

## WHAT IS VAW?

VAW is any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public and private life. Gender-based violence is any violence inflicted on women because of their sex."

(UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women 1993)

## WHAT IS VAW AND VAWC UNDER RA 9262?

It is an act or a series of acts committed by any person against the following:

- Wife or former wife;
- Woman with whom the offender has or had a dating or sexual relationship;
- The mother or the child of the offender;
- The child (whether legitimate or illegitimate) of the woman.

### REFERENCES

- United Nations. 1993. Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women. Retrieved 17 May 2020. [https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.21\\_declaration%20elimination%20vaw.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.21_declaration%20elimination%20vaw.pdf).
- Center for Women's Resources. 2019. Ulat Lila: Confronting Challenges. Seeking Solutions: Reviewing Women's Condition and Mapping Agenda for Change. March 1. UP Diliman, Quezon City.
- Chavez, Chito. 2020. "CWR: One woman or child abused every 10 minutes". *Manila Bulletin*. 5 Mar. Retrieved 13 May 2020. <https://news.mb.com.ph/2020/03/05/cwr-one-woman-or-child-abused-every-10-minutes/>
- Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and their Children. 2020. PNP VAW Data as of April 30, 2020. Word file.
- Villanueva, Rhodina. "Violence against women still rampant-report". *Philstar Global*. Retrieved 13 May 2020. <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2020/03/06/1998521/violence-against-women-still-rampant-report>
- World Health Organization. 2020. COVID-19 and violence against women. Retrieved 7 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/covid-19-vaw-infographics/en/>
- World Health Organization. 2017. Violence Against Women Key facts. Retrieved 8 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>

## WHAT TO DO IF I EXPERIENCE VAW DURING COVID-19?

1. Ensure your safety and security by reaching out to trusted family members, friends or neighbors.
2. Call a hotline/connect with online VAW support providers.
3. Seek out local services for survivors.

(WHO 2020)

## VISIT OUR OFFICE

### UP Diliman Gender Office

2/F Benton Hall, M. Roxas Street,  
UP Diliman, Quezon City (beside Alfredo  
Lagmay Hall, former Palma Hall  
Annex/PHAN)

**E-mail:** updgo@up.edu.ph

**Facebook Page:** UP Diliman Gender  
Office

**Landline:** (8)981-8500 local 2467 (main)  
and local 2464 (counseling)

**Telefax:** (8)926-9053

**Mobile Nos.:** 0966-340-3602 (Globe) and  
0947-428-0190 (Smart)

### UP Health Service (UP Infirmary)

JP Laurel St., UP Diliman, Quezon City  
(8) 928-3608 or (8) 981-8500 local 111 (ER)  
at 112 (Nurses Station)



INILIMBAG NG UPDGO 2020

# VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN



"About one in three of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in her lifetime."

(World Health Organization 2017)

## ***MOST VAW CASES ARE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE.***

**About 30% of women worldwide reported that they have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner. (WHO 2017)**

In the Philippines, at least one woman or child is abused every 10 minutes. From April to June 2019, There were 9,935 (6,315 women and 6,054 children) reported cases by the Philippine National Police (PNP)-Women and Children Protection Center. (Philstar Global 2020)

On January to April 2020, the PNP reported the following Gender-based violence cases:

ANTI-VAWC LAW (RA 9262)	<b>3,347 cases</b>
ANTI-RAPE LAW (RA 8353)	<b>401 cases</b>
ACT OF LASCIVIOUSNESS	<b>371 cases</b>
CONCUBINAGE	<b>38 cases</b>
ANTI-PHOTO AND VIDEO VOYEURISM	<b>28 cases</b>
ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS	<b>28 cases</b>
SAFE SPACES (RA 11313)	<b>15 cases</b>
ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT (RA 7877)	<b>11 cases</b>

Regions with the highest number of VAW incidence reported by the PNP from January to April 30, 2020:

VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS	<b>873 cases</b>
VI - WESTERN VISAYAS	<b>356 cases</b>
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION	<b>329 cases</b>
IVA - CALABARZON	<b>242 cases</b>
XII - CARAGA	<b>217 cases</b>

(Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and Their Children 2020)

## ***HOW CAN I TELL THAT VAWC HAS BEEN COMMITTED?***

There are different forms of VAWC.

- **Physical Violence** – acts that include bodily or physical harm. Ex.: throwing objects at woman, slapping, hitting, kicking, hair pulling, stabbing.
- **Sexual Violence** – act which is sexual in nature, committed against a woman or her child. Ex.: Rape, sexual harassment, acts of lasciviousness, etc.
- **Psychological Violence** – acts or omissions causing or likely to cause mental or emotional suffering of the victim. Ex.: intimidation, verbal abuse, harassment, stalking, public ridicule or humiliation.
- **Economic Abuse** - acts that make or attempt to make a woman financially dependent. Ex.: withdrawal of financial support, deprivation or threat of deprivation of financial resources.

## ***WHO CAN BE PERPETRATORS UNDER R.A. 9262?***

- Husbands or former husbands;
- Any person with whom the victim has or had a sexual or dating relationship (Ex.: boyfriends, live-in partners, or lesbian partners);
- Any person with whom the victim has a common child;
- Father of the child-victim.

## ***WHAT RELIEF AND PROTECTION CAN A VICTIM OF VAWC GET UNDER RA 9262?***

- Treatment with respect and dignity;
- Legal aid from the Public Attorney's Office (PAO), Department of Justice (DOJ) and other agencies that provide free legal advice and services.

- Support services from the DSWD and local government unit.
- Protection from further abuse by getting a Barangay Protection Order or a Temporary or Permanent Protection Order from the Courts.
- The right to file a
  - criminal case to penalize the abuser
  - civil case to obtain a protection order.
  - administrative charges against officials or persons in authority who failed in their duty to protect victim-survivors of VAWC.
  - Victim-survivors can use the battered woman syndrome as a defense to justify the crime of protecting herself and children from violence. It shall not affect her right to custody of her children.

## ***HOW CAN ONE HELP A VICTIM-SURVIVOR?***

- Familiarize with the emotional, safety, legal and socio-economic challenges faced by the victim-survivor.
- Talk and listen to her when the abuser is not around. Approach her in a non-blaming, non-judgmental, and understanding way.
- Offer help and show the options available but let her make her own decision. She is in the best position to judge her needs and safety.
- Remind her that that no one should treat her and her children in an abusive manner and that VAWC is a crime.

