

DEATH IN HAITI & PHILIPPINES

Death and Dying Presentation

Samir Khalil, Chedly Dorival-Lafrance, Devin Lilly

FUNERAL PREPARATIONS IN HAITI

- As in many cultures, religion decides how a Haitian family will deal with the death of a loved one.
- The average Haitian funeral costs the equivalent of about \$540 (USD), but many Haitians don't even make that much money in a year.
- The oldest family member is charged with the planning
- Funeral procedures begin Thursday and end on Sunday
- Typically cuisine for funerals consist of soup
- The average mourning process for a Haitian usually last a month depending on the family member.



RULES OF DEATH FOR THE HAITIAN COMMUNITY

- If the family of the deceased is wealthy, they will usually own a crypt.
- Depending on how important they would like the deceased to seem in the eyes of the community, they may even pay mourners to attend the services.
- Poor families who are not able to own a crypt, must rent a space for their loved ones. Missed payments can result in removal of the body.
- Death is a business in Haiti



RULES OF DEATH FOR THE HAITIAN COMMUNITY

- Cremation and Organ Donation is not an option after death for Haitians
 - Haitians believe the body must stay intact for the spirit to cross over to the afterlife.
- The use of Voodoo is used often in the death process.
 - Autopsies are occasionally performed, sometimes to ensure that the body is actually dead and not a zombie



PHILIPPINES

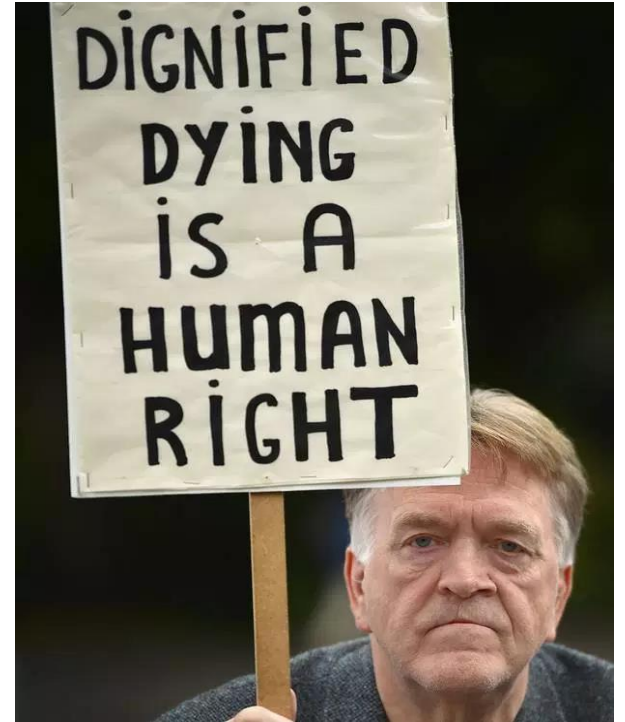
Ivatan Beliefs

- Group of people that live on the islands of Batanes in the Philippines
- Do not believe in a god but a supreme being named Mayo
- The soul is immortal
 - Is split in two, the left and right soul
 - Sickness is caused by a separation of the two souls
 - Need to offer food offerings to lure the souls back in alignment
 - In order to stop the devil from killing the sick, one must put sharpened sticks around the sick person's head and offer sacrifices to the devil
- When an ordinary person dies, their soul goes into the atmosphere and turns into a Anito
- Chiefs and rich people's souls go to heaven and become stars



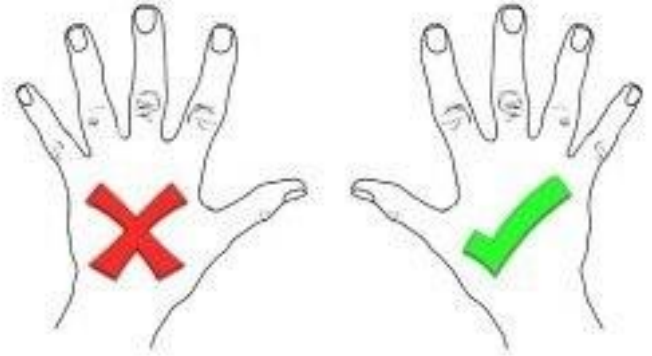
DIGNIFIED DYING IN THE PHILIPPINES

- The International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) created a catalog to help nurses understand how to help dying patients keep their dignity in the face of a terminal illness
 - However, this study wanted to see if the catalogue worked in the Philippines

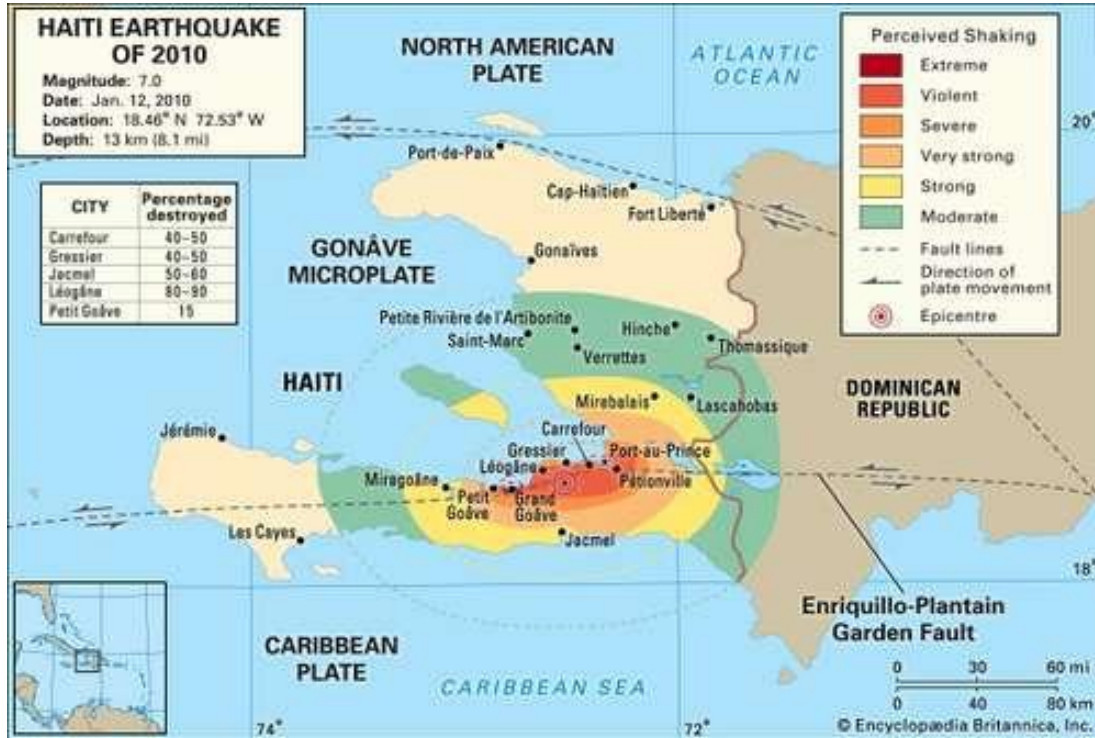


BODY TREATMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

- Suicide
 - Big taboo topic
 - Is not acceptable due to religious beliefs
 - “Quote” - will not go to heaven
- Organ Donation
 - Can be good, most people don't care
 - “Only if the soul is going to heaven” - quote
- Euthanasia/Physician-assisted suicide
 - Is against religious beliefs
 - Fifth commandment “Thou shall not kill”
 - Can only be done passively
- Cremation
 - Many Filipinos do not feel that this is proper
 - Is a valid options according to the Catholic church



HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE IN 2010



- “On Jan. 12, 2010, at 4:53 p.m. local time, Haiti was struck by the largest earthquake in its modern history. The quake killed over 222,000 people, about 2.5% of the national population, and left more than 300,000 injured, between 4,000 and 7,000 amputees, and roughly 1.5 million homeless.” (Cenat, 2015)

RESPONSE TO EARTHQUAKE



- Over 222,000 people dead
- Corpses were placed in mass graves without any identification
- Prevented relatives and loved ones from mourning or performing any cultural rituals for the dead
- Over 180,000 corpses went into mass graves unidentified (World Bank, 2010)

MENTAL HEALTH OF HAITI



- “Following the earthquake, studies were carried out to evaluate its impact on mental health. Depending on the age group and the time of assessment, prevalences ranged from 24.6% to 47.7% for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and from 26.0% to 46.2% for major depressive disorder” (Cerdá. M, 2013), (J. M. Cénat, 2015)

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, 2010



UPDATE: 2017



(Cook, 2017)

- “People lost their friends and family. I see the pain in their faces when they talk about it now. It’s a very long healing process.” - U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator Mourad Wahba
- “There are still about 55,000 people in camps and makeshift camps,” noted Wahba. “Many are still living in unsanitary conditions due to displacement caused by the earthquake. We have a very long way to go.”

CONCLUSION

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