

PRIMER  
ON  
NATIONAL  
FAMILY  
VIOLENCE  
PREVENTION  
PROGRAM



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE  
AND DEVELOPMENT

## **PRIMER ON NATIONAL FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

### **1. Introduction**

Do you know that 6 out of 10 filipino families are at risk of becoming victims of family violence? Philippine National Police records show that the crime index against persons and chastity is a high 68% of the total crimes committed. The daily newspapers shout headlines on sexual molestation and physical assault and the victims are mostly helpless women and innocent children. Added to this, only 10% of the cases are brought to the attention of the law enforcement/helping agencies and where the majority choose to suffer in silence.

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**Culture...poverty is  
no excuse to  
family violence.**

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### **2. What is Family Violence?**

Family Violence is a serious abuse of power within the family, trust and dependency relationship. It is the deliberate infliction of physical and psychological harm



and sexual assault between and among family members, relatives or anybody in domestic relationship.

### 3. What are the Types of Family Violence?

- A. Physical Abuse/Maltreatment = is any act which results in non-accidental physical injury to any member of the family. It may include being hit with a fist, slapped, poked in the eye, strangled, kicked in different parts of the body, stabbed with knife or sharp object, etc.
- B. Sexual Abuse = the act of causing or attempting to cause another person in a domestic relationship to engage involuntarily in any sexual act by force, threat of force or duress.
- C. Emotional/Psychological Abuse = infliction of unreasonable punishment other than physical punishment through excessive verbal assault or non-verbal harassing acts. e.g. cursing, belittling.
- D. Neglect = unreasonable deprivation of the individual's basic needs such as food clothing, shelter, education, general care and supervision.
- E. Multiple Abuse = is any act that is a combination of the various types of abuse inflicted to a child, a woman or any member of a family/household that results in physical injury, sexual exploitation, impaired social functioning and danger to life of the person.



### 4. What are the Factors that Lead to Family Violence?

- A. Immediate Causes (factors which have to do with child and family) = includes poor and large families, unemployed/underemployed parents, low educational attainment of both parents and children, irresponsible parents, family values which are materialistic, inappropriate expectations, previous experience of abuse, aggressive response to stress.
- B. Underlying Causes (factors which have to do with the community) = ineffective access to basic services, inadequate employment opportunities, inequitable distribution of resources, nature and condition of work, influence of violence in media, violence in the neighborhood.
- C. Root Causes ( factors which have to do with the society) = economic, political and socio-cultural environment (e.g. gender stereo types/ patriarchy , power relations).

### 5. Why is family violence not just a family problem, but a social concern ?

*Family violence can no longer be ignored for reasons that :*





- it is a human right issue which seriously violate the right of an individual to a safe and peaceful living.
- it is a development concern where the long term effects of violence deters the development of victim's potential to contribute to national building.

## 6. What existing laws protect, women and other family members from violence?

There are several laws which protects children and women from being abused and exploited, however there is no law yet which is solely for family violence. The following are some of the existing laws which addresses cases of family violence:

### a. *International Laws*

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- Convention in the Elimination and Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

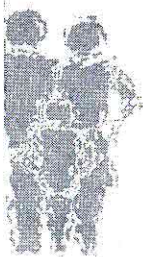
### b. *Local Policies*

- EO 209 (The Family Code)
- PD 603 (Child and Youth Welfare Code)

- RA 7610 (Special Protection Act on Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination)
- RA 8353 (Anti-Rape Law)
- RA 8551 (Creation of Women's Desk in every Police Station)
- RA 8369 (Family Courts Act of 1997)
- Presidential Memorandum dated February 5, 1997 directing all concerned officials of national units for a call to Action Against Domestic Violence

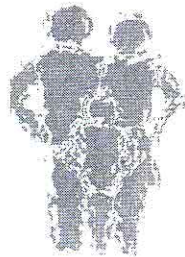
## 7. What is the National Family Violence Prevention Program?

- it is a community-based strategy of preparing family members to protect themselves against violence and manage resolution of conflict within the context of family relation;
- mobilizing the communities and inter-agency groups/structures to consolidate efforts in support to families at risk or exposed to family violence;
- strengthening family relationship.



## 8. What are the Strategies of the National Family Violence Prevention Program?

- A. Training and Continuing Technical Assistance = aims to strengthen the knowledge, skills and practices of trainers as advocates and mobilizers of social development network at various levels (regional, provincial, district, municipal and barangay).
- B. Organization and strengthening of Support Groups/Community-Based structures.
  - Strengthening of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children and Lupon Tagapamayapa.
  - Organization and/or mobilization of existing care group of volunteers or community-based structures in every purok as advocates and peer counselors to victims of family violence e.g. KALIPI, PYA, FSCAP, PES Volunteers, Day Care Workers etc.
  - Organization and/or strengthening of inter-agency structures at the municipal/city/provincial levels.
  - Demonstration of Family Group Conference as a preventive and mediation strategy in resolving family conflict
- C. Research and Documentation



- D. Public Information and Advocacy - focus on the rights of children and women and on the roles and responsibilities of parents towards their children and the effects of family violence.
- E. Installation of data-based system on family violence.

## 9. How can you help and support?

- Join neighborhood volunteer peer support groups
- Support activities and projects for the prevention of family violence

## 10. Where does one report a suspected victim of Family Violence?

- Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC)
- Community Leaders
- Nearest DSWD Office
- NCR-CIU = 734-8617/734-8619
- CAR-CIU = (074)444-3638
- I = 542-3403
- II = 824-8180
- III = 961-2981
- IV = 735-5412
- V = (052) 481-3801
- VI = (033) 336-5429
- VII = (032) 416-7516
- VIII = 323-2872
- IX = 991-4113

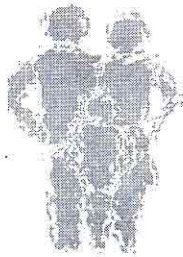


- X = (08822) 726-359
- XI = 244-0576
- XII = 421-6877
- Local Social Welfare and Development Office
- Women's and Children's Desk; PNP Stations
- Nearest radio or TV stations
- National Bureau of Investigation
- Commission on Human Rights
- City/Provincial Prosecutor/Department of Justice
- School Authorities/Officials
- Non-government organization/civic group in the community/area

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**It's about time to act  
and be involved in the  
fight against family  
violence.**

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT  
Programs and Special Projects Bureau  
Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City  
Tel. No. 951-2802; 951-7124; 931-8101 to 07 Local 115/126