

IMPLEMENTATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 11313 ALSO KNOWN AS SAFE SPACES ACT: BASIS FOR AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

ABSTRACT

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This study investigated the implementation of Republic Act No. 11313, Article 5, also known as the Safe Spaces Act, at Bestlink College of the Philippines (BCP). It aimed to assess the institution's level of compliance with the law, identify existing challenges in its enforcement, and propose actionable recommendations to improve the protection and safety of all individuals within the campus. This study used a descriptive quantitative research design to assess four core areas: legislative and policy support, enforcement and compliance, school-based awareness, and victim support systems. A total of 120 participants—comprising students, faculty, and staff—were selected through random sampling. Data collection was carried out using a structured questionnaire to ensure accuracy, consistency, and reliability of the responses. The results revealed that respondents recognized the presence of legislative support (composite mean = 3.21), compliance mechanisms (mean = 3.19), and school-based literacy efforts (mean = 3.12). Support systems for victims were also positively rated (mean = 3.10), though respondents emphasized the need for improvements in areas such as rehabilitation services and external partnerships. Several challenges were identified, including inadequate handling of reported cases (mean = 3.19), victims' fear of judgment and retaliation (mean = 3.01), and limited awareness on how and where to report gender-based sexual harassment (GBSH) cases (mean = 2.99). Other concerns were insufficient resources (mean = 2.94) and a lack of comprehensive understanding of RA 11313 (mean = 2.91). The overall composite mean for challenges was 3.01, indicating moderate agreement that significant gaps persist in implementation. Respondents strongly supported proposed solutions, such as conducting more training and seminars (mean = 3.48), enhancing anonymous reporting systems (mean = 3.46), and establishing a dedicated monitoring system (mean = 3.45). Additional recommendations included increasing resource allocation (mean = 3.43) and updating policy guidelines (mean = 3.41). These proposed solutions received an overall composite mean of 3.45, reflecting strong agreement on the importance of strengthening institutional responses to GBSH. This study finds that although Bestlink College of the Philippines has laid the groundwork through existing policies and mechanisms, ongoing initiatives in education, communication, capacity building, and support systems are necessary to effectively implement RA 11313 and ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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