


SENATE
P. S. R. No. **947** RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO INCREASE
AWARENESS AND CREATE MEASURES TO CURB NEW SYNDICATE
OPERATIVES THAT INVOLVE BABY SNATCHING AND HUMAN
TRAFFICKING

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides: The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 12 of the same, states: The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government;

WHEREAS, various media reported that a new form of baby snatching is being practiced by syndicates in Manila;

WHEREAS, it was alleged in the news that a 26 year-old bank teller underwent labor pains while inside the jeepney; two strangers, both women, tried to help her, but she rejected their offer;

WHEREAS, when she alighted and flagged down a cab, the two strangers, one wearing a nurse's uniform that bore the logo of the Metropolitan Hospital, followed her inside the cab;

WHEREAS, once inside the cab, one of the women made her smell something, which caused her to faint;

WHEREAS, when the victim woke up, she found herself in a bed that did not resemble those found in hospitals; however, one of the women who allegedly tried to help her said that she was in the Metropolitan hospital;

WHEREAS, the woman who wore the nurse's uniform told the victim that she gave birth to a by girl, even showing her the baby, which the nurse held in her hands;

WHEREAS, the victim alleged that she was detained in a room for three days;

WHEREAS, she was allowed to call her husband but the women who were with her insisted that the conversation be made through speaker phone;

WHEREAS, when she asked why she was still being detained, she was told by the suspects that her bill was not settled yet and there was no one to pick her up; one of the women gave her a pill to sleep;

WHEREAS, when the victim woke up, she found herself lying in front of the Sta. Cruz church from across Plaza Sta. Cruz, with people milling around her because of the blood on her hospital gown;

WHEREAS, the victim soon found out that she was missing her shoes, bag, which contained P18,000, her cellphone, and worse, her baby;

WHEREAS, it is abominable that because of their frailty, pregnant women have become targets of human traffickers;

WHEREAS, the State should ensure that the precarious conditions of pregnant women are not easily preyed upon by these vicious baby snatchers or human traffickers;

WHEREAS, under a contract of carriage, cab drivers should make sure that their passengers arrive at their point of destination safely, and should also practice extraordinary diligence; hence, cab drivers should ensure that pregnant women undergoing labor pains should be taken to a hospital;

WHEREAS, these cab drivers should sign their names with the guard on duty declaring that the patient was brought safely to the hospital as a safety precaution that the pregnant woman was not simply brought anywhere else especially if she has become unconscious;

WHEREAS, the police and the proper government agencies should alert the public about new operatives by syndicates;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported need to increase awareness and create measures to curb new syndicate operatives that involve baby snatching and human trafficking.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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