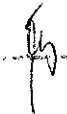


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

}
}
} 7 JUL -3 1965

SENATE
S. B. No. 897

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under Article 333 of the Revised Penal Code, "Adultery is committed by any married woman who shall have sexual intercourse with a man not her husband ... "

On the other hand, a married man is liable for concubinage only when he does any of the three acts specified in Article 334 of the Revised Penal Code, to wit:

- (a) keeping a mistress in the conjugal dwelling; or
- (b) having sexual intercourse under scandalous circumstances with a woman who is not his wife; or
- (c) cohabiting with her in any other place.

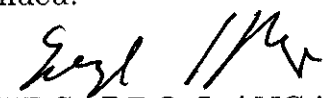
Although both the crimes of adultery and concubinage violate marriage vows, the law treats them differently. A married woman can already be convicted of adultery by a single act of sexual intercourse. While the husband can be convicted of concubinage only if sexual intercourse was performed under scandalous circumstances, or if he does any of the two other acts specified in the Revised Penal Code. Therefore, the law makes the crime of concubinage more difficult to establish.

The law also imposes a lesser penalty for the crime of concubinage. Both the adulteress and her paramour are punished with imprisonment of *prision correctional* in its medium and maximum periods while the penalty for concubinage is *prision correctional* in its minimum and medium periods and *destierro* for the husband and the concubine respectively.

Prominent commentators justify such discrimination by the fact that adultery makes possible the introduction of bad blood into the family thereby destroying family harmony and solidarity. This justification is incorrect as both adultery and concubinage violate the marital vows thus shattering family solidarity.

This Act seeks to remedy such inequality in the law by amending Article 334 of the Revised Penal Code. The amendment deletes the phrase "under scandalous circumstances", increases the penalty and qualifies the penalty to be imposed on the concubine.


The approval of this bill is therefore recommended.


EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

SECRETARY
7 JUL -3 PG:08

SENATE
S. B. No. 897

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 334 OF ACT NUMBER 3915, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Article 334 of Act Number 3815, as amended, otherwise
2 known as the Revised Penal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

3

4 "Article 334. *Concubinage* - Any husband who shall keep a mistress in
5 the conjugal dwelling or, shall have sexual intercourse [, under scandalous
6 circumstances,] with a woman not his wife, or shall cohabit with her in any
7 other place shall be punished by *prision correctional* in its [minimum and]
8 medium AND MAXIMUM periods.

9 IF THE PERSON GUILTY OF CONCUBINAGE COMMITTED THE
10 OFFENSE WHILE BEING ABANDONED WITHOUT JUSTIFICATION BY
11 THE OFFENDED SPOUSE, THE PENALTY NEXT LOWER IN DEGREE
12 THAN THAT PROVIDED IN THE NEXT PRECEDING PARAGRAPH WILL
13 BE IMPOSED."

14 The concubine shall suffer the penalty of *PRISION CORRECCIONAL*
15 IN ITS MEDIUM AND MAXIMUM PERIODS IF SHE PERFORMS SEXUAL
16 INTERCOURSE WITH THE MAN KNOWING HIM TO BE MARRIED,
17 OTHERWISE, THE CONCUBINE SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF
18 *destierro*.

19

20 **SECTION 2.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts
21 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
22 accordingly.

23

1 **SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the
2 completion of its publication either in the official gazette or in at least two (2)
3 newspapers of general circulation.

4

5 *Approved,*