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6. Every child has the right to protection against exploitation, improper influences, hazards, and other conditions or circumstances prejudicial to his physical, mental, emotional, social and moral development.
7. Every child has the right to the care, assistance, and protection of the State, particularly when his parents or guardians fail or are unable to provide him with his fundamental needs for growth, development and improve,

children may be filed with the Regional Trial Court duly designated as Juvenile and Domestic Court by the following:

1. Offended party;
2. Parents or guardians;
3. Ascendant or collateral relative within the third degree of consanguinity;
4. Officer, social worker or representative of a licensed child-caring institution;
5. Officer or social worker of the Department of Social Welfare and Development;
6. Barangay chairman; or
7. At least three (3) concerned, responsible citizens where the violation occurred.

The offended party shall be immediately placed under the protective custody of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

QUESTION: What are the safeguards against child abuse and maltreatment in the Philippines?

II. CHILD PROTECTION LAWS IN THE PHILIPPINES

A. Special Protection of Children Against

1. Governs the examination of child witnesses who are victims of crime, accused of a crime, and witnesses to crime. The rule applies in all criminal proceedings and non-criminal proceedings involving child witnesses.

III. JURISPRUDENCE IN RELATION TO CHILD ABUSE

A. Caballo vs. People, G.R. No. 198732, [June 10, 2013]

A child is deemed subjected to other sexual abuse when the child indulges in lascivious conduct under the coercion or influence of any adult. There is no need of engaging the child in actual prostitution (for profit) as long as there is compulsion to commit sexual relations. There is sufficient “coercion” enough for conviction: (1) AAA’s minority — a child is not capable of fully understanding or knowing the import of her actions. Hence, whether or not she consented is immaterial, the law cons]

An intact hymen does not negate a finding that the victim was raped, and a freshly broken hymen is not an essential element of rape. The presence or absence of injuries would depend on different factors, such as the forcefulness of the insertion, the size of the object inserted, the method by which the injury was caused, the changes occurring in a female child's body, and the length of healing time, if indeed injuries were caused.

Force, threat or intimidation" is the element of rape under the RPC, while 'due to coercion or influence of any adult, syndicate or group' is the operative phrase for a child to be deemed 'exploited in prostitution or other sexual abuse,' which is the element of sexual abuse under Section 5(b) of R.A. 7610. Therefore, there could be no instance that an information may charge the same accused with the crime of rape where 'force, threat or intimidation' is the element of the crime under the RPC, and at the same time violation of Section 5(b) of R.A. No. 7610. Assuming that the elements of both violations of Section 5 (b) of R.A. No. 7610 and of

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Testimonies of child victims are given full weight and credit, because when a woman, more so if she is a minor, says that she has been raped, she says in effect all that is necessary to show that rape was committed. Youth and immaturity are generally badges of truth and sincerity.

Withal, the Court reiterates that "a young girl's revelation that she had been raped, coupled with her voluntary submission to medical examination and willingness to undergo public trial where she could be compelled to give out the details of an assault on her dignity, cannot be so easily dismissed as mere concoction."

I. People v. XXX, G.R. No. 246194 , [November 4, 2020]

The behavior and reaction of every person cannot be predicted with accuracy. It is an accepted maxim that different people react differently to a given situation or type of situation, and there is no standard form of behavioral response when one is confronted with a strange or startling experience. Not every rape is a

trafficking is exploitation which includes "exploitation or the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude or the removal or sale of organs." In addition, Section 6 of RA 9208 provides that the crime is qualified when, inter alia, the trafficked person is a child.

IV. CURRENT PROGRAMS IN THE PHILIPPINES

A. Child 21

1. A strategic framework for planning programs and interventions which promotes and safeguards the rights of Filipino children with the ultimate goal to achieve good health for all the

Camp Crame, Quezon City

G. Child Rights Cente