

HANDOUT 7.2: BI-POLARITY IN CULTURAL VALUE SYSTEMS – PHILIPPINES

(From PH-8, 2001 after Andres 1985, 1998)

Cultural value	To the detriment of the law	To the advantage of the law
<i>Hiya</i> (shame)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members are ashamed to confront or report neighbors who engage in illegal fishing activities if such activity is rampant in the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members are ashamed not to confront or report neighbors who engage in illegal fishing especially when most members of the community comply with the law (<i>pakikisama</i>)
<i>Utang na loob</i> (debt of gratitude)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcers find it difficult to apprehend violators to whom they are beholden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcers are ashamed (<i>hiya</i>) not to enforce the law especially when they are beholden to the community and its leaders
<i>Pakikisama</i> (smooth interpersonal relationship)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolk are compelled to join peers in illegal activities to show their unity with them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolk avoid joining peers who engage in illegal activities to show unity with the community
<i>Bahala na</i> (fatalism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolk challenge the law as a means of gambling their fate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolk uphold the law (<i>paninindigan</i>) and leave their fate to whatever they can gain from it
<i>Mahigpit na pagkakabigkis ng pamilya</i> (strong family ties)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolk are compelled to engage in illegal activities when family survival is at stake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherfolks avoid in engaging in illegal activities as this may hinder chances (<i>bahala na</i>) of the family from improving economically if one member is apprehended
<i>Paggalang sa matatanda</i> (respect for elders)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger generations do not correct wrongdoings or wrong notions of the elders who engage in destructive fishing because it is a sign of disrespect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger generations correct wrongdoings of elders with the intention of protecting them from possible harm (<i>mahigpit na pagkakabigkis ng pamilya</i>)
<i>Personalismo</i> (personalism)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local leaders are lenient in throwing the books at violators with whom they have personal ties especially if they are relatives or friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local leaders are ashamed (<i>hiya</i>) of not prosecuting violators with whom they have personal ties especially if they are beholden (<i>utang na loob</i>) to the community who put them to power
<i>Hospitalidad</i> (hospitality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members are lenient to visitors and outsiders such as tourists, as good hosts, even if they violate coastal laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members, as good hosts, forewarn visitors of possible difficulty they may encounter if they violate coastal laws
<i>Paninindigan</i> (conviction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community leaders stubbornly circumvent the law to keep up with their image or stand by a previous pronouncement even if proven wrong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community leaders enforce the law at all cost even if political risk is high
<i>Pagtitais</i> (endurance)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members endure the hardships attached to <i>muro-ami</i> operations to survive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members endure the little gains of complying with the law instead of supporting illegal activities