

Citizenship: Man's Being Defined and
Undefined in Light of *Tacson et al. v.*
Comelec

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SUBJECT(S): CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

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This Comment delves into *Tacson v. COMELEC*. The basic question is: how is citizenship determined and established? Filiation may even complicate matters. The Comment first lays down the parties, facts, and decision of the court in the said case. A legal background on natural-born citizen follows. The Comment explains that for purposes of determining citizenship under political law, the Rules on Evidence are applicable. The purpose is to eliminate or minimize the discrimination between legitimate and illegitimate children. The Comment argues that the legitimacy or illegitimacy of a child has very little or no bearing at all in his capacity to exercise his political rights, enjoy Philippine citizenship, and run for President. The Comment goes on to say that in allowing the application of the Rules of Evidence, the Court gives much leeway to law practitioners. This allows them to prove citizenship through the use of fewer documents and less inquiry into the person's lineage.