

THE IMPACT OF UNREGULATED COCKFIGHT DERBY ON SELECTED BARANGAYS IN QUEZON CITY: AN ASSESSMENT

ABSTRACT

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Illegal cockfighting is a prevalent form of gambling in the Philippines and in many parts of the world, often perceived as a cultural tradition or a form of entertainment. However, unregulated cockfight derbies pose significant social, legal, and public health risks. In areas such as Anonas and Barangay U.P. Campus in Quezon City, these activities have been linked to increasing crime rates and growing safety concerns. This study sought to examine the impact of unregulated cockfighting and propose evidence-based solutions to mitigate its adverse effects. The study employed a quantitative research method, focusing on numerical data and statistical analysis. It involved 50 respondents: 10 police officers from Anonas Police Station, 10 barangay officials or volunteers, and 30 residents of Barangay U.P. Campus. Participants were selected through purposive sampling based on their relevance to the study. Data were collected using a survey questionnaire designed to assess the social, legal, and health impacts of unregulated cockfighting. The researchers ensured that the study's objectives were clearly explained to participants and that data collection procedures upheld accuracy and reliability. Findings indicated that animal cruelty and social disturbances were the most prevalent issues associated with unregulated cockfight derbies. Both concerns were rated highly, with 96% of respondents identifying them as major problems. In terms of potential solutions, 98% of respondents favored the enforcement of anti-gambling laws, the conduct of sting operations, and the prosecution of gambling syndicates as the most effective measures. Respondents were primarily aged 26–33 and 51 and above, with most being high school graduates. The study found that unregulated cockfighting has a significant impact in fostering illegal activities, causing spectator injuries, promoting animal cruelty, and contributing to gambling addiction. Issues such as reinforcing harmful cultural norms and contributing to mental health problems were perceived as having a moderate impact. In conclusion, the findings underscore the urgent need for stricter law enforcement and community-based interventions to address illegal cockfighting. By tackling these concerns, communities can reduce crime, enhance public safety, and promote animal welfare in affected areas.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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