

ABSTRACT

Title : **MINING IN THE PHILIPPINES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

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This thesis is an attempt to look upon the mining situation in Philippines (CAR) in the light of the Catholic Social Teaching, with mining's global situation as its backdrop. It is an endeavor to make relevant the Catholic Social Teaching in the situation of the mining industry in its global and Philippine context. More importantly, it is an effort to expose how the Catholic Social Teaching can have relevance and application in the complex issues relating to the Philippine mining industry.

Chapter one delves on the general mining issues centering on the environmental, social, and cultural impacts of Large Scale Mining. We can see in this chapter how the Philippine mining is hounded by widespread, shocking, devastating, and extensive environmental, human rights, and social problems. It also presents LSM's specific issues/concerns relating to the economy, governance, and legal matters.

It also exposes issues on how LSM creates conflicts, human rights violations, and killings and how LSM affects the Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, it discusses mining vis-à-vis health and safety, weakness in knowledge and transparency on mining issues, facts, and figures, and the defects on determining the real costs of mining. At the end of chapter one is a presentation of small-scale gold mining with its processes, methods, and practices; its contributions, issues/concerns, and challenges; and the subsequent discussions of large-scale mining's displacement of small-scale mining, government's anemic support for small-scale mining, the

reality of traders and financiers taking advantage of small-scale miners, women's participation in small-scale mining, environmental pollution, and child labor issues.

Chapter two brings into the light of the Catholic Social Teaching the pertinent issues/concerns relating to the mining industry that we discussed in the previous chapter. Ultimately, it will present the conformity and divergence of the mining industry in the Philippines in terms of compliance or non-compliance to the principles, values, and the environmental and developmental teachings of the Catholic Social Teaching. It will primarily focus on how the principles of the dignity of the human person, common good, universal destination of goods, subsidiarity, participation and solidarity and how the values of truth, freedom, justice, and love, can become paths specifying the ways possible for building a responsible, smart, and renewed mining industry that is pro-people and pro-environment.

Chapter three focuses on presenting the possibility of responsible mining in the Philippines in the light of the Catholic Social Teaching. The chapter will try expounding on the Catholic Social Teaching, with its principles and values, as bases of norms and guidelines for action to give way to the prospect of responsible mining in the Philippine mining industry. It will propose lines of actions in the light of the CST values and principles for all the stakeholders of the mining industry so that they can participate in solidarity in addressing or responding to the issues and concerns of the extractive industry. The vision of responsible mining in the Philippines can be possible with the CST principles and values providing guidelines of actions to redirect and propel the current Philippine mining industry towards a responsible one that is pro-people and pro-environment promoting integral and sustainable development that equitably benefits all.

Chapter Four summarizes the salient points and concludes the whole thesis. It also proposes recommendations for further research in relation to this thesis.