

The Concept Of Maintaining Peace And Order Situation In The Mystique Island Of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy For The Sustenance Of Peace



HARROLD VICTOR D. DUEÑAS, CFS, EdD ^{1*}

ABSTRACT

This qualitative study investigated the concept of maintaining peace and order in Siquijor, Philippines, employing a descriptive-qualitative survey design incorporating observations and one-on-one interviews with 150 Barangay Officials and 300 residents. A combined purposive and stratified sampling technique ensured representation across various demographics and key stakeholders. Data analysis involved meticulous data pre-processing, descriptive and inferential statistics, and qualitative analysis techniques tailored to each sampling method. The findings, presented as percentages and emergent themes, provide insights into community perceptions of peace and order, highlighting both strengths and challenges. This mixed-methods approach offers a rich understanding of the complex interplay between environmental sustainability, human rights, governance, electoral integrity, and tourism in shaping the peace and order situation in Siquijor. The study contributes valuable data for developing targeted, culturally sensitive peacebuilding strategies. -HVDD

INTRODUCTION

In the enchanting island of Siquijor, Philippines, lies a hidden gem that not only captivates with its natural beauty but also holds a profound secret. Beyond the pristine beaches and lush landscapes, Siquijor is known for its mystical charm and rich cultural heritage. However, amidst its attraction, there is an underlying need to address the concept of maintaining peace and order in this unique island.

"The Concept of Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Mystique Island of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy for the Sustenance of Peace" digs into the intricate tapestry of Siquijor's peace and order dynamics. This book serves as a compelling exploration of the challenges and opportunities in sustaining peace in a place that embodies both mystery and tranquility.

Theoretical Framework:

This research *"The Concept of Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Mystique Island of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy for the Sustenance of Peace,"* can effectively utilize a combined theoretical framework drawing upon several established theories to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex interplay of factors influencing peace and order in Siquijor. The framework will integrate elements of:

1. Conflict Theory: This theory posits that social inequalities, competition for scarce resources, and power imbalances are fundamental drivers of conflict. In the context of Siquijor, this framework will help analyze how resource scarcity (land, water, economic opportunities), unequal access to justice, and political polarization contribute to tensions and

conflicts within the community. The analysis will focus on identifying specific groups disproportionately affected by these inequalities and how these inequalities manifest in the reported conflicts.

2. Social Capital Theory: This theory emphasizes the importance of social networks, trust, reciprocity, and collective efficacy in fostering social cohesion and conflict resolution. In Siquijor, the analysis will explore how strong community ties, participation in local governance, and interfaith cooperation contribute to a sense of collective responsibility for maintaining peace. Conversely, it will investigate areas where social capital is weaker, making communities more vulnerable to conflict.

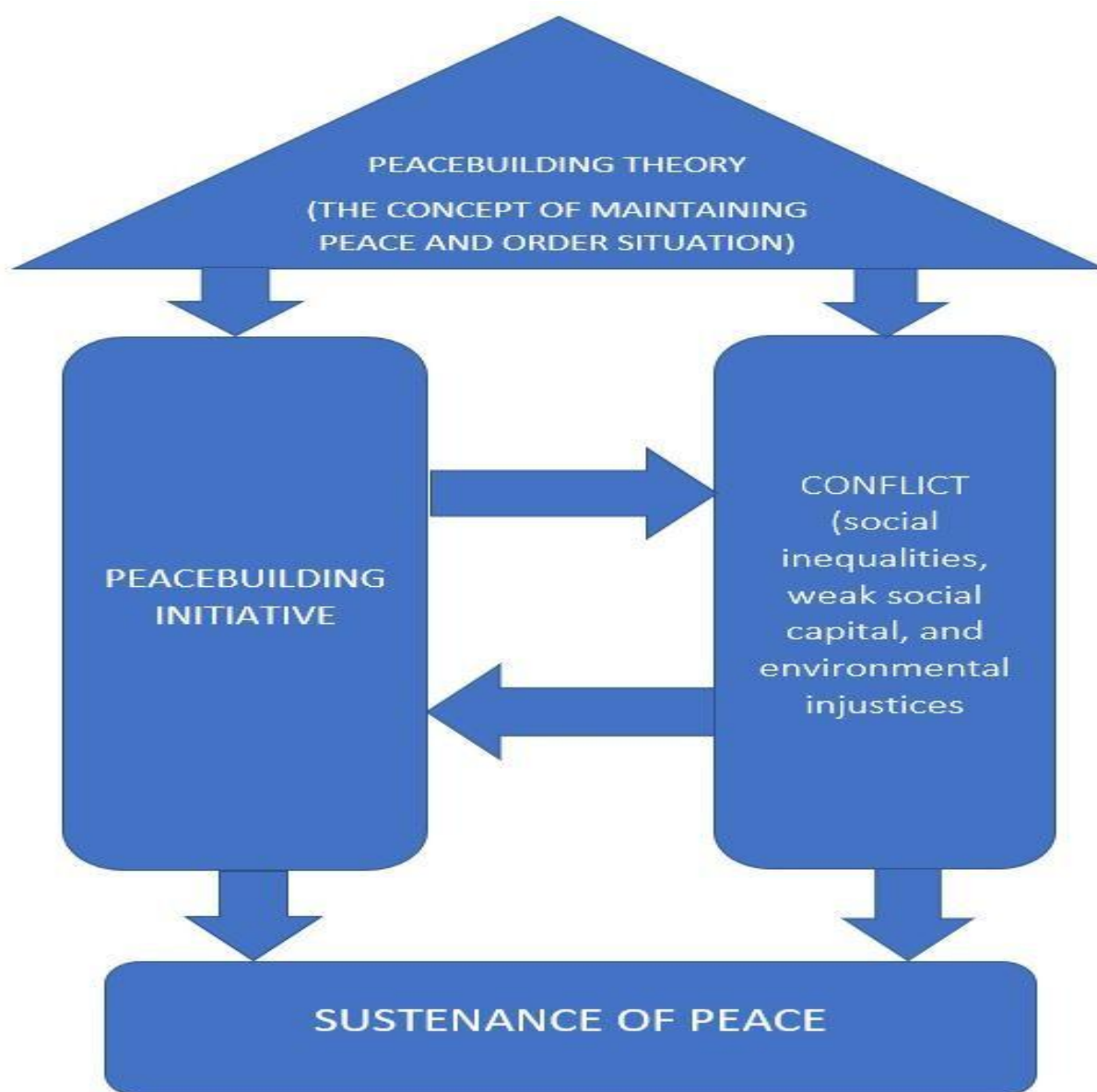
3. Environmental Justice Framework: This framework highlights the disproportionate impact of environmental hazards on marginalized communities. In Siquijor, this will be used to examine how environmental issues like, climate change impacts, and unsustainable tourism, affect vulnerable populations and contribute to conflict. The analysis will focus on identifying which groups bear the brunt of environmental degradation and how this contributes to social unrest.

4. Peacebuilding Theory: This framework focuses on processes and strategies for building and sustaining peace. The research will analyze the effectiveness of various peacebuilding initiatives in Siquijor like, community-based mechanisms, government programs, etc.. It will identify factors contributing to the success or failure of these initiatives and suggest improvements based on the findings.

Conceptual Model:

The theoretical framework can be visually represented as an interconnected model where conflict theory, social capital theory, and environmental justice theory converge to influence the peace and order situation. Peacebuilding theory acts as an overarching framework, guiding the identification of strategies to address the identified

conflicts and strengthen peace. The model will show how social inequalities like, conflict theory, weak social capital, and environmental injustices create conditions conducive to conflict. Peacebuilding initiatives aim to mitigate these conflicts by strengthening social capital, promoting environmental justice, and addressing social inequalities.



Schematic Diagram

Research Questions:

1. How do environmental sustainability practices, access to justice, citizen participation in governance, electoral integrity, and sustainable tourism practices collectively contribute to or detract from the maintenance of peace and order in Siquijor, Philippines, as perceived by its residents?
2. What are the key interrelationships between environmental resource management, human rights protection, local governance structures, electoral

processes, and tourism development in shaping perceptions of peace and order and the incidence of conflict in Siquijor, Philippines?

3. How do residents of Siquijor perceive the effectiveness of current strategies for maintaining peace and order, considering factors such as environmental sustainability, access to justice, citizen participation, electoral integrity, and the impact of tourism? What specific improvements do they suggest?

4. To what extent does the sustainability of tourism practices in Siquijor influence community perceptions of peace and order, and how does this relationship interact with factors such as access to justice and citizen participation in local governance?

Background and Context of the Study:

Through meticulous research and firsthand accounts, this book sheds light on the various factors that contribute to the peace and order situation in Siquijor.

The Problem and Objectives of the Study:

It examines the role of local governance, community engagement, and cultural preservation in fostering a peaceful environment that can thrive in harmony with its natural surroundings.

Moreover, *"The Concept of Maintaining the Peace and Order Situation in the Mystique Island of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy for the Sustenance of Peace"*, goes beyond theoretical frameworks and embraces an advocacy for sustainable peace. It emphasizes the importance of collective efforts, sustainable development practices, and the empowerment of local communities to ensure a peaceful and prosperous future for Siquijor.

The Significance

Whether you are a scholar, a policymaker, or simply a curious traveler, this book invites you to embark on a journey of understanding and appreciation for the delicate balance between mystique and peace in the captivating island of Siquijor.

METHODS

Research Design and Procedure

This chapter presents the methodology, outlines of the research design, approach, data collection methods, sampling techniques, and data analysis procedures. It explains how the research was conducted and provides insights into the study's consistency and validity.

Research Design

This study utilizes the descriptive-qualitative survey through observation and one-on-one interview with the respondents based on their personal experiences. This method is preferable for this kind of study because it is more on fact-finding with adequate interpretation.

The descriptive-qualitative method was designed for a comprehensive approach used to explore and describe phenomena in a detailed and holistic manner. This method focuses on understanding the characteristics, qualities, and nuances of a subject under study without manipulating variables or imposing preconceived notions.

Approach

This study utilizes numerous enumerators not only to ensure the entire coverage of the Province of Siquijor, but to obtain the most accurate, reliable, and relevant information through data gathering.

Data Collection Method

Prior to the conduct of field interviews and observations, the researcher sought the permission of the Barangay Chairman of random barangays in each Municipality of the Province of Siquijor; then to the respective respondents concerned in this investigation. After the permit was granted and secured, the researcher employed the assistance of numerous enumerators regarding the commencement to conduct a series and simultaneous field interviews and observations. The researcher divided the enumerators into four (4) groups, then each group was sub-divided into six (6) subgroups to cover each municipality of the province, whom were assigned to randomly selected barangays. The researcher made sure that the research objectives of such tasks were accurately acquired.

Sampling Techniques

On the study *"The Concept of Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Mystique Island of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy for the Sustenance of Peace"*, selecting the appropriate sampling technique is crucial to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings. Given the specific nature of the study, a combination of purposive and stratified sampling techniques would be most suitable.

Purposive Sampling involves selecting participants based on specific characteristics that are relevant to the research objectives. In this case, community leaders, and residents including foreigners directly involved in peacekeeping efforts would be essential. This method allows you to target individuals who possess valuable insights and experiences related to maintaining peace and order on the island.

Stratified Sampling on the other hand, involves dividing the population into subgroups or strata based on certain characteristics, such as age, occupation, or location. Since this research focusses on a diverse range of individuals involved in peacekeeping efforts, stratified sampling can help ensure that each sub-group is adequately represented in the study. By stratifying the population, you can capture the perspectives of different groups within the community and obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the peace and order situation on the island.

Combining purposive sampling to target key stakeholders and individuals with relevant expertise, and stratified sampling to ensure representation across different demographic groups, the researcher can enhance the depth and scope of the research findings. This approach will enable the researcher to gather diverse perspectives and

insights that are essential for developing a comprehensive guide for sustaining peace in the Mystique Island of Siquijor.

Data Analysis

When employing purposive sampling and stratified sampling techniques, it is crucial to tailor the data analysis procedure to maximize the effectiveness of these sampling methods. Let us dig into the best data analysis practices for each sampling approach.

Purposive sampling involves selecting specific samples on pre-defined criteria or characteristics. To ensure the robust data analysis procedure with purposive sampling, the researcher considered applying the following steps:

Step 1. Thorough Data Pre-processing – clean and pre-process the data meticulously to eliminate any inconsistencies or errors that could tilt the analysis result.

Step 2. Descriptive Statistics – utilize descriptive statistics to summarize and interpret the key characteristics of the selected samples. This step provides valuable insights into the sample's attributes.

Step 3. Inferential Statistics – apply inferential statistics to draw conclusions and make inferences about the larger population based on the purposively selected samples. This manner of statistical analysis aids in generalizing the findings.

Step 4. Qualitative Analysis incorporate qualitative analysis techniques to probe deeper into the subjective aspects of the data. This qualitative approach complements the quantitative analysis, offering a comprehensive understanding of the samples.

And stratified sampling involves dividing the population into homogeneous subgroups or strata before sampling. To optimize the data analysis process with stratified sampling, the researcher has blended the following steps:

Step 1. Stratum-wise Analysis – conduct separate analyses for each stratum to capture the unique characteristics of the sub-groups. This approach allows for a more nuanced examination of the data.

Step 2. Comparative Analysis compare the results obtained from different strata to identify patterns, trends, or disparities across the sub-groups. Contrasting the findings can enhance the depth of the analysis.

Step 3. Statistical Testing employ statistical tests to determine the significance of any variations observed among the strata. Statistical testing validates the differences and similarities between the sub-groups.

Step 4. Weighted Analysis Consider weighing the results based on the population distribution within each stratum. Weighted analysis accounts for the varying sizes of the sub-groups, ensuring a representative analysis outcome.

The researcher strongly believes that by following these tailored data analysis procedures for purposive sampling and stratified sampling, the study extracts meaning insights and make informed decisions based on the sampled data. Each sampling method offers unique advantages, and leveraging appropriate analysis techniques enhances the validity and reliability of the study outcomes.

RESULTS

The data presented, analyzed, and interpreted are the data collected for this research paper titled *"The Concept of Maintaining Peace and Order Situation in the Mystic Island of Siquijor, Philippines: An Advocacy for the Sustenance of Peace,"* has followed a structured approach. This approach will include presenting the findings, analyzing the data, and interpreting the results based on the responses from Barangay Officials and residents.

1. Data Presentation

The data is organized into sections based on key themes related to peace, order, and sustainability. Below is a summary of findings from both Barangay Officials (150 respondents) and Residents (300 respondents).

Section 1: Environmental Sustainability and Peace

• Resource Management:

- Barangay Officials: 94% (141) believe resources are well-managed, while 6% (9) disagree.
- Residents: 89% (267) believe resources are well-managed, with 11% (33) disagreeing.

• Climate Change and Peace:

- Barangay Officials: 81% (122) reported addressing climate change through ordinances.
- Residents: 78% (233) acknowledged climate change impacts are addressed.

• Ecotourism and Peace:

- Barangay Officials: 49% (49) said ecotourism is promoted through waste management.
- Residents: 47% (140) noted ecotourism is promoted for sustainable development.

Section 2: Human Rights, Justice, and Peace

• Access to Justice:

- Barangay Officials: 59% (59) reported accessibility to legal services.
- Residents: 33% (98) indicated accessibility, with 67% (202) stating barriers exist.

• Human Rights Violations:

- Barangay Officials: 122 (81%) identified potential human rights violations.
- Residents: 242 (81%) also identified potential violations.

• Social Inclusion:

- Barangay Officials: 127 (85%) acknowledged social inequalities.
- Residents: 251 (84%) also recognized social inequalities.

Section 3: Direct Democracy and Peace

- **Citizen Participation:**

- Barangay Officials: 84% (126) reported opportunities for citizen participation.
- Residents: 77% (231) indicated they have opportunities to participate.

- **Local Governance:**

- Barangay Officials: 60% (60) noted local government efforts to promote peace.
- Residents: 163 (54%) agreed on local governance efforts.

Section 4: Electoral Integrity and Peace

- **Fair Elections:**

- Barangay Officials: 109 (73%) reported secure and transparent elections.
- Residents: 143 (48%) agreed on election security.

- **Political Polarization:**

- Barangay Officials: 78% (78) acknowledged political divisions.
- Residents: 249 (83%) also recognized political divisions.

Section 5: Tourism and Peace

- **Sustainable Tourism:**

- Barangay Officials: 120 (80%) stated tourism is managed sustainably.
- Residents: 142 (47%) agreed on tourism management.

- **Cultural Preservation:**

- Barangay Officials: 125 (83%) reported efforts to preserve culture.
- Residents: 125 (42%) acknowledged cultural preservation.

2. Data Analysis**Quantitative Analysis:**

- For each question, the percentage of respondents who answered "Yes" or "No" is calculated. This allows for a clearer understanding of the overall sentiment in the community regarding peace and order.

Example:

- For the question "Does the natural resources (water, land, forests) in your Barangay was well managed to ensure sustainability and prevent conflict?"
- Barangay Officials: $(141/150) * 100 = 94\%$
- Residents: $(267/300) * 100 = 89\%$

Qualitative Analysis:

- Analyzing any open-ended responses to identify themes or key issues not captured in the quantitative data. For instance, note specific concerns about resource management or barriers to justice.

3. Data Interpretation Key Trends:

- **Positive Responses on Resource Management:** Both Barangay Officials and Residents largely agree that natural resources are well-managed, indicating a strong community awareness of sustainability.

- **Concerns About Climate Change:** There is a notable recognition of climate change impacts and related conflicts, highlighting the need for continued awareness and action.

- **Barriers to Justice:** Access to legal services presents challenges, especially for marginalized groups, which could lead to unrest.

- **Political Divisions:** A significant number of respondents from both groups acknowledge political divisions that may contribute to conflict, indicating a need for dialogue and reconciliation.

Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Preservation:

While there are efforts to manage tourism sustainably, there remains room for improvement in cultural preservation and community benefits from tourism.

DISCUSSION

This study investigated the concept of maintaining peace and order in Siquijor, Philippines, gathering data from 150 Barangay Officials and 300 residents across five barangays in each municipality. The findings reveal a complex interplay of factors contributing to both peace and potential conflict.

While a significant majority of both groups perceive effective resource management and initiatives promoting cultural preservation and responsible tourism, notable discrepancies emerged. Residents consistently reported greater challenges accessing justice and perceived higher levels of political polarization and human rights violations compared to Barangay Officials. This disparity highlights a critical gap in communication and potentially unequal access to resources and legal support for marginalized communities.

Concerns regarding climate change impacts and their potential for conflict were also prevalent among both groups, underscoring the need for proactive adaptation strategies. Furthermore, while many acknowledge opportunities for citizen participation, barriers such as lack of information hinder effective engagement in peace-building initiatives.

These findings suggest that while Siquijor demonstrates strengths in community engagement and environmental awareness, addressing systemic inequalities, improving access to justice, and fostering greater political dialogue are crucial for sustaining peace and order. Further research exploring the specific causes of these discrepancies and evaluating the effectiveness of different conflict resolution mechanisms is recommended.

CONCLUSION

Exploring the multifaceted concept of maintaining peace and order in Siquijor, Philippines, examining the perspectives of both Barangay Officials and residents. The analysis revealed a complex interplay of factors contributing to both a generally peaceful environment and significant underlying challenges. While positive perceptions of resource management and community initiatives promoting cultural preservation and sustainable tourism emerged,

substantial discrepancies between the views of officials and residents highlighted critical gaps in access to justice, equitable resource distribution, and effective communication. The significant concerns regarding political polarization and human rights violations, coupled with the potential for climate change-related conflicts, underscore the need for proactive and inclusive approaches to peace-building.

In assumption, while Siquijor demonstrates strengths in community engagement and environmental awareness, addressing systemic inequalities, strengthening mechanisms for conflict resolution, and fostering greater transparency and accountability within governance structures are paramount for ensuring lasting peace and order. Further research focusing on the effectiveness of specific interventions and the lived experiences of marginalized communities is essential to inform more effective peace-building strategies tailored to the unique context of Siquijor.

The data suggests that while there is a strong foundation for peace and order in Siquijor, several challenges remain. Community engagement, awareness of climate change, and access to justice are critical areas needing attention.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the contributors of this research – based Extension Project, the third-year students of the College of Criminal Justice Education of the Second Semester, Academic Year 2023-2024; and the Second-Year student of the College of Criminal Justice Education of the First Semester, Academic Year 2024-2025. Your unending curiosity and thirst for knowledge have been the driving force behind this work. Your questions, insights, and discussions have not only enriched this book but have also made me a better educator and researcher.

To my children, Majesty Queen Harrvi, Penny Lane Harrvi, Emmanuela Grace Harrvi, Michael Arch Angel, and Joseph Anthony Gabriel, you are the true inspiration behind my every endeavor. Each page of this book is a testament to the love, joy, and fulfillment you bring into my life. I dedicate this work to you, in hopes that it may inspire you to continue the pursuit of knowledge and to always strive for peace and understanding.

I would also like to pay tribute to my late parents, Atty. Ponciano Lumingkit Dueñas and Dr. Amadenia Jumalon Dinsay. Your unwavering support, wisdom, and love have shaped me into the person I am today. This book is a humble attempt to honor your memory and continue the legacy you have left behind.

Above all, I dedicate this book to the Almighty Father in heaven, the source of all wisdom and

understanding. It is by His grace and guidance that I was able to complete this work. May this book serve as an instrument of His peace, promoting understanding and harmony in the Mystique Island of Siquijor, Philippines. -HVDD

Keywords

1. **Peace and Order:** A state of tranquility and harmony within the community of Siquijor, characterized by the absence of violence, crime, and social unrest. It encompasses a sense of security, trust, and cooperation among residents, as well as the effective functioning of local governance and institutions.
2. **Siquijor:** A unique and mystical island province in the Philippines known for its natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and a strong commitment to maintaining peace and order.
3. **Community Engagement:** The active participation of residents in local decision-making processes, particularly those related to peacebuilding, resource management, and sustainable development. This includes sharing their views, contributing to solutions, and holding local leaders accountable.
4. **Local Governance:** The system of administration and decision-making at the local level in Siquijor, including the role of barangay officials, municipal governments, and other relevant institutions. It encompasses the policies, programs, and practices that shape the island's peace and order situation.
5. **Environmental Sustainability:** Practices and policies that protect and preserve Siquijor's natural resources (land, water, forests) for the benefit of present and future generations. This includes sustainable resource management, responsible tourism, and adaptation to climate change.
6. **Human Rights:** The fundamental rights and freedoms that all residents of Siquijor are entitled to, including the right to life, liberty, security, equality, and nondiscrimination. This is essential for ensuring a just and peaceful society.
7. **Social Capital:** The networks of trust, reciprocity, and shared values that bind residents of Siquijor together, contributing to social cohesion and conflict resolution. This includes community ties, participation in local governance, and interfaith cooperation.
8. **Conflict Resolution:** Processes and strategies for addressing disagreements and disputes peacefully and constructively within the community of Siquijor. This includes mediation, negotiation, and other mechanisms for resolving conflicts without resorting to violence.
9. **Cultural Preservation:** Efforts to safeguard and promote Siquijor's unique cultural heritage, traditions, and practices, recognizing their

contribution to peace and harmony. This includes protecting traditional knowledge, arts, and language.

- 10.Sustainable Tourism:** Tourism practices that minimize negative environmental and social impacts while maximizing economic benefits for the community of Siquijor. This includes responsible waste management, cultural sensitivity, and equitable distribution of tourism revenue.
- 11.Citizen Participation:** The involvement of residents in local decision-making processes, including expressing their opinions, providing feedback, and participating in public forums. This is essential for ensuring that decisions reflect the needs and priorities of the community.
- 12.Electoral Integrity:** The fairness, transparency, and accountability of elections in Siquijor, ensuring that all voters can participate freely and that the results reflect the will of the people. This is crucial for maintaining peace and order, as political polarization can contribute to conflict.
- 13.Qualitative Research:** A research approach that focuses on understanding the subjective experiences, perspectives, and meanings held by individuals within the community of Siquijor. This involves collecting and analyzing data through interviews, observations, and other qualitative methods.
- 14.Descriptive-Qualitative Survey:** A research method that uses interviews and observations to collect detailed information about the perceptions, attitudes, and experiences of Barangay Officials and residents regarding peace and order in Siquijor.
- 15.Barangay Officials:** Elected leaders of barangays (local villages) in Siquijor, responsible for implementing local government programs and policies and representing the interests of their communities.
- 16.Community Perceptions:** The collective views, beliefs, and opinions of residents in Siquijor regarding peace and order, including their understanding of the factors that contribute to or detract from a peaceful environment.
- 17.Resource Management:** The practices and policies for managing and conserving natural resources (land, water, forests) in Siquijor, ensuring their sustainable use for the benefit of the community.
- 18.Climate Change:** The long-term changes in global weather patterns and climate that are having a significant impact on Siquijor, including increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and shifts in agricultural patterns.
- 19.Political Polarization:** The division of the community of Siquijor into opposing groups with distinct political beliefs and ideologies, which can

lead to conflict, mistrust, and an erosion of social cohesion.

- 20.Advocacy for Peace:** The promotion of peace and order through education, awareness-raising, and the development of strategies to address the root causes of conflict. This includes advocating for human rights, social justice, and sustainable development practices.