

A Call for Philippine Implementation of Women's Rights Under CEDAW

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Violence against women comes in many forms: rape, sexual harassment, prostitution and trafficking, and violence against women in intimate relationships. The Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is the second most ratified treaty embodying a global consensus for fair treatment and protection for women.

Still, there is a lot to be done. The Author proposes to remedy discrimination in laws relating to family, sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity, and reproduction by proposing the following: an enactment of a divorce law; the repeal or judgment of unconstitutionality of adultery and "marital infidelity bills;" the repeal of the punitive provisions on women who marry within the 301-day period; the repeal of the discriminatory provisions of the Family Code and Muslim Code; address lesbian rights, discrimination of lesbians, and gender identity discrimination in Philippine courts; and enact measures to protect and promote reproductive rights.