

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

13 NOV 27 P3 27

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1978

RECEIVED BY: *J*

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution accord the highest recognition to the sanctity of the family as a basic autonomous social institution and foundation of our nation. Towards this end, the State is mandated to strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development, promote and protect the physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being of the youth and defend the right of the children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development.

In his newspaper column, Justice Isagani Cruz once observed: "What makes incestuous rape doubly odious is the father's moral influence on the victim, who is thus, usually unable to resist his demands even without any force or intimidation being exerted on her. The poor girl simply yields because he is her father although she knows that what he is doing is wrong. What is worse is that if she does not tell on him, also because of his domineering authority, the usual consequence of her silence is to induce another attack."

Incestuous rape is difficult to punish because of the natural reluctance of the victim to report the foul act her father has committed. This reluctance may be due to physical fear of her molester, aversion to the visiting shame and scandal on herself and her family, unwillingness to put her father in prison, or uncertainty about her mother's reaction.

The mother's reaction is not always indignation. While the victim's mother will normally be shocked and outraged and immediately report her husband to the authorities, some mothers have been known to berate their daughter for lying against their father. The wife will simply refuse to believe that her husband would do such things. A few will decide to just hush up the matter and have a "serious talk" with their husbands, hoping that this would end the problem once and for all. Others may do nothing at all because of their own fear of the rapist on the house.

In this sense, all of the individuals involved are liable, even the mothers. This bill seeks to uplifts the courage of people to pursue justice in any way they can, given the information that they have. In this regard, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator



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AN ACT  
AMENDING ARTICLE 226-B OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1.** Article 266-B of the Revised Penal Code is hereby amended  
to read as follows:

"SEC. 266-B. Penalties. "xxx"  
"xxx"  
"xxx"  
"xxx"  
"xxx"  
"xxx"

- (1) When the victims is under eighteen (18) years of age and the offender is a parent, ascendant, step-parent, guardian, relative by consanguinity or affinity within the third civil degree, or the common-law spouse of the parent of he victim;

**MOREOVER, ANY MOTHER WHO, IN AN INCESTUOUS RAPE, REFRAINS FROM INSTITUTING PROSECUTION FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF THE OFFENDER OR WHO TOLERATES THE COMMISSION OF THE SAME, SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF TWELVE (12) TO TWENTY (20) YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE RANGING ROM FIFTY THOUSAND (P 50,000.00) TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (P 150,000.00) PESOS AND SHALL BE PERPETUALLY DEPRIVED OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY. INCESTUOUS RAPE IS A CRIME COMMITTED BY THE LEGAL OR NATURAL FATHER, STEPFATHER OR DE FACTO FATHER LIVING WITH THE VICTIM AGAINST HIS DAUGHTER.**

**THE TERM "MOTHER" UNDER THIS ACT INCLUDES THE NATURAL OR LEGAL MOTHER, STEPMOTHER OR ANY FEMALE PERSON IN**

**WHOSE LEGAL CUSTODY THE VICTIM IS FOUND  
AT THE TIME OF THE COMMISSION OF THE  
INCESTUOUS RAPE.**

"xxx"

**SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.*** All Acts, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the date of its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whatsoever comes first.

*Approved,*