

ROLE OF THE MEMBERS OF BARANGAY COUNCIL IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RULES ON PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

ABSTRACT

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Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) remains a serious social and human rights concern in the Philippines despite the enactment of protective laws such as Republic Act No. 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004. At the grassroots level, barangay officials play a crucial role in implementing policies and responding to VAWC related cases. This study examines the role of barangay council members in enforcing and implementing rules aimed at preventing VAWC. The study used a descriptive quantitative research design. Data were gathered through structured survey questionnaires distributed to selected barangay council members. Respondents were chosen using purposive sampling to ensure that participants were directly involved in VAWC-related programs and interventions. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, weighted mean, and ranking were used to analyze the data. Findings revealed that barangay council members actively participate in the implementation of VAWC-related laws through awareness campaigns, mediation, issuance of Barangay Protection Orders (BPOs), and coordination with law enforcement agencies. However, the results also indicated challenges such as limited training, insufficient funding, lack of specialized personnel, and low community awareness. Overall, the level of implementation was rated as moderately effective. The study concludes that barangay council members play a vital frontline role in preventing and addressing VAWC cases. Strengthening their capacity through continuous training, increased funding allocation, and stronger inter-agency collaboration can enhance the effectiveness of rule implementation. The findings highlight the need for policy reinforcement and institutional support to improve grassroots-level enforcement of VAWC laws.

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