

**DO NO. 40. S. 2012**



**Policy and Guidelines on  
Protecting Children in School from Abuse,  
Violence, Exploitation, Discrimination, Bullying  
and Other Forms of Abuse**

**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

# Introduction

The Department of Education is at the center of efforts to **protect children** from all forms of violence in all private and public primary and secondary schools.



# **BASELINE STUDY**

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On Violence Against Children in  
Public Schools

## Baseline Study: Background

- In 2006, the “World Report on Violence against Children” was launched.
  - Documented the UN-Sec Gen’s Study on Violence against Children

## Baseline Study: Background

- 5 Settings (nature & extent of violence against children):
  - The home and family
  - **Schools and educational settings**
  - Other institutional settings
  - The community and the streets
  - Work situations

## Baseline Study: Objectives

1. To describe the issue of violence against children (VAC) in schools from the point of view of children, parents, the school management, and its personnel;
2. To identify factors that support or deter VAC in schools in the selected research sites; and
3. To recommend policy and program interventions to address VAC in schools, towards making schools more child friendly

# Baseline Study: Geographic Coverage

1. Mt Province
2. Masbate
3. Northern Samar
4. Capiz
5. Camotes Islands
6. Sultan Kudarat
7. Metro Areas: Manila, Cebu, Davao



## Baseline Study: Key Findings

- 1) At least 4 out of 10 children in Grades 1-3 and 7 out of 10 in both Grades 4-6 and high school have experienced some kind of violence in school.
- 2) Verbal abuse is the most prevalent form of violence experienced by children at all school levels. This includes being shouted at and being cursed, ridiculed, teased, or humiliated.
- 3) The degree or gravity as well as the incidence of abuse increases as the child graduates from one level to another.



## Baseline Study: Key Findings

- 4) Children experience violence both from their peers in school and from school personnel. While more forms of violence are experienced by older children from their peers, younger children more commonly experience certain physical and verbal forms of violence from adults.
- 5) Male children are more likely to experience physical violence than female children.

## Baseline Study: Key Findings

Forms of Violence	Grades 1-3	Grades 4-6	High School
Verbal	<b>43.81</b> - 21.45	<b>73.42</b> - 26.15	<b>74.74</b> - 18.8
Physical	<b>32.94</b> - 6.10	<b>46.41</b> - 10	<b>50.20</b> - 9.30
Sexual	<b>11.49</b> - 6.55	<b>39.06</b> - 2.46	<b>45.90</b> - 3.42

# Baseline Study: Recommendations

1. Capacity Building of School Personnel
2. Policies and Procedures to Address Violence in Schools
3. Documentation and Research
4. Public Information and Education
5. Policy
6. Children's Participation



# **Incidents of Violence**

## Latest Incidents...

- An alumna of the high school borrowed money from the student. When the student was claiming payment, the debtor killed the student inside the school grounds. The body of the victim was seen lying on the grassy area at the back of one of the classrooms. (Dagupan City)

## Latest Incidents...

- A mother fetched her child from a private learning center and was about to board a tricycle to fetch her other child who is enrolled in another school when an unidentified gunman shot them both. The mother died but the child survived.  
(Manila)

## Latest Incidents...

- A riot happened in front of the school involving some students and unidentified teenagers. A freshman student died due to gunshot wounds brought about by a pen-gun (*sumpak*). (SJDM, Bulacan)

## Latest Incidents...

- Grade 4 student killed a Grade 1 pupil at the back of one of the comfort rooms inside the school premises. The perpetrator repeatedly hit the head of the victim with a rock after the latter ran away with his marble. (Iloilo)



## Latest Incidents...

- A 4<sup>th</sup> year male student died after engaging in a fight with a female classmate over the collection of a P5.00 contribution from the deceased student. The female student repeatedly punched the male student on the nape, causing his death. (Mandaluyong City)

## Latest Incidents...

- A fistfight occurred between two students inside the classroom (while the teacher was inside). In the altercation, the victim hit his head on the steel part of the classroom's windowpanes. The victim subsequently died in the hospital. (Lipa City)



# Response of DepEd



Department Order No. 40, s. 2012:  
The Child Protection Policy (CPP)

# Definition: Violence Against Children

VAC is a single act or a series of acts committed by school administrators, academic and non-academic personnel against a child, which result in or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological harm or suffering, or other abuses including threats of such acts, battery, assault, coercion, harassment or arbitrary deprivation of liberty. It includes, but is not limited to, the following acts:

1. Physical violence
2. Sexual violence
3. Psychological violence

# Definition: Corporal Punishment

- A kind of punishment or penalty imposed for an alleged or actual offense, which is carried out or inflicted, for the purpose of discipline, training or control, by a teacher, school administrator, an adult, or any other child, who has been given or has assumed authority or responsibility for punishment or discipline. It includes physical, humiliating or degrading punishment.

# Capacity Building

DepEd is conducting a nationwide information dissemination campaign with training modules on positive and non-violent discipline in classroom management, anger and stress management, and gender sensitivity.

# Positive Discipline



- Discipline does not mean punishment
- CPP defines “positive discipline” as “a way of thinking and a holistic, constructive, and proactive approach to teaching”
- Children are full human beings with basic human rights
- Positive discipline begins with setting long term goals that teacher want to have on their students’ adult lives.

# Positive Discipline

Positive and Non-Violent Discipline Programs include:

1. Integration of education sessions on positive discipline to PTA initiatives
2. Capacity building for school personnel on children's rights
3. Encouraging support groups among school personnel and PTA
4. Parenting sessions





Rules and Procedures in  
Handling Child Abuse  
Cases.doc

# Definition: Bullying

- The Policy defines bullying as willful aggressive behavior that is directed, towards a particular victim who may be outnumbered, younger, weak, with disability, less confident, or otherwise vulnerable. It includes cyber bullying.

# Procedures in Bullying Cases

- All bullying incidents shall be reported to the School Head.
- The School Head shall in turn inform the parents of the pupils concerned and a meeting shall be held for that purpose.
- The student shall be referred to the CPC for counseling and other interventions.
- The School may impose Non-punitive Measures in accordance with the principles of Positive and Non-Violent Discipline.
- Punitive measures will be a last resort.

# Child Protection Committee (CPC)

## COMPOSITION:

- School Head/Administrator – Chairperson
- Guidance Counselor/ Teacher – Vice Chairperson
- Representative of the Teachers as designated by the Faculty Club
- Representative of the Parents as designated by the PTA
- Representative of pupils/students as designated by the Supreme Student Council
- Representative from the Community as designated by the Punong Barangay, preferably from the BCPC.

# Child Protection Committee (CPC)

The CPC shall accomplish an Intake Sheet to assess both the victims and the offenders and report actions taken on the case.



# Referral and Monitoring System

# Reporting system

The Intake Sheets will be forwarded to the DepEd Division Office. The DO will consolidate the reports on incidents and cases of all schools and submit a Division Report to the Regional Office. The RO will consolidate the reports on incidents and cases of the Division Offices within the Region and submit a Regional Report to the Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs. The Central Office will be the Central Repository of Regional Reports.

# Issues and Challenges


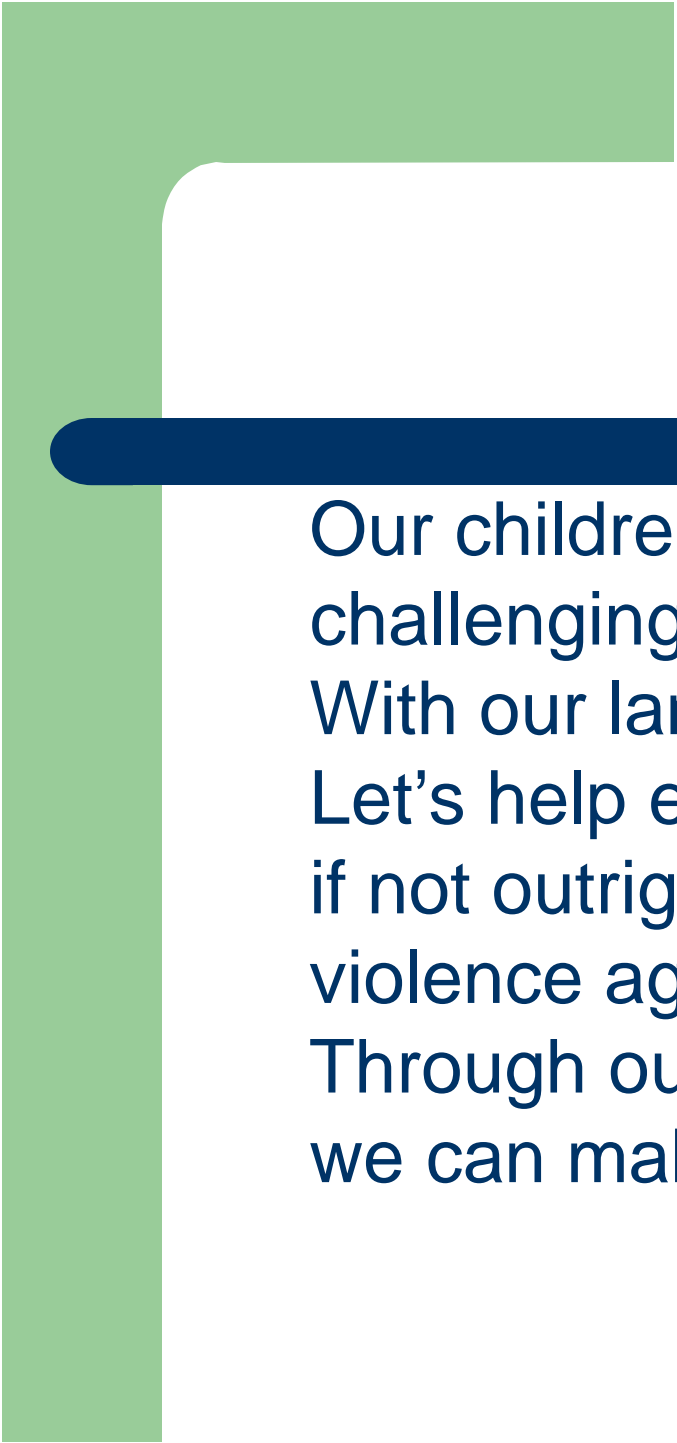
DepEd has already identified the following issues and challenges to these initiatives that we have developed to prevent and respond to violence against children:

1. Input Gaps
2. Social and Cultural Attitudes and Practices
3. Inadequate legal frameworks



# Call for Support: Engaging Stakeholders

- ▶ For Social Workers – conduct assessment and provide psycho-social intervention to children and adults referred to them by the schools;
- ▶ For teachers and parents – practice positive and non-violent discipline



Our children are our future heir of this  
challenging world,  
With our landmark child protection policy,  
Let's help each other to greatly reduce,  
if not outright prevent the occurrence of  
violence against children in school.  
Through our united efforts,  
we can make this happen...

**THANK YOU!**



**ATTY. SUZETTE T. GANNABAN –MEDINA**