

## VYT 2025 Entry #2

### Critical Perspectives on Disasters from Persons of Filipino Background in Australia

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[Start transcript]

When the lights would go off during strong typhoons in Manila, where I grew up, we children tried not to be scared by playing with shadows using flashlights. So, today this is how I'll tell you about my research on disasters.

Every year, many lives are lost and millions spent rebuilding and providing aid.

But how can we really manage disasters better?

Based on my interviews with Filipinos who now live in Australia, what lessens risk is when people stay connected and are already involved in the community, when people are wise about what really causes risk and work to change the conditions that create it.

Stronger and more frequent hazards will come with climate change. My study shows how listening to different voices can help us see the bigger picture.

Because, as we found out as children, the solutions begin with the way we see things.

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