



"POPULATION GROWTH
IS NEVER THE
CULPRIT FOR THE
NATION'S POVERTY,
AND THUS
POPULATION
CONTROL IS NEVER
THE SOLUTION"

**Struggle for RH Bill:
A Parody of
People's Struggle
for Right to
Reproductive
Health**



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ADVOCATES FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH

■ is a non-stock, non profit organization of doctors, nurses, midwives, and other health professionals. we work in rural areas, where we train barrio health workers in basic health skills (first aid, common diseases,..) and empower them to claim the rights to health.

■ We believe that *Health is the total wellbeing of society. It rests on the collective responsibility of the stakeholders. Self-sufficiency and participatory decision-making exist. Systems, processes and structures are in place where people are provided equal opportunity for economic, political and social development.*



REPUBLIC ACT 10354

Responsible Parenthood & Reproductive Health Act of 2012

National Policy

Birth Control

Contraception

Maternal Care

**Post-abortion Medical
Care**

Sex Education

POPULATION CONTROL





REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ... IN THE EYES OF OREG

"Oreg and her family is
mired in POVERTY"

IN MANY RURAL VILLAGES IN THE PHILIPPINES, PEOPLE BARELY SEE A DOCTOR LET ALONE RECEIVE ANY HEALTH SERVICES FROM THE GOVERNMENT. WHEN A WOMAN GIVES BIRTH, THE DANGER IS EVIDENTLY APPARENT.

HENCE THE ADAGE:
"WHEN WOMAN GIVES BIRTH SHE PUTS ONE OF HER FEET IN THE GRAVE."



Philippines has a high
Maternal
Mortality Rate (MMR)
one of the highest
221/100,000

PHILIPPINES HAS A HIGH MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (MMR)

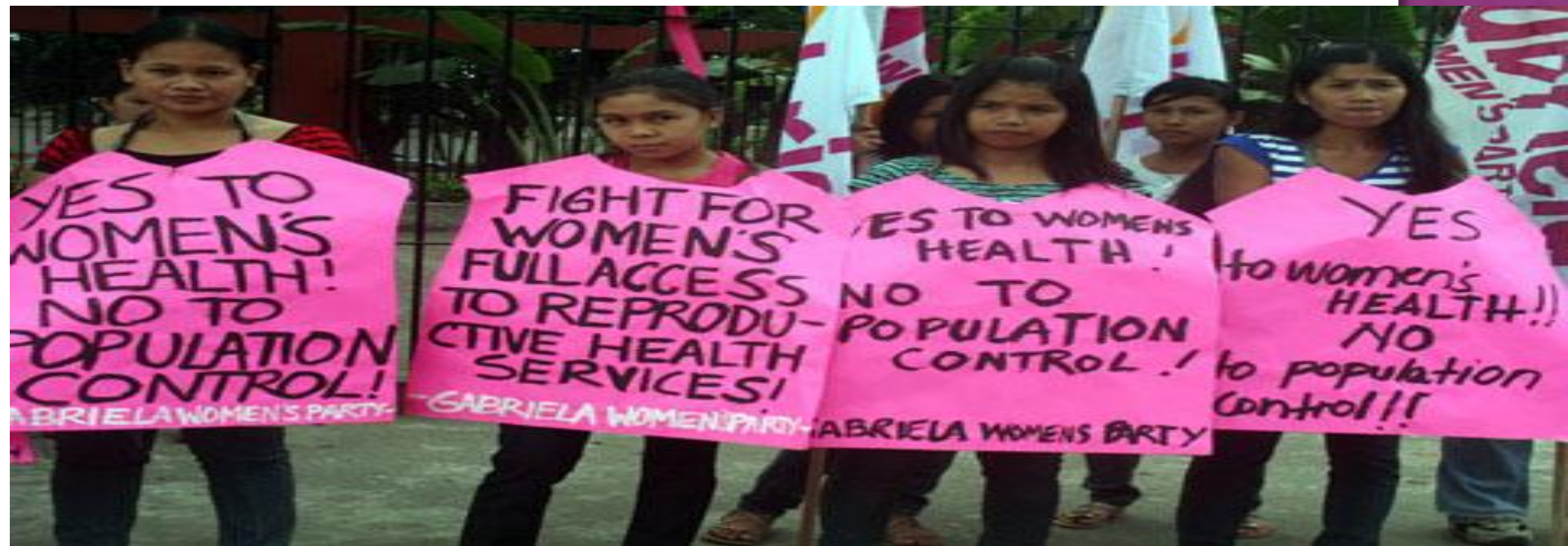
Underlying factors:

1. Malnutrition
2. Iron deficiency anemia
3. Lack of skilled birth attendance
4. Lack of accessible and appropriate health facilities



**Leading Cause-
Post-Partum Hemorrhage**

"The focus of the RH law should not be about contraceptive and population control, but about comprehensive health care program for the marginalized women."



15 YEARS OF STRUGGLE FOR A PRO-POOR, RIGHTS-BASED, SCIENTIFIC AND COMPREHENSIVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE



- Mass Actions and Mobilizations
- Anti-Privatization of Government Hospitals
- No to Home-Birth Policy
- No to Streamlining of Birthing Homes
- Parliamentary Process through Women's Party List

PRIVATIZATION IS BEHIND GOVERNMENT HEALTH POLICIES:

1. "NO Home Birth Policy
2. DOH order 2012- 0012 - Streamlining of birthing homes
3. Privatization of Government Hospitals





**RIGHT TO
HEALTH**

Through our non-stop struggle for a reproductive health law that respects the rights of women and serves the interest of the majority, the progressive mass movement has taken the moral high ground against the government's narrow objective of population control and achieving the MDGs. It has successfully exposed the enormous clout of multinational pharmaceutical corporations in the passage of the RH law to corner the sale of contraceptives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Advocates is calling upon European Friends for support in our campaigns that:

1. Pressure the Philippine government to change the orientation of RH law from being a means to control population growth to one that is pro-poor, rights-based, scientific and comprehensive.

2. Demand to the government to implement the WHO recommendation that 5% of GDP be allotted to health.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3. Help Advocates' education campaigns and trainings on capability building to empower the people to fight for their right to health and oppose privatization of government hospitals and streamlining of birthing homes.
4. Extend solidarity to the progressive health movement in their fight to nationalize the pharmaceutical industry for medicines to become available and affordable



RECOMMENDATIONS:

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5. To uphold solidarity with other Civil Society Organizations that genuinely work for women empowerment and actively push for the right to health and other basic human rights.

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Harinawa

END

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!!!
(THANK YOU!!!)