

earlier portion of our study the local community seems to be a good place to begin, since the chances of effective participation for the individual citizen is at the moment, greater on the local level than on the national level. Besides, the ordinary man can hardly be expected to take a more active interest in the formation of decisions at the national level without first experiencing active participation in decision-making in his own local community.

In time, given more sustained practice in group participation in barangay decision-making, it is reasonable to predict that there will also be a reorientation in the perceptions of the individual of the barangay.

In all probability a new set of beliefs, attitudes, norms, perceptions and the like will develop, supportive and loyal, but at the same time eager to assume the part of an active participant in the national decision-making process, thus making possible a truly participatory democracy.

#### COMMENTS

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It seems to me that this paper presented two striking realities. First, Barangay citizens appear to be subjected to forces emanating from larger community. For instance, Prof. Adorable mentioned that the role of the barangay is supportive rather than demand-oriented. Also, the barangay is an instrument for the President to communicate with the people. Again from the larger community to the individual. It operates in an environment that is "authoritarian," to use the term of Prof. Adorable. Second, expectations of the people differ from those of the larger units. While it is true that the barangay projects are based on national programs, there are also variations of these projects from barangay to barangay.

#### OPEN FORUM

Participant: Page 8 reports that the study chose respondents who cannot say no to the regime because they are the ones who profit from the enterprise. I doubt the validity of the study's findings based on the very nature of the respondents chosen. Second, the paper should be able to distinguish between political participation and political manipulation.

Adorable: In my paper, I defined two forms of political participation. One is psychological and the other substantial. What I said in my paper is that citizen