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KOMISYON SA MGA KARAPATANG PANTAO

30 July 2025

July 23, 2025

BENJAMIN D. PARAGAS, Ph.D., CESO V

Regional Director,
Department of Education,
Carig Sur, Tuguegarao City

Dear Director Paragas:

Greetings!

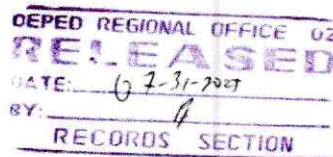
The Commission on Human Rights has the constitutional mandate to issue human rights advisories as well as monitor compliance of agencies on human rights laws, norms and standards in governance. CHR's Human Rights Policy Advisory Services include the issuance of position papers, statements and comments concerning the promotion and protection of human rights.

Recently, a social media influencer from Tuguegarao went viral with his post, **"Guys can throw hands and be brothers after! Di yan kaya ng mga babae!"** This statement highlights the persistent issue of gender-bias that undermines the constitutional and legal rights of women and perpetuates harmful stereotypes. Hence, in order to prevent the occurrence of a similar incident in the future, the Commission on Human Rights as the Gender Ombud in the region issues this advisory and requests for your Office to assist us in circulating the said advisory for the information and guidance of everyone.

Thank you for being our partner in the protection and promotion of human rights.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. JIMMY P. BALIGA, CPA
Regional Director



CHR ng lahat. Nagitingkod Maging Sino Ka Man.

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MEMORANDUM		Date: <u>08/04/25</u>	Released/Recorded: <u>[signature]</u>
To:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PSDS/DICs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elem/Sec School Heads	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Schools	<input type="checkbox"/> Others:	
For:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dissemination	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance	<input type="checkbox"/> Strict Compliance	
ORLANDO B. MANUEL Ph.D., CESO V Schools Division Superintendent			
By:	<input type="checkbox"/> ASDS	<input type="checkbox"/> CID Chief	<input type="checkbox"/> SGOD Chief
	<input type="checkbox"/> AO	<input type="checkbox"/> Atty	Signature: <u>[signature]</u>



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Region 02
Tuguegarao City, Cagayan

**POLICY ADVISORY ON ADDRESSING GENDER BIAS AND RESPONSIBLE SOCIAL
MEDIA CONTENT**

CHR-II-POLICY ADVISORY NO. 2

The Commission on Human Rights-Region 02 as the Gender Ombud in the region, affirms its unwavering commitment to uphold human dignity and promote gender equality across all platforms, including digital spaces.

Whereas, recent statements made by a social media influencer—**“Guys can throw hands and be brothers after! Di yan kaya ng mga babae!”**—highlight the persistent issue of gender-bias that undermines the constitutional and legal rights of women and perpetuates harmful stereotypes;

Whereas, this advisory aim to reinforce the importance of responsible communication online and underscore the legal and moral obligations of all stakeholders to combat gender discrimination.

Whereas, such biased statements reinforce harmful gender stereotypes, which are inconsistent with the principles enshrined in the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, particularly Article II, Section 14, which mandates the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to gender equality. Furthermore, Republic Act No. 9710 (Magna Carta of Women) explicitly prohibits discrimination and mandates the promotion of gender-sensitive policies and practices.

Whereas, this incident also contravenes international standards including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Articles 1 and 2), which affirm the

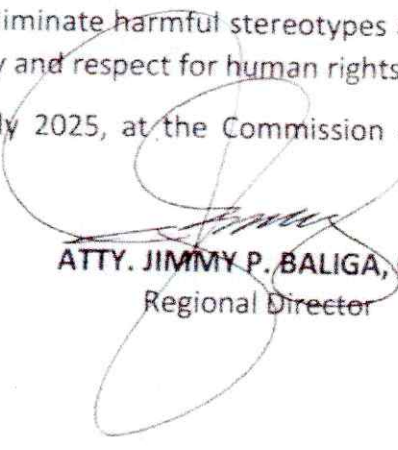

inherent dignity and equality of all persons, and the ASEAN Declaration on Human Rights, to which the Philippines is a state party;

Whereas, the CHR stresses that all individuals—regardless of gender—are entitled to dignity, respect, and equal treatment under the law. Statements that promote stereotypes or diminish one gender's capacity weaken social cohesion, impede progress toward gender equality, and violate human rights standards;

Whereas, social media platforms and content creators bear a responsibility to promote responsible and respectful discourse. Posting or endorsing content that perpetuates gender bias can contribute to a culture of discrimination and violence against women and other marginalized groups;

In view of the foregoing and to prevent the occurrence of the same incident, **HENCEFORTH**, it is recommended that all stakeholders—government agencies, social media platforms, influencers, and the community—to collaborate in creating a safe, inclusive, and respectful digital environment. Civil society should run sustained campaigns to correct misconceptions about gender roles and promote a culture of equality and respect, both online and offline. Gender sensitivity training and digital literacy should be integrated into school curricula and community programs to foster responsible online behavior from a young age. Indeed, addressing gender bias in social media is not only a legal obligation but also a moral imperative that upholds the dignity and rights of all Filipinos. Collective action is essential to eliminate harmful stereotypes and build a society rooted in genuine gender equality and respect for human rights.

Issued this 22nd day of July 2025, at the Commission on Human Rights-Region 02.



ATTY. JIMMY P. BALIGA, CPA
Regional Director