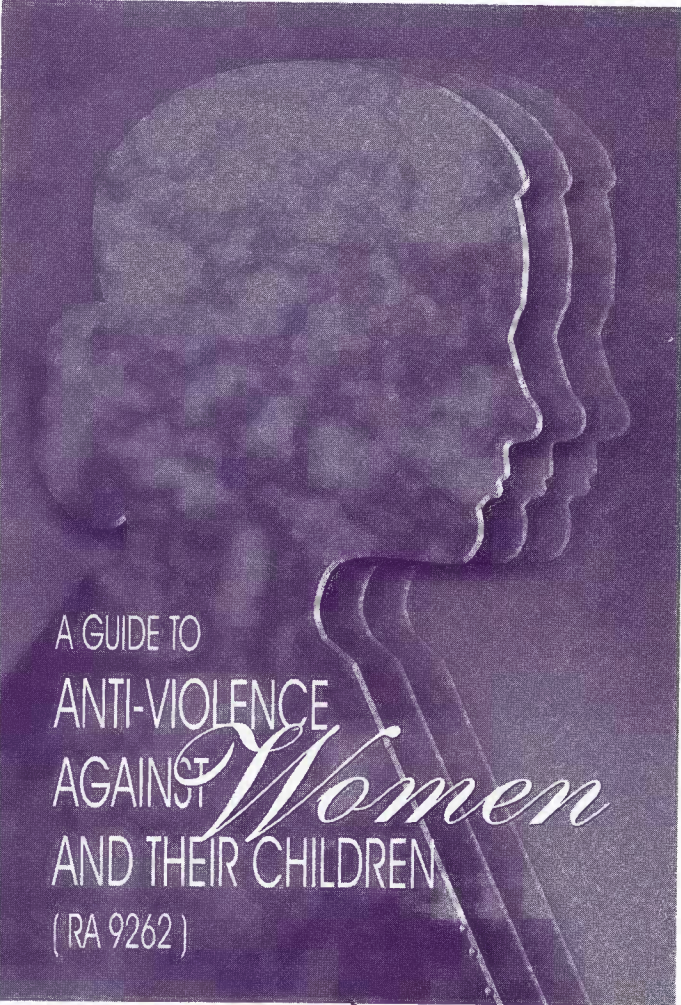


A GUIDE TO
ANTI-VIOLENCE
AGAINST *Women*
AND THEIR CHILDREN

(RA 9262)



A GUIDE TO
ANTI-VIOLENCE
AGAINST *Women*
AND THEIR CHILDREN

(RA 9262)



Message

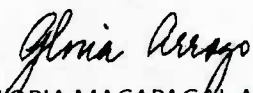
I extend my most cordial felicitations to the **Philippine Information Agency** for putting together this primer on Republic Act 9262, also known as "Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004."

I commend you for your laudable efforts in undertaking this notable project. This important publication provides succinct and relevant information regarding government programs and services on trafficking and violence against women and children involved in domestic situations. It also empowers the rights of victims by giving them access to the full intent and spirit of RA 9262.

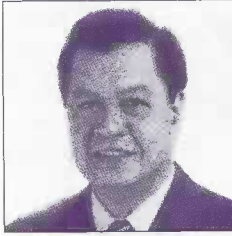
My administration is firmly committed to protecting the rights and welfare of women and their children. We must extend special care and protection to victims of spousal or parental abuse not only through services but through the rule of law. Thus, Republic Act 9262 is the legal framework that promotes and strengthens the rights of women and children from violence and threats to their personal safety and security.

With gratitude, I acknowledge the participation of civil society groups who lobbied for the passage of this law and have worked closely with the Administration in addressing this issue. I also wish to recognize the compassionate leadership of our legislators particularly those who authored and supported the passage of this historic and urgent measure.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
President of the Philippines

Manila
18 Nobyembre 2004



Message

I am pleased that through this primer, the **Philippine Information Agency (PIA)** will bring vital information on the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004" (Republic Act 9262) to the public.

The fundamental law of our land asserts the equality of men and women. With the recent enactment of this Act, coupled with the hard work of women's organizations and some non-government associations, domestic violence in the country will hopefully be totally eradicated. This very significant Act prohibits and punishes the commission of acts of violence – whether physical, sexual or psychological and economic abuse on women and children.

I laud the united efforts of PIA and the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW's) Campaign to Eliminate Violence Against Women for their commitment towards this worthwhile cause. I share your objective of improving the status of the women, mothers and children. This can only find fruition with the sufficient funding and strict implementation of your programs and projects and cooperation of the citizenry.

In this regard, I extend my wholehearted support to guarantee women protection and safety from domestic violence.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

Noli "Kabayan" L. de Castro
Vice-President of the Philippines

Manila
17 Oktubre 2004



Preface

The "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004" (RA 9262) is one significant stride that the Macapagal-Arroyo Administration has taken to realize its vision of a more humane, just and peace-loving constituency free of gender biases.

The **Philippine Information Agency (PIA)** shares the President's belief that the gender gap is part of the development gap. As President Macapagal-Arroyo herself articulated, "The visions of nations where poverty is rapidly reduced cannot be attained in places where women and girls are mistreated and their rights trampled upon."

It is in this spirit that the PIA presents *A Guide to Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act (RA 9262)* as its modest contribution to the enhancement of awareness on violence against women and children.

This Guide is published to enable the ordinary Filipino women to exercise their rights with deep understanding of the responsibilities that come with them. May it also be a vital reference material for women's rights advocates, and more importantly, for all women-victims of various forms of injustice.

God bless the Filipino women and children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Renato S. Velasco".

Sec. Renato S. Velasco
Director-General
Philippine Information Agency

Quezon City
23 Nobyembre 2004

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(Anti-Violence Against Women
and their Children Act of 2004)**

VAWC Violence Against Women and their Children

VAWC is an act or a series of acts committed by any person against his wife, former wife, a woman with whom he has or had a sexual or dating relationship, or with whom he has child; or against the woman's child.

This act may have been committed within or outside the family residence resulting to:

- **Physical violence (bodily or physical harm)**
- **Sexual violence**
 - rape, sexual harassment
 - act of lasciviousness
 - treating a woman or her child as a sex object, making demeaning and sexually suggestive remarks
 - physically attacking the sexual parts of the victim's body
 - forcing her/him to watch obscene materials or forcing the woman/child to do indecent acts
 - forcing the wife or lover to live in the conjugal home or sleep together in the same room with the abuser
 - cause the victim to engage in any sexual activity by force, threat of force, physical harm, or coercion
 - prostituting the woman or her child





- **Psychological violence**
 - acts causing mental or emotional suffering such as intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, public ridicule or humiliation, repeated verbal abuse and marital infidelity
 - acts causing the victim to witness the physical, sexual or psychological abuse of a family member or forcing the victim to view pornographic materials
 - acts causing the victim to witness abusive injury to pets
 - unlawful deprivation of the right to custody and/or visitation of common children



- **Economic abuse**
 - acts that make a woman financially dependent e.g. withdrawal of financial support
 - preventing the victim from engaging in any legitimate profession, occupation, business, or activity
 - deprivation or threat of deprivation of financial resources and the right to the use of the conjugal, community, or commonly-owned property
 - destroying household property
 - controlling the victim's own money or properties or solely controlling the conjugal money or properties

For the first semester of 2004, among the regions, Region VII had the highest number—774 cases—of reported cases on violence against women. Of these, 530 or 68.5 percent were on physical injuries/wife battering while 93 were rape cases (including incestuous and attempted rape).



The National Capital Region had the second largest number of reportage on VAW with 669 cases— 340 or 50.8 percent were on physical injuries/wife battering while 100 cases were on rape.

What are the immediate services available to the victim?



RA 9262 mandates that temporary shelter, counseling, psychosocial services and/or rehabilitation programs, livelihood, and medical assistance be extended to her.

REASONS why women do not report abuses

- they feel that it is very embarrassing
- they do not know how or whom to report to
- they feel nothing would be done on their complaints
- little support from their families, law enforcement agencies, and the health sector
- they feel that the abuse was just a small thing to bother with



Exempt from liability

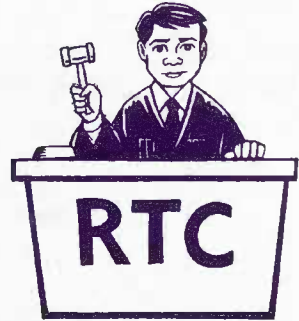
Any person, police authority, or barangay official who, acting in accordance with law, responds/intervenes without using violence to ensure the safety of the victim, shall not be held liable for any criminal, civil, or administrative act.

SURVEY SAYS

- The Social Weather Station (SWS) survey in November 2003 reveals that 2.16 million females, 18 years old and above, were physically harmed; majority of them were inflicted by either the woman's husband, boyfriend, or live-in partner.
- Some 12 percent of the respondents or 2.8 million men admitted having physically harmed someone – wives, girlfriends, live-in partners.
- Of the women physically harmed by their husbands, two-thirds have been hurt more than once while the remaining one-third can no longer remember the number of times they have been abused.

What are the rights of the victim-survivor?

- to be treated with respect and dignity;
- to avail help from the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) or any public legal assistance;
- support from the DSWD and the local government units;
- support provided by the Family Code; and
- to be informed of their rights and of the services available to them, including their right for a protection order.



REGIONAL TRIAL COURT, designated as a Family Court, has the original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases of VAWC.

What is a protection order?

It is an order which aims to

- safeguard the victim from further harm;
- minimize any disruption in the victim's everyday life; and
- help the victim regain control over her life.

It may be filed in the barangay where the victim-survivor or petitioner resides or where she sought refuge.

The protection order may be secured by the barangay (Barangay Protection Order) and the court (Temporary Protection Order and the Permanent Protection Order).

How can a protection order help the victim?

For starters, the Barangay Protection Order (BPO) which is effective for 15 days, is issued and personally served by the punong barangay/ kagawad and orders the respondent to:

- stop threatening the victim; and
- stop harassing, annoying, or contacting the victim by any means, directly or indirectly.

Who can file for a protection order?

- The offended party
- Parents or guardians of the offended party
- Ascendants, descendants, or collateral relatives within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity
- Officers or social workers and LGUs
- Police officers, preferably women's and children's desks
- Punong barangay or barangay kagawad
- Lawyer, counselor, therapist, or healthcare provider of the petitioner
- Two concerned responsible citizens who have knowledge of the offense done

How does one apply for a protection order?

The application must be in writing, signed, and verified under oath by the applicant. The application includes:

- names and addresses of petitioner and respondent;
- description of relationships between petitioner and respondent;
- a statement of the circumstances of the abuse;
- descriptions of **reliefs** requested by petitioner;
- request for counsel and reasons for such;
- request for waiver of application fees until the hearing; and
- a statement that there is no pending application for a protection order in another court.



RELIEF

The reliefs that may be granted under the TPO and PPO are the following:

- prohibit the accused from committing any acts of violence as defined in this primer;
- prohibit the accused from harassing or communicating with the petitioner;
- remove and exclude the accused from the residence of the petitioner;
- direct the accused to stay away—either in residence, school, place of employment—from the petitioner;
- direct lawful possession of essential personal effects (car, belongings) by the petitioner and that she be accompanied by law enforcers to the residence in getting these personal effects;
- grant temporary or permanent custody of child/children to the petitioner;
- direct the employer of the respondent to remit a percentage of the latter's salary to the petitioner; failure means that the respondent and his employer are liable for contempt; and
- prohibit accused to use or possess any firearm and to surrender this to the court.

How does RA 9262 harness the criminal system in cases of domestic violence?

As explained by Senior Assoc. Justice Reynato S. Puno during the joint launching of RA 9262, RA 9208 and the IRR last Oct. 27, 2004, under RA 9262, the principal weapon of the nation of domestic violence is the protective order which is provided by the courts.

How does the High Court do this? What are the procedures?

FIRST: Violence against women often takes place in families belonging to the low income group. The profile of victims of domestic violence include those that are:

- a) ill-educated;
- b) suffer from financial incapacity; and
- c) live in far away places where there are no Family Courts.

To address these three problems, the courts have done the following:

- A standard form of the petition was devised where the petitioner or representative can simply check the boxes. The Clerk of Court is tasked to assist the Petitioner to fill up the standard form.
- For indigent victims or petitioners, payment of docket fees and other expenses is waived or no longer requested. Also, whenever the petitioners or victims are shown to be in imminent danger or there is threat to their life and there is no more time for the victim to access payment for the said fees.
- In the absence of Family Courts in the vicinity of the victim, the petitioner for protection can be file their petition with the RTC, MTC in cities, MTC or MCTC with jurisdiction over the residence of the offended victim.

SECOND: The criminalized acts by RA 9262 are many; they include physical and sexual abuses, psychological violence and economic abuse. These prohibited acts need to be prevented immediately for any delay may be injurious to the victim. Thus, the Court Rule grants the judge the right to issue on ex parte a temporary protection order with a lifetime of 30 days.

Under the Rule, the allegations of the petition are verified by the victim. Affidavits of her witnesses should be attached to the petition.

The Protective Order cannot be avoided by the offender because this is enforceable anywhere in the Philippines. The Rule requires that law enforcement agencies submit a written report to the court within 24 hours showing how they implemented the order.

It also considers the personal safety of the victim as it requires a social worker to prepare a case study and program of intervention for the offended party, including referral to DSWD Havens and other crises intervention centers. The social worker also monitors the compliance of the protection order by the offenders.

THIRD: Under the Rule, the offender is banned from raising opposition, any counter claim or cross-claim, or third party complaint. If he has a cause of action for any such claim, he should file it in a separate proceeding. Impleading other parties and interposing other issues will hinder the quick disposition of petition for protection order. The Rule also prohibits pleading with dilatory effects like motion for extension of time to file opposition, postponements and other causes of delay.

If there is any factor that can negate the right of a victim of domestic violence, it is judicial delay. The Rule requires the offender to file his opposition to the petition within five days. The opposition must be verified and must be accompanied with affidavits of his witnesses.

The Rule likewise requires the holding of an early preliminary conference. In the event that a further hearing is necessary to decide the petition for protection order, the judge has to apply the Rule on Summary Procedure. The petition for a protection order has to be decided within 30 days after termination of the hearing.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

The UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirmed the equality of all human beings. In 1979, the UN General Assembly also adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (CEDAW). In 1993, the UN General Assembly also adopted the CEDAW.

In the Philippines, no less than Section 14, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to recognize the role of women in national building and to ensure the fundamental equality before the law on women and men. The Philippine Senate ratified the CEDAW as well as the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its two protocols which Congress capped on March 8, 2004, the passage of RA 9262 entitled, **“An Act Defining Violence Against Women and Their Children, Providing for Protective Measures for Victims, Prescribing Penalties therefore and for Other Purposes”** and RA 9208 entitled **“Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003.”**

Guidelines for Media Practitioners on Reporting and Coverage of Cases Involving Children and Women

EXPLANATORY NOTE

While it is recognized that freedom of the press is a fundamental right which constitutes a cornerstone in a democratic society such as the Philippines, there is a need to balance the role of media in public information and education with the rights of children to privacy and special protection within the framework of the Philippine justice and social welfare system. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) to which the Philippines is a signatory recognizes the right to privacy, honor and reputation of a child as a victim or in conflict with the law.

Also, Republic Act 7610 requires strict confidentiality on the identity of child-abuse victim and to all records pertinent to the case. Presidential Decree 603, on the other hand, provides for the destruction of records relevant to the case such as those from the NBI, police, and any other government agency after the charges have been dismissed.

Confidentiality

RA 9262, in its Implementing Rules and Regulations, underscores in Rule XI, a section on Confidentiality, particularly as it pertains to women-victim or child-complainant. The passage of RA 9262 is one positive measure undertaken by the Arroyo Administration to fulfill the Philippine Government's commitment to the Beijing Platform for Action.

Is it right to make public the personalities of the victim or complainant?

NO. The law is emphatic that the name of victim/s should be held in confidence, particularly if the victim

is a minor. However, if an adult victim chooses to go public, she may do so with the assistance of her counsel.

The following public and private entities are, by law, mandated to protect the identity of the victim:

- barangay officials, law enforcers, prosecutors, and court personnel must not disclose the name/s of the victim survivors nor give away information that may compromise her identity;
- law enforcers and prosecutors must conduct closed-door investigation and must not divulge to media any information regarding the complainant;
- editors, publishers, and media personalities (broadcasters, reporters, film directors/producers) must not publicize the identity of the victim in any communication channel

What is the penalty of any break in confidentiality?

Any person who violates this provision shall suffer the penalty of one year imprisonment and a fine of not more than P500,000.00

What are the DOs and DON'Ts for people in media?

Media people must:

- NOT USE photos of victims who are naked, scantily clad, or in any revealing/degrading state;
- NOT photograph or use photos of minors as victims or suspects;
- NOT DIMINISH THE REALITY of violent crimes with the use of human, cartoons, etc.;
- NOT PLACE news of violence next to pin-ups and such which heighten its titillating aspect;
- NOT use words which tend to be judgmental against the victim and/or suspect (terms like prostitute, sexy dancer, sex maniac, drug addict);

- NOT use obscene and vulgar terms unless there is a compelling reason to use these words;
- **MUST use graphics, line shots, other illustrations to visually supplement the reportage;**
- **Ensure that the victim is informed of the consequences of the incident's publication and her consent for publication is given freely and willingly.**

What are the rules and regulations, and international conventions that media practitioners must observe when reporting on children victims?

Strictly, these are:

That in all media coverage involving children, their best interests should be the primary and paramount consideration by:

- respecting the child's right to privacy at all stages of the proceedings or documentation of all cases involving children;
- seeking and considering the child's opinion/ consent in any matter or procedure affecting him/ her on the content of reports and stories, publication of photos or airing in radio/TV interview;
- considering the inclusion of details—only if it will help the public understand the child abused or offended and not undermine the safety and dignity of child victims;
- keeping all records of sexual abuse cases strictly confidential except in connection with any court or official proceedings;
- keeping the child's identity and respecting the child's dignity by not publishing photos (past and present) especially those that are degrading;

- withholding additional information that may inadvertently lead to disclosure of the child's identity e.g. parents' full names, child's address, school, etc.;
- reporting crimes of violence against children or crimes involving children factually and seriously;
- exploring innovative ways/means to protect the child's identity while reporting on their cases in a compelling manner;
- adhering to codes of conduct and guidelines developed by professional associations such as the KBP, PPI, the Adboard, and individual internal ethical standards of print and broadcast media;
- coordinating closely with government agencies responsible for children/woman issues and concerns;
- respecting the authority of lawyers/legal counsels, social workers, psychologists, and other professionals responsible for child/women cases;
- conducting interviews during investigations and during the trial with the advice of counsel and responsible social workers; and
- refraining from exploiting children's cases through media reportage for fund-raising/other purposes.

GOVERNMENT VAW HOTLINES

COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SERVICES

DSWD-NCR Ugnayan ng Pag-asa
Crisis Intervention Center
Legarda, Manila
(02) 734-8617 / 8619 / 4216 / 8637

DSWD Social Protection Unit
Quezon City
(02) 931-9133
(02) 932-2573

HOSPITAL-BASED WOMEN'S DESK PROGRAM MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Amang Rodriguez
Memorial Medical Center
Marikina City
(02)998-2485

East Avenue Medical Center
Quezon City
(02) 434-2511
(02) 929-4080
(02) 928-0611 loc 237
(02) 922-5235
(02) 926-7744

Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital
Manila
(02) 712-2451

Jose R. Reyes Memorial
Medical Center
Sta. Cruz, Manila
(02) 711-9508 / 9491
(02) 732-1077

Las Pinas District Hospital
Las Pinas, Metro Manila
(02) 828-4157
(02) 806-6873

National Center
for Mental Health
Mandaluyong City
(02) 531-8578 / 8682

National Children's Hospital
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
(02) 725-4533
(02) 724-0656

Philippine General Hospital
Taft Avenue, Manila
(02) 521-8450 local 3816

Philippine Orthopedic Center
Banawe, Quezon City
(02) 712-4767/4569

Care Medicine and Central Office
Cubao Clinic, Quezon City
(02) 929-9492

Quirino Memorial Medical Center
Quezon City
(02) 721-3089
(02) 723-7724

Rizal Medical Center
Pasig City
(02) 671-4216

Tondo Medical Center
Tondo, Manila
(02) 252-8661/6101

NBI Crisis Center for
Women and Children
Taft Avenue, Manila
(02) 524-0237
(02) 523-8231 loc. 545

UP-CM PGH Child Protection Unit
Department of Pediatrics
Philippine General Hospital
Taft Avenue, Ermita
Manila, Philippines 1000
(632) 526-8418
(632) 521-8450 local 2214
Fax: (632)524-0712
Email: cpu@advisory.ngo.ph

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Public Attorney's Office (PAO)
Department of Justice
DOJ Agencies Bldg., NIA Rd. cor. East
Ave.
Diliman, Quezon City
(02) 929-9010
(02) 927-6810
(02) 926-2878

Women's Legal Bureau
Quezon City
(02)921-8053

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Philippine National Police
Camp Crame, Quezon City
Crime Laboratory Service,
Medico-Legal Division
(02) 722-0955
(02) 721-8558
(02) 723-7429
(02) 724-1227

**National Bureau of
Investigation (NBI)**
Taft Avenue, Manila

**NBI Anti-Child Abuse,
Discrimination and
Exploitation Division**
(ACADED) Manila
(02)523-8231
(02) 525-3094 / 6028

Philippine National Police (PNP)
Directorate for Investigation &
Detective Management (DIDM)
NHQ-PNP 1st Floor
Annex & 2nd Floor
Gen. Delos Reyes St., Camp Crame,
Quezon City
(02) 724-8773 / 8767
(02) 726-7891
(02) 724-8790

Women's Desk Headquarters
Camp Karingal, Quezon City
(02) 921-5229

Central Police District
Quezon City
(02) 740-9180

Eastern Police District
Pasig City
(02) 641-0436

Southern Police District
Makati City
(02) 899-9016

Western Police District
Manila
(02) 524-6506/ 6526

DSWD CENTERS FOR FEMALE VICTIMS/ SURVIVORS OF RAPE AND OTHER FORMS OF ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Crisis Intervention Unit
386 San Rafael Sts. Cor. Legarda,
Manila
(02) 734-8617/ 8635

Kanlungan Center Foundation
Quezon City
(02) 928-2384
(02) 433-0953

Marillac Hills

Zapote Road, Alabang
Muntinlupa City
(02) 807-1585/ 1587 / 1589

**CORDILLERA AUTONOMOUS
REGION**

Crisis Intervention Unit
Lower Engineer's Hill
Baguio City
(074) 444-3209

Haven

Leonard Wood Road
Baguio City
(074) 444-5344

REGION I

**Substitute Home for
Women Home for Girls**
San Nicolas West Agoo
La Union
(072) 710-0425

Haven

Bonoan, Binloc
Dagupan City
(072) 523-3284

Crisis Intervention Unit
San Fernando, La Union
(072) 888-2505

REGION II

Haven

Linga, Solana, Cagayan
(078) 824-8180

Crisis Intervention Unit
Brgy. Carig, Tuguegarao City
(078) 846-7532/ 7414

REGION III

Home for Girls
Capitol Compound
Malolos, Bulacan
(044) 791-1478

Home for Girls
San Vicente, Tarlac City
(047) 2222-240

Home for Girls
Singalat, Palayan City
0919-469-1506

Haven

San Vicente, Magalang, Pampanga
0918-331-2516

Crisis Intervention Unit
Regional Office, Teopaco Street
San Fernando, Pampanga
(045)961-1346

REGION IV

**Home for Girls- Bahay Tuluyan
Dasmaringas Bago-Bantay**
(DBB) Area B, Dasmaringas, Cavite
(046) 416-0579

Haven

Rosario, batangas
(043)321-2276

REGION VII

Crisis Intervention Unit
Cuenco St., cor. Maxilon Ave.
Cebu City
(032) 233-8779

Home for Girls
Cuenco St., cor Maxilon Ave.
Cebu City
(032) 416-7516/ 7646

Haven

A Lopez St., Labangon
Cebu City
(032) 261-8106

REGION VIII

Crisis Intervention Unit
Magsaysay Ave., Tacloban City
(053) 325-2906

Home for Girls
Pawing, Palo
Leyte
(053)323-3145

Haven
Pawing, Palo
Leyte
(053) 323-2872

REGION IX

Crisis Intervention Unit
Sta. Barbara St., Zamboanga City
(062) 991-4113

Home for Girls
Upper Tumo, Dipolog City
(065) 212-6265

REGION X

Crisis Intervention Unit
Km. 5 Upper Canitoan
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 858-2464

Home for Girls
Km. 5 Upper Canitoan
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 858-2439

Haven

Km. 5 Upper Canitoan
Cagayan de Oro City
(088) 272-7344

REGION XI

Crisis Intervention Center
Magsaysay Avenue, Davao City
(082) 227-1964

Home for Girls
Maa, Riverside
Davao City
(082) 244-0576

Substitute Home for Women
Maa, Riverside, Davao City
(082) 244-0662

REGION XII

Crisis Intervention Unit
ARRM Complex, Cotabato City
(064) 421-6877

Haven
ARRM Complex, Cotabato City
(064)421-6877

CARAGA REGION

Crisis Intervention Unit
Alviola Village, Baan
Butuan City
(085) 341-3565

Home for Girls
Brgy. Bonbon, Butuan City
(085) 226-5127

SALIENT FEATURES of RA 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004)

- Defines violence against women and their children as “any act or a series of acts committed by any person against a woman who is his wife, former wife, or against a woman with whom the person has or had a sexual or dating relationship, or with whom he has a common child, or against her child whether legitimate or illegitimate, within or outside the family abode, which result in or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological harm or suffering, or economic abuse including threats of such acts, battery, assault, coercion, harassment or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.”
- Classifies violence against women and their children (VAWC) as a public crime
- Focuses/covers violence against women and their children in the context of family and intimate relationships
- Defines children as those below eighteen (18) years of age or older but are incapable of taking care of themselves including the biological children of the victim and other children under her care
- Provides for a prescriptive period from 10-20 years
- Adopts the battered woman syndrome (BWS), a scientifically defined pattern of psychological and behavioral symptoms found in women living in battering relationships as a result of cumulative abuse, as a defense
- Reiterates that if the victim-survivor is found by the courts to be suffering from BWS, she does not incur any criminal and civil liability

- Strengthens the role of the barangay and police officers, lawyers, social workers, and healthcare providers in responding to VAW cases
- Provides stricter penalties to acts that constitute VAWC, i.e., imprisonment based on the Revised Penal Code; monetary fines ranging from P100,000- P300,000; mandatory psychological counselling/ psychiatric treatment for perpetrators
- Provides for emergency, temporary and permanent protection orders to prevent further acts of violence against a woman or her child
- Provides penalties for the violation of protection order
- Entitles the woman survivor of VAWC the custody of her child/children
- Emphasizes that the custody of minor children should be given to the woman even if the victim is suffering from BWS
- Mandates the perpetrator to provide a bond to keep the peace between involved parties
- Spells out rights of the victim-survivors of VAWC such as right to be treated with respect and dignity, to avail of legal assistance from the (PAO-DOJ) or support services from DSWD and other legal remedies/assistance under the Family Code.

Published by the **PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY** for the



**National Commission on the
Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)**

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" UNTIL EVERY WOMAN AND CHILD ARE LIBERATED FROM THE SHACKLES OF OPPRESSION, IGNORANCE AND POVERTY, THERE WILL BE NO REAL PEACE, NO REAL JUSTICE AND NO REAL PROGRESS FOR MANKIND. "

Macgyal Arroyo

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