

The 2021 National Women's Month Celebration serves as a tribute, a platform, and a call to action that highlights the extraordinary roles of ordinary Juanas in the society as trailblazers and harbingers of change. This celebration is also a venue to discuss and address the issues that women continue to face so empowerment can be fully achieved. The campaign is also a call for concrete, sustainable, and inclusive actions towards gender equality.

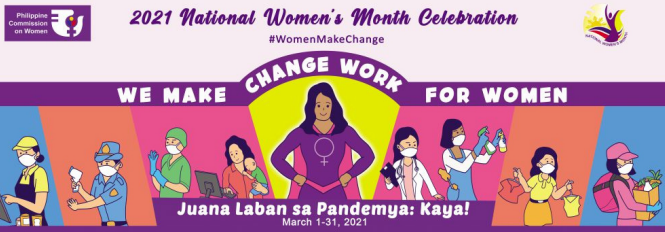
The 2017-2022 NWMC with the theme **WE Make CHANGE Work for Women** generally aims to:

- Inform and engage women as stakeholders of government programs and services – to promote citizen-centric governance and make “change” a conscious effort to know, understand, and provide what ALL citizens need
- create and facilitate platforms to discuss good practices, gaps, challenges, and commitments in pursuing gender and development (GAD) – to strengthen implementation of the Magna Carta of Women
- inspire and empower women and girls to be agents of change – to contribute in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women

Thus, government agencies and local government units shall ensure that their programs and activities for the NWMC contribute in achieving these objectives and the focus of the 2021 celebration.

Juana Laban sa Pandemya: Kaya!

This year's campaign is different from the previous ones because it is set in the COVID-19 pandemic backdrop, which posed both challenges and opportunities for women. Hence, this year's observance highlights women's participation in battling the pandemic as well as discusses gender issues exacerbated by the pandemic. It is the time to delve deep into the gender issues that emerged or become more felt during the health crisis, feature women who thrived despite the circumstances, and share support systems and government programs that address women's issues and concerns.



FUN FACT:

Are married women obliged or required to use their husbands' surname?

No. According to prevailing jurisprudence, “a married woman has the option, but not a duty, to use the surname of the husband.” Therefore, upon marriage, married women have the option to continuously use her maiden name or: Her maiden first name and surname and add her husband's surname; or Her maiden first name and her husband's surname; or Her husband's full name, but prefixing a word indicating that she is his wife, such as “Mrs.”

Directory of Women and Children Protection Units and VAWC Desks (as of March 2020)

(Level 2 WCPU)
Jose B. Lingad Memorial General Hospital
San Fernando, Pampanga
(0923) 402 3688
Trained Personnel:
Leizl Dela Cruz-Yap, MD
Cynthia G. Gueco, MD
Jovita S. Baybayan, RSW
Deborah Dimitui, RSW

(VAWC Desk)
CAPIN - Angeles City*
(Romana Pangan District Hospital)
Angeles City, Pampanga
Trained Personnel:
Irene Alacar Flores, MD
Nora Gorbato Verwasa, RSW

(VAWC Desk)
Rafael Lazatin Memorial Medical Center*
Visitacion St., Angeles City, Pampanga
Trained Personnel:
Katherine Cadiz Tuazon, MD
Ma. Cielo L. Sarion, RSW

HELP

Office of Student Affairs

Don Honorio Ventura State University
Villa de Bacolor
Office of Student Affairs

Women

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

2021

ULRC
UCAU
NSTP
USC
THE INDUSTRIALIST

- <https://cityofsanfernando.gov.ph/help>
- <https://pcw.gov.ph/2021-national-womens-month/>
- <https://pcw.gov.ph/republic-act-7877-faqs/>
- <https://pcw.gov.ph/vaw-faqs/>
- <https://pcw.gov.ph/mcw-faq/>



THE ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT OF 1995

What is Sexual Harassment?

Under RA 7877, work, education, or training related sexual harassment is “committed by an employer, employee, manager, supervisor, agent of the employer, teacher, instructor, professor, coach, trainer, or any person who, having authority, influence or moral ascendancy over another in a work or training or education environment, demands, requests or otherwise requires any sexual favor from the other, regardless of whether the demand, request or requirement for submission is accepted or not by the object of said act.”

How is work-related sexual harassment committed?

Work-related Sexual Harassment is committed when:
1. The sexual favor is made as a condition in the hiring or in the employment, re-employment or continued employment of said individual, or in granting said individual favorable compensation, terms, conditions, promotions, or privileges; or refusal to grant the sexual favor results in limiting, segregating or classifying the employee which in any way would discriminate, deprive or diminish employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect said employee
2. The above acts would impair the employee's rights or privileges under existing labor laws; or
3. The above acts would result in an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment for the employee.

What are the penalties for offenders?

Any person who violates the provisions of the law shall be penalized by imprisonment of not less than one (1) month nor more than six (6) months, or a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000) nor more than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000), or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court. Any act on arising from the violation of the provisions of this Act shall prescribe in three (3) years.



ANTI-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN ACT OF 2004

What is RA9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004?

It is a law that seeks to address the prevalence of violence against women and their children (VAWC) by their intimate partners like their husband or ex-husband, live-in partner or former live-in partner, boyfriend/girlfriend or ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend, dating partner or former dating partner.

What is Violence Against Women and Their Children under RA9262?

It refers to any act or a series of acts committed by an intimate partner (husband, ex-husband, live-in partner, boyfriend/girlfriend, fiancé, who the woman had sexual/dating relationship):

- against a woman who is his wife, former wife;
- against a woman with whom the person has or had a sexual or dating relationship,
- against a woman with whom he has a common child;
- against her child whether legitimate or illegitimate within or without the family abode,

Of which results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological harm or suffering or economic abuse including threats of such acts, battery, assault, coercion, harassment or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

What are the acts of violence which are covered under R.A. 9262?

- **Physical Violence** – acts that include bodily or physical harm (battery)
- **Sexual Violence** – the acts which are sexual in nature committed against a woman or her child.
- **Psychological Violence** – Acts or omissions causing or likely to cause mental or emotional suffering of the victim
- **Economic Abuse** – Acts that make or attempt to make a woman financially dependent upon her abuser.

What are the penalties for committing VAWC?

Offenders proven in court to be guilty of the crime shall be penalized with: imprisonment ranging from 1 month and 1 day to 20 years payment of P100,000 to P300,000 in damages mandatory psychological counseling or psychiatric treatment.



THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN

What is Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710)?

The MCW is a comprehensive women's human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination through the recognition, protection, fulfillment and promotion of the rights of Filipino women, especially those belonging in the marginalized sectors of the society. The MCW establishes the Philippine government's pledge of commitment to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women's (CEDAW) Committee and to the UN Human Rights Council on its first Universal Periodic Review in 2009. It is the local translation of the provisions of the CEDAW, particularly in defining gender discrimination, state obligations, substantive equality, and temporary special measures. It also recognizes human rights guaranteed by the international Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

Why is this law entitled the Magna Carta of Women and not Magna Carta for Women?

In the process of national consultation during the 13th Congress, it was decided to rename the bill to Magna Carta of Women to highlight **women's participation and ownership of the bill.** **What are the rights of women guaranteed under the Magna Carta of Women?**

All rights in the Philippine Constitution and those rights recognized under international instruments duly signed and ratified by the Philippines, in consonance with Philippine laws shall be rights of women under the Magna Carta of Women. These rights shall be enjoyed without discrimination since the law prohibits discrimination against women, whether done by public and private entities or individuals.

What are the penalties of violators?

If the violation is committed by a government agency or any government office, including government-owned and controlled corporations and local government units, the person directly responsible for the violation, as well as the head of the agency or local chief executive shall be held liable under the Magna Carta of Women. The sanctions under administrative law, civil service or other appropriate laws shall be recommended by the Commission on Human Rights to the Civil Service Commission and the Department of the Interior and Local Government. Further, in cases where violence has been proven to be perpetrated by agents of the State, such shall be considered aggravating offenses with corresponding penalties depending on the severity of the offenses. If the violation is committed by a private entity or individual, the person directly responsible for the violation shall be liable to pay damages. Further, the offended party can also pursue other remedies available under the law and can invoke any of the other provisions of existing laws, especially those that protect the rights of women.