



## Razor's Edge

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### *Why Rock The Boat Mr. Estrada?*

**NEW YORK, NY Sept. 15 (PinoyGlobal)** - Former Pres. Joseph "Erap" Estrada said that if the opposition has one candidate he would support their standard bearer. It was an infinite lie. He never really meant to fulfill this presumptuous demand. All along he harbored vindictiveness against the Aquino family: Cory spearheaded the Edsa Revolution of 2001 that ousted him and installed then-VP Arroyo.

The people's acclaim of Sen. Noynoy Aquino as their deliverer from the quagmire of Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's misrule should give him the cue that Noynoy is the legitimate heir to Gloria's seat in Malacanang. Undeniably, the euphoria of Juan de la Cruz springs from Cory's passing. It fired nationwide sympathy for the Aquino family. Being in the thick of politics, Noynoy is the direct recipient of this outpouring of love and sympathy from the people. Sentimentally they remember Ninoy's supreme sacrifice for his profound belief that "Filipinos are worth dying for."

Cory enormously endeared herself with the masses for restoring democracy in the country. Both Ninoy's great sacrifice in the altar of freedom and Cory dismantling the rule of the gun as she deposed the late dictator despite being handicapped by the frailties of a fragile young widow, sums up to the euphoria that engulfs our people for Noynoy whose parents have been immortalized in their hearts. Hence, the magic that acclaims Noynoy as the next president of the republic, come May next year.

What is intriguing is that despite the young Aquino's disarming charisma with the masses, still Erap is hell bent on running for president, which would only rock the boat and perpetuate the brand of Gloria's misgovernance through the puppet

that takes over after her. Tell me what mammal will do that insanity, except a twofaced Janus?

He completely closed his ears to the electorate's ecstatic clamor for Noynoy that came loudly after his announcement for president, along with the huge approval rating of 63% in the vote-rich provinces of Luzon. Sen. Manny Villar, who used to top all the surveys, has dropped to far second with a pathetic score of 21% as of this writing. Erap himself is a poor third on the radar screen, with 15% - while Vice Pres. Noli De Castro only got a measly 8%.

Surely, no logical thinker expected Noynoy to get 100% rating approval at this stage of the protracted campaign period: that would be asking for the impossible. And if Erap would demand so, he would just be revealing his charade, a ploy dripping with insincerity. Clearly, the young Aquino has electrified the nation that wants him to be the rallying figure against whomever the ruling party's standard bearer is in the coming elections.

If all that is not impressive to Erap it could only be because he was never sincere to join the opposition, least of all support their candidate. The whole trouble with people weighed down with an extraneous personal agenda to grab the presidency at all costs, compounded by that germ of destructive vindictiveness, is that nothing is good enough if he is not the central figure in the elections.

In the first place he was too cocky to make such a demand when he has been obscured by those five years he languished in prison for plunder. If I may ask, by what imperial edict has he anchored the notion that he is the nation's savior from GMA when if we go by rating approval he is behind in the

surveys by leaps and bounds? For sure he does not own the minds and feelings of the masses as he claims!

To me, that is rocking the boat if he is not downright lying through his teeth about seeing a united opposition. Or he is senile, which is not far-fetched, taking his erratic mind into account.

By far Noynoy Aquino is the strongest presidential candidate. This can be gleaned from the attacks heaped on him by all the contenders and especially from Gloria's camp. Erap nevertheless is unmoved. He is still running because he says he cannot support Noynoy, while contradicting himself by admitting that Noynoy is honest. He has openly admitted his bitter grudge against Cory and her loyalists, who caused him his horrendous nightmare.

He called the supporters of Noynoy the "civil society" that drummed up the plunder charges against him during his impeachment. This proves the incontrovertible fact that he can never reconcile with those who are in the opposition because they asked for his ouster as president at the EDSA Revolution. For once he is truthful.

His hate is deep-rooted and his "candidacy" will stumble onward. He thinks he has to make a point, and that is to redeem his lost "prestige" if there is any to salvage from the mire it fell into. Erap believes that he was not guilty of plunder, because he only accepted jueteng tong from illegal gambling. But he is mute over Governor Chavit Singson's testimony during his impeachment that convicted him for plunder, that he delivered tens of millions of pesos to Estrada.

To follow the logic of Erap will be committing a travesty:

proceeding on a selective basis is a no-no in law. Thus the fakery of Erap's promise to support a united opposition falls flat on its nose. The yellow fever, which he abhors to the core, depicts the ground swelling for the young Aquino who is symbolized by the color yellow, which was his mother's favorite hue.

Poor Villar is crawling behind. And he will sink deeper if he insists on making Sen. Jinggoy Estrada his running mate. Jinggoy only basks on his father's name. On his own, he is opaque in politics. Both in the Senate and as an actor he has always been lackluster. And there are talks that Villar is backsliding in 20 popularity because he has other bad characters surrounding him. What a tragic end, if he loses the elections for having the wrong company: tell me with whom you go and I will tell you who you are.

How then can he (Erap) not feel the impact of Noynoy's candidacy when even the probable lone candidate of the ruling party, who could be either Secretary Teodoro, Metro Manila's Fernando or De Castro are very much behind Aquino in the surveys? But the opposition should not be complacent, Erap including. As I said in a previous column GMA's brand of politics is dirty: cheating, vote buying and intimidation.

Oh, William, how farsighted you were when you said in Hamlet, "If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do, chapels would have been churches, poor men's cottages princes' palaces." Words are cheap, especially coming from callous politicians like Erap.