

EDITOR'S NOTE

This journal features analysis of child, public health and social welfare policy issues in terms of conformity with legislative standards and national policies.

“A Case for Public Private Partnership in TB Control” calls for the direction of all sectors of society to be involved in TB control. Tuberculosis is proving to be a bigger public health menace than the public sector can handle. The policy challenge is to widen the scope and scale of public-private partnerships in TB control to be socially beneficial. Private sectors should be viewed as service provider rather than mere social partner. The net social benefits from this partnership should not be less than the net social benefits obtained from purely public provision. Among the issues to be resolved is to strengthen the adoption of Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) in private hospitals and clinics and to maximize the impact of the new Phil Health program on TB control.

“The Creation of Child-Friendly Local Communities Through Local Codes on Children: An Analysis of LCC's In Selected Provinces and Cities in the Philippines” documents the study focused on Local Codes on Children that were adopted in eighteen local government units all over the country. The general objective is to analyze the structure, content, enforceability and contribution to local ordinances of national laws supportive of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC). It used two interrelated methodology i.e. the analysis of government documents and the interview of key informants. The author confirms with CRC that a local government is “child-friendly” when it is able to assure that all children in the locality possess their survival, development, protection and participation rights and when these needs are realized. It recommends for a system of diversion referred to as alternative program without children undergoing court proceedings, a mandatory inclusion of CRC in school curriculum and other innovative programs that can promote and protect child's rights.

“The Philippine Legislative Policy Affecting HIV/AIDS: An Assessment of the Effectivity of RA 8504” attempts to look closely into the provisions of the law, its strength and weaknesses. On the basis of the analysis of the law, the author

proposes a possibility of a new agency attached to the DOH and DOF for purposes of policy consideration, the streamlining and strengthening of the PNAC secretariat and a provision to allow access by HIV/AIDS sufferer to affordable ARVs and supported drugs.

CONCEPCION LIM-JARDELEZA
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