philosophy maintains its commitment to deliver top-caliber scholarly research on Applied Ethics and Applied Philosophy, as well as critical and innovative studies that tackle the core subjects of Philosophy, such as Metaphysics, Epistemology, and Logic. The SES Board of Editors is now preparing the journal to bring out the best of its potential as it transitions to be on par with international standards and global recognition. Though wary of potential hegemony in the competition of standardizations in academia, the SES Journal is now gearing towards global standardization of philosophical research as it embraces the necessity for institutional recognition, such as journal indexing and accreditations that help and benefit its authors. The journal is currently indexed in *The Philosopher's Index* and will continually aspire for more recognition from top global caliber educational organizations.

The SES Journal Regular Issue, Volume 10, Number 1 brings out the brilliance and the best of our Filipino scholars, young and old, but mostly from the energetic younger generation of Philosophy scholars today in the country and abroad, the voices of today's generation and of the future. These authors are the potential faces of the future of philosophical research in the Philippines and abroad. One article is submitted from Kolkata, India, a stark evidence of the journal's international reach. This current issue is a consolidated journal issue,

as some of the submissions were originally intended for a special issue. This Volume 10 is being divided into two releases due to the magnanimity of the submissions. Issue number 2 will follow soon. The articles in this volume have the following subject areas as their dominant themes: Continental Philosophy, Philosophy of Technology, Philosophy of Education, Social and Political Philosophy, Metaphysics and Artificial Intelligence, Critical Philosophy and Public Policy, and, of course, the undying Philippine Democracy.

To begin with, there are two featured articles in this issue number 1. The first featured article in this issue is Anton Heinrich Rennesland's "Comparative Views on Technology of Heidegger and Daoism (with allusions to TCM 中医)" which was a paper that was presented as a plenary lecture during the Social Ethics Society Conference last February 2024 in the beautiful municipality of Bansalan, Davao del Sur. In this work, Rennesland tackles the necessity to approach technology based on the dual lenses of the East and the West, using Daoism and Heidegger. Rennesland also discusses Classical/ Traditional Chinese Medicine zhōng yī 中医 as a case point of comparison and in understanding technology from the viewpoint of Daoism and indigenous practice/knowledge.

The second featured article is authored by the courageous philosophy graduate students of the Ateneo de Davao University. Adelbert Escollada, Karl Christianne Exala, Ardionne Frosvene Fuentes, Zandee Jaquias, and James Patrick Pabonita dared this brave assessment on the latest move of the Department of Education and the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture (Edcom II). Their essay entitled "On the Proposed Removal of Ethics in the GE Curriculum: A Moral Exposition against a Structural Injustice" courageously pointed out the lapses and shortcomings of the proposal to remove the Ethics course in the tertiary curriculum.

The succeeding four articles in this issue are devoted to educational ideas, most specifically, their takes on the emergence of the K-to-12 educational structure, as well as the improvement of the teaching and the professional practice of Ethics and Philosophy, both in the classroom and its effects to the practitioners' public lives and its impact to the entire human societies. Arvin Burbano and Jonathan Florendo's "hookian Democratic Pedagogy for a Democratic Country: A Critique of the Current K-12 Program," our third article, utilizes the

educational ideas of bell hooks in suggesting key points for improvement in the current K-12 program.

Ian Anthony Davatos's "The Public (Ir)Relevance of Philosophy," our fourth article, is a very powerful discourse that could impact and alter the practice and conduct of Philosophy in the country, as well as improve the hierarchical value of Philosophy teachers in the academe. The power of Davatos' arguments in this essay is quite stirring and moving. The article highlights the necessary elements of how and what it takes to become a relevant and functionary public philosopher.

The fifth article, Percival Paras' "Other-Oriented Teaching Philosophy in the Lens of Derridean Deconstruction," is another timely critique of our classroom pedagogy and teaching methods. Through the lens of the philosophy of deconstruction proposed by Jacques Derrida, Paras critiques the traditional teacher-centered approach to teaching, in favor of the student-centered approach through the notion of "the Other." Paras's arguments are a must-read critical piece on the strategies of the classroom.

Our sixth article in this issue, Lj Zaphan B. Lamboloto's "Revisiting the K-12 Program: A Freirean Critique" is a very timely article in these very critical times of CHED and DepEd's restructuring to a more (in)efficient college and Senior High School curriculum.

The seventh article, Barada Laxmi Panda and Sanjit Barman's "Reassessing the Self: Defending Rawls' Unencumbered Self against Sandel's Critique," highlights Rawls's account of moral personhood in the "original position" that provides a multi-faceted conceptions of the good, a clarificatory analysis addressing criticisms from the communitarian camp, and its importance in the debates on contemporary liberalism, pluralism, and the principles of a fair and just society. Christian Hipolao's "The Encumbered Radical Democracy," the eighth article in this issue, contemplates on the encumbered aspect of radical democracy, based on the moral and political philosophies of John Rawls, Michael Sandel, Charles Douglas Lummis, and Will Kymlicka.

The ninth article, Francis Bernard Caguioa's "An Unwanted Divorce Law in the Philippines: Ethical Arguments Against Divorce," provides a quite compelling discourse against the implementation of the divorce law in the Philippines. Caguioa looks at the Filipino cultural identity as the key to a strong and sustainable marital relationship.

Arnel A. Morte's "How does the Epistemic Ethics of Voting relate to Civic Obligation in the Democratic Philippines?" is our tenth article in this issue. Dr. Morte addresses in this essay the complicated nature of the country's electoral system and stresses the importance of our political and moral obligation toward our fellow citizens. The collective responsibility and the sense of mutual concern in the practice of electing the best candidates in the democratic exercise of the national election affect not just the individual but the whole country, Morte argues. Morte utilizes the concept of *entre nous* by the philosopher Charles Taylor to make sense of the complicated landscape of Philippine politics.

The eleventh article, Roseannette G. Paler's "Exposing the Filipino '*Matapobre*' Hospitality Mindset: A Reversal of the Internalized Poverty Stigma through the Lens of Amartya Sen's Capability Approach" offers a unique reading of Amartya Sen's "capability theory" as applied to a long-standing Filipino culture of hospitality. In this article, Paler critiques the Filipino concept of hospitality as it tends to become selective towards equals or "lesser beings."

The twelfth and the last article, but not the least, is Joseph Martin M. Jose's "Recasting Technological Determinism," which argues about the problematic consequences and disadvantages of the mutually exclusivist view of technology and human relations, against the continuum view. The paper tackles the disparity between human and technological autonomy and agency.

The Philippines and the world are compounded with a myriad of issues, such as conflict and wars, and utter corruption and senselessness, that our philosophers in this volume have attempted to solve. This is a very rich and enlightening collection. This volume presents a bountiful harvest of the Social Ethics Society Journal of Applied Philosophy, a volume that includes submissions from fresh college graduates, graduate students, as well as from seasoned scholars in the discipline. The journal would continue to thank the valuable time and effort of our local and international community of anonymous peer reviewers. Our boundless gratitude for your humble dedication, scholarship, and service to the journal and the entire community of readers, philosophers, and students. On behalf of our Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Ian Clark Parcon, and the Board of Editors of the Social Ethics Society, together with its members and affiliates, would

like to thank everyone to the committed atmosphere of philosophical inquiry, for the greater glory of God, and service to the whole Filipino nation as well as the entire global scholarly community. May peace, love, and respect prevail and reign on earth! *Namaste!*