

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4733



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tabloids containing sexual stories and images distributed for the exclusive purpose of sexual arousal should, once and for all, be classified as pornographic or x-rated. Movies and television programs are strictly reviewed and classified with the end in view of achieving intelligent viewing and protecting our children. By the same token, smutty tabloids should be regulated in such manner as to keep them at bay to protect the moral integrity of our children.

A recent study by the Commission on Population (POPCOM), "Post-Millennial Filipinos: Renewed Hope Versus Risks," has once again shown the negative effects of pornography on the youth. The study gathered data on how pornography drives the youth toward early sexual activity ("Cyberporn, social media drive youth to early sex," News, 3/24/17).¹ With our country experiencing rising rates of teenage pregnancy, coupled with alarming increase in HIV infections, our leaders would do well to incorporate systematic domestic regulatory system banning the youth from all forms of pornography in their programs.

Studies across the world have shown the numerous disastrous consequences of porn use – addiction, sexual dysfunction, destruction of marital relations, escalation to more violent and degrading forms of pornography, and contribution to the worldwide human trafficking scourge.

The immediate passage of this timely proposed measure is thus most earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

¹ <http://opinion.inquirer.net/103222/porns-disastrous-effect-youth> viewed 19 September 2019

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AN ACT

CLASSIFYING TABLOIDS CONTAINING SEXUAL STORIES AND IMAGES AS PORNOGRAPHIC OR X-RATED, DENOMINATING THEM AS ONLY FOR ADULTS, REGULATING THEIR CIRCULATION AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "National Restriction on Tabloids Act."

SEC. 2. Tabloids containing sexual stories and images shall hereby be classified as pornographic or x-rated. As such, they shall be denominated as "Only For Adults" and shall be availed of exclusively by persons at least eighteen years of age.

SEC. 3. The proper agency shall issue pertinent rules and regulations to effectively carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. The competent courts shall determine the appropriate penalties for violations of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,