

Responsive Law Enforcement Approach to Combating Child-Trafficking

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This Article examines Republic Act No. 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 and pushes for more responsive law enforcement approaches to combating child trafficking.

An overview of the law identifies the definition of trafficking in persons, the punishable acts, and the human rights provisions of the penal legislation. But even before the enactment of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, there existed special penal laws and provisions in the Revised Penal Code to address the phenomenon of human trafficking and child protection.

The Author proposes recommendations for a responsive law enforcement approach to combat child trafficking involving reforms in investigation and identification, arrest and rescue of children, prosecution of offenses and protection to victims, punishment and restoration of offenders, and recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration of victims.