



## APPENDIX 4.1

### FOREWORD, *FERDINAND E. MARCOS ON HUMAN RIGHTS*

Dean Froilan Bacungan was one of the editors of *Ferdinand E. Marcos on Human Rights*, which consists entirely of excerpts from the Marcos (ghostwritten) oeuvre, classified under chapters with titles such as “The Right to Dissent” and “Human Rights and Economic Development.” Though the editors claim that this was produced of their own volition (with Marcos’s imprimatur), there are signs that the book was produced with the help of Marcos propagandists, e.g., the book’s cover is a painting by Andres Cristobal Cruz, a mainstay of Marcos’s propaganda group.

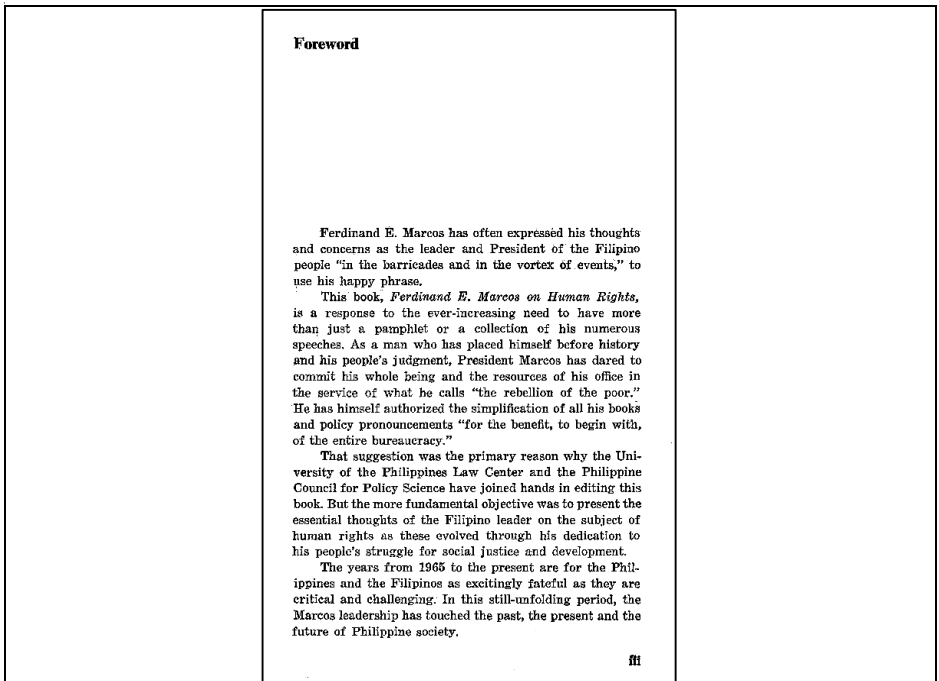


Figure 1. A copy of the book’s foreword.

Source: Bacungan, Froilan M., Armando F. Bonifacio, Purificacion Valera-Quisumbing, and Myrna S. Feliciano. 1977. *Ferdinand E. Marcos on Human Rights*. Quezon City: University of the Philippines Law Center.

Ferdinand E. Marcos has often expressed his thoughts and concerns as the leader and President of the Filipino people “in the barricades and in the vortex of events,” to use his happy phrase.

This book, *Ferdinand E. Marcos on Human Rights*, is a response to the ever-increasing need to have more than a just pamphlet or a collection of his numerous speeches. As a man who has placed himself before history and his people’s judgment, President Marcos has dared to commit his whole being and the resources of his office in the service of what he calls “the rebellion of the poor.” He has himself authorized the simplification of all his books and policy pronouncements “for the benefit, to begin with, of the entire bureaucracy.”

That suggestion was the primary reason why the University of the Philippines Law Center and the Philippine Council for Policy Science have joined hands in editing this book. But the more fundamental objective was to present the essential thought of the Filipino leader on the subject of human rights as these evolved through his dedication to his people’s struggle for social justice and development.

The years from 1965 to the present are for the Philippines and the Filipinos as excitingly fateful as they are critical and challenging. In this still-unfolding period, the Marcos leadership has touched the past, the present and the future of Philippine society.

The selections, hopefully, will show the growth of a vision enriched by the historic experience of a people, who have always aspired for a government that shall truly govern.

President Marcos has stood by his affirmation “that we are a people have fought for human rights, for the recognition of our essence as individuals with dignity and freedom” (1968). With a sense of urgent constancy, he gives notice to all that “our commitment to human rights and the welfare of our people, like our commitment to our sovereignty and territorial integrity, is an irrevocable one. It is a commitment that has led us into making hard and controversial decision in the ordering of our national priorities and the restructuring of our institutions” (1977).

This book is a manifest of that commitment.

—The Editors