



Tanggapan ng Katulong na Kalihim
Office of the Undersecretary

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DepEd MEMORANDUM
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**PROHIBITION AGAINST ACTS CONSTITUTING VIOLATIONS OF R.A.
7610 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "SPECIAL PROTECTION OF
CHILDREN AGAINST CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND
DISCRIMINATION ACT" AND THE FAMILY CODE**

To: Bureau Directors
Directors of Services/Centers and Heads of Units
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Chief of Divisions
All Others Concerned

The increasing number of reports on corporal punishment being inflicted on pupils/students is a clear indication that some officials and teaching/non-teaching personnel of our schools are over zealous in exercising their substitute parental authority to the extent that they inflict corporal punishment upon their pupils/students, in violation of Republic Act No. 7610 which makes the following acts constituting child abuse, as criminal offenses, to wit:

1. Psychological and physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse and emotional maltreatments;
2. Any act by deeds or words which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;
3. Unreasonable deprivation of his basic needs for survival, such as food and shelter; or
4. Failure to immediately give medical treatment to an injured child resulting in serious impairment of his growth and development or in his permanent incapacity or death.

Substitute parental authority is not without limitation. It can only be exercised within the school premises, and for that matter, it shall be exercised

for the purpose of protection and promotion of the physical, mental, and moral well being of the pupils/students, and not otherwise.

In order to instill in the minds of our school officials and teaching/non-teaching personnel the said purpose, heads of offices of DepEd should continuously remind them of their criminal liability if they commit acts constituting the offense of child abuse.

Batas Pambansa Blg. 232, its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and DECS Service Manual 2000 are replete with provisions on the proper treatment of pupils/students and their rights which must be respected.

This Office will not hesitate to take disciplinary action against school officials and teaching/non-teaching personnel, who will commit any act of child abuse, and if warranted, to dismiss them from the service.

Let copies of this Memorandum be disseminated to all the teachers and all other school officials and personnel.


ATTY. FRANKLIN C. SUNGA
Undersecretary

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1- -(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

LEGISLATIONS
PUPILS
RULES & REGULATIONS
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