

EDITORIAL

This issue has two main topics. The first part forms a special issue as the papers deal with concerns in Health Social Science.

The lead article is from the husband and wife team of Marita V.T. Reyes and Baltazar Reyes, Jr. entitled “Engendering Philippine Mental Health”. It discusses the need to look at certain variables in terms of gender, so that peculiarities and needs in the treatment of mental disease may be addressed accordingly.

The paper of three medical doctors involved with the U.P.-PGH Women’s Desk — June Pagaduan Lopez, Aimee G. Cua and Ma. Rossana de Guzman — provides insights from a hospital-based review of sexual assault cases. The paper, “Surviving Rape: Profile and Coping Reactions of Filipino Rape Survivors Seen at the UP-PGH Women’s Desk from January 1999 to December 2000”, provides profiles and deals with the experiences of 114 rape survivors.

Serving as guide to the legal aspect of rape is the review of international and Philippine laws related to sexual violence. Discussed by the Women’s Legal Bureau, Inc., the paper provides useful information in dealing with the problem of sexual violence as well as examines gaps and problems within the Philippine legal system related to the issue.

A paper that ties up the medical and legal aspects of providing medical and legal services to victims of sexual violence is provided by the report of the Sexual Violence Research Institute. The “Situational Analysis of Medico-Legal and Health Services for Victims of Sexual Violence” examines facilities and services at the national level and sample local government units.

The second section consists of two thought provoking papers on Development Issues Affecting Girls and Women.

The first is a paper on “The Girl Child in India” by Rehka Pande from the University of Hyderabad, India. It discusses continuing problems faced by the girls in that subcontinent which stem from old traditions, and raises concern for their plight.

Another alarm is sounded by Maria Rosario Piquero Bellescas who presents the endangered world of Filipino women caused, among others, by globalization. In her article, “Filipino Women Taking on their Endangered, Engendered World”, she calls on a collective global effort to respond to these issues.

The issue ends with notes on two books on reproductive health by Diwata A. Reyes. The books are co-edited and co-authored by UPCWS Director Carolyn I. Sobritchea.



HEALTH SOCIAL SCIENCE

