

THESIS PROPOSITIONS

Attached to the thesis

ON THE FRONTLINES: PEASANT WOMEN AND LAND REFORM STRUGGLES IN THE PHILIPPINES

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1. An integrated approach to justice is useful in understanding and intervening on agrarian or land reform matters. *(This thesis)*
2. A serious and simultaneous consideration of the three-dimensions of (in)justice: the economic (mal)distribution, cultural (mis)recognition, and political (mis)representation, by the theorists, social movements and government agencies, are crucial in understanding and addressing land injustice. There is no justice without gender justice. *(This thesis)*
3. Transforming gender injustice involves challenging power structures: the ideologies that justify and sustain gender hierarchies (beliefs, attitudes, and practices); the resources and its distribution and control (in this case land, income, leadership, knowledge); and institutions and systems that reproduce unequal power relations (family/household, community/organization, law, and state amongst others). *(This thesis)*
4. The structures of power in which women (and men) are enmeshed operate within a class and gender dynamics at multiple levels and different institutional arenas, and these require further critical scrutiny and intervention to transform conventional perceptions and practices. *(This thesis)*
5. The sustained organization of and alliances between and amongst women and men (and their families) and the movements (social/women), together with the application of multiple action strategies can be a powerful force to counter the agrarian structure and patriarchal system, especially if women's empowerment and leadership is informed by gender consciousness. *(This thesis)*
6. Institutionalized national and international laws and policies that protect women and promote gender equality could make a great difference, so long as they are advanced and effectively enforced. *(This thesis)*
7. Bridging the gap between critical research and practice requires practitioners and scholars' collaboration and constant engagement.
8. Articulation of and sustained attention on strategic peoples' agenda, including gender agenda and representation of women's perspectives and concerns, is central for the advancement of justice and development.
9. Research that constantly takes cognizance of various power structures and dynamics in the society can be a source or impetus for societal transformation.
10. Organizing women and building gender awareness and political consciousness are crucial to achieve gender justice, and therefore require financial support. However, such initiatives do not receive adequate funding, which therefore call the attention of international development agencies, state agencies and various institutions and individuals.
11. A PhD journey, like a flowing water in a river, encounters a combination of elements, many a time beautiful, other times rough, sometimes still, at times turbulent, oftentimes healthy, or now and then toxic. Letting it flow, however, will, without a doubt, create or feed another life and eventually build new knowledge and stir change.