

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

13 SEP 10 AM 1:36

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1608

RECEIVED BY: *Ji*

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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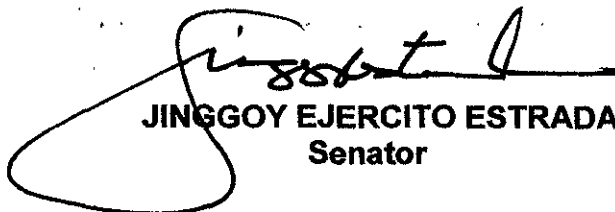
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

White slavery has become a major trade and menace to the dignity and welfare of women and young children. It reduces them to mere sex objects. Efforts from various sectors of society and the government have proven to be futile due to the ills of the criminal justice system.

With this alarming thought, there is a need to amend existing laws to deter if not totally eradicate this inhumane practice of peddling women and children as sex objects. This bill seeks to provide a higher penalty for white slave trade, punishable under Article 341 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended. It likewise provides for the punishment of persons acting as procurer or recruits of prostitute. Sanctions are also imposed against establishments or enterprises which promote, facilitate or conduct activities constituting prostitution.

As white slave trade becomes more rampant rather than curtailed, there is a need to put more teeth into the law and impose higher penalty against those who transgress and exploit women and young children.

In view of the foregoing considerations, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator



13 SEP 10 AM 11:36

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AN ACT  
DETECTING PROSTITUTION BY AMENDING ARTICLE 341 (WHITE SLAVE  
TRADE) OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, INCREASING THE PENALTY OF  
IMPRISONMENT AND FINE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

**SECTION 1.** Article 341 of the Revised Penal Code, is hereby amended  
to read as follows:

- a. "Art. 341. White Slave Trade. a. The penalty of RECLUSION TEMPORAL [Prison Mayor in its medium and maximum periods] shall be imposed upon any person who, in any manner or under any pretext shall engage in the business or shall profit by [prostitution or shall enlist the services of any other for the purpose of prostitution];
- (1) ACTING AS PROCURER TO SOLICIT A PERSON TO BECOME THE CLIENT OF A PROSTITUTE. IF THE CLIENT CONSENTS TO BE PROCURED FOR THE PROSTITUTE, THE LATTER SHALL LIKEWISE BE PUNISHED UNDER THIS ARTICLE;
  - (2) INDUCING A PERSON TO BE A CLIENT OF A PROSTITUTE BY MEANS OF ADVERTISEMENT OR OTHER SIMILAR MEANS;
  - (3) CONVERSING WITH ANY PERSON IN ANY PUBLIC PLACE WITH THE INTENT TO SOLICIT HIM OR HER TO BE THE CLIENT OF A PROSTITUTE;
  - (4) RECRUITING A WOMAN UNDER THE PRETEXT OF LAWFUL EMPLOYMENT BUT ACTUALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF TURNING HER OVER TO OPERATORS OF WHITE SLAVERY;
  - (5) DECEITFULLY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OR THROUGH INFLUENCE DUE TO HIS RELATIONSHIP SHALL PROCURE A WOMAN AS PROSTITUTE;

- (6) THREATENING OR USING VIOLENCE TOWARDS A WOMAN TO ENGAGE PROSTITUTE;
  - (7) TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIS RELATIONSHIP IN ORDER TO DEMAND FROM THE WOMAN WHO HAS PROSTITUTED HERSELF THE WHOLE OR A PART OF THE COMPENSATION DERIVED FROM PROSTITUTION;
  - (8) GIVING MONETARY CONSIDERATION, GOODS OR OTHER PECUNIARY BENEFIT TO A WOMAN BY MEANS OF AN ADVANCE OR OTHER MEANS WITH THE INTENT TO MAKE SUCH WOMAN AS PROSTITUTE;
  - (9) MAINTAINING CALL GIRLS THAT WILL CATER TO FOREIGN TOURIST AND LOCAL CLIENTS, AND;
  - (10) FURNISHING A PLACE FOR PROSTITUTION OR ENGAGING IN THE BUSINESS OF FURNISHING THE PLACE FOR PROSTITUTION, MAKING IT HIS BUSINESS TO ALLOW WOMEN PROSTITUTES TO LIVE AT THE ESTABLISHMENT WHICH HE POSSESS AND MANAGES OR AT THE PLACE WHICH HE DESIGNATES AND FURNISHING THE FUNDS, LAND OR BUILDING NECESSARY FOR THE BUSINESS.
- b. <sup>article 150, 151, 152</sup> SANCTIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENTS OR ENTERPRISES WHICH PROMOTE, FACILITATE OR CONDUCT ACTIVITIES CONSTITUTING PROSTITUTION - ALL ESTABLISHMENTS AND ENTERPRISES WHICH PROMOTE OR FACILITATE PROSTITUTION SHALL AUTOMATICALLY BE CLOSED AND THEIR AUTHORITY OR LICENSE TO OPERATE SHALL BE CANCELLED, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OWNER OR MANAGER THEREOF BEING PROSECUTED UNDER THE ARTICLE AND/OR THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED, OR BY SPECIAL LAWS. SUCH ESTABLISHMENTS AND ENTERPRISES SHALL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL THE COURT DETERMINES OTHERWISE, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE INTEREST AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE AND THE IMMORALITY OF THE ACT.

"AN ESTABLISHMENT SHALL BE PRESUMED PRIMA FACIE ENGAGE IN THE PROMOTION OR FACILITATION OF PROSTITUTION IF THE ACTS CONSISTING PROSTITUTION OCCUR IN THE PREMISES."

**SEC. 2.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*