

Analysis and Evaluation of Violence against Women and their Children Incident Report: Data Exploration

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Abstract - This study aims to analyze the current situation of the Violence Against Women in the province of Laguna in which it determines the level of awareness in Anti Violence Against Women and Children Law, Right and Protection, Kinds of Violence, and Acts of Violence, and the perception of unreported violence, preferences of reporting VAWC cases. Despite massive campaigns, the story of violence against women and children, the study hopes to learn if the unending violence against women and children is still rooted in a lack of awareness of the law and information about VAW. To assess the collected responses, descriptive statistics and Kruskal Wallis were utilized. Convenient sampling was applied with total of 356 respondents. Majority of the respondents were Single with total of 280 and age ranging to 16-45 years old. It turns out that most of them are high school graduate which is 44.94% of whole respondents and currently enrolled as college students. Moreover, that the level of awareness is Very Aware in terms of Anti Violence Against Women and Children Law, Right and Protection, Kinds of Violence, and Acts of Violence it gained 3.90, 3.99 and 3.58 respectively. Furthermore, 70.5% if the respondents are not reporting the VAWC cases because of embarrassment and they are afraid to be blame and lack of ability to make decision for herself and societal judgment. This study helps the PNP and Barangay Women's Desk, and other related government agencies to formulate better programs, activities and policies to reach and be inform on the violence against women that lead to increase awareness and information to all women and children.

Keywords – VAWC, Incident Report, Data Exploration, Level of Awareness, Laguna

INTRODUCTION

Gender inequality still prevails in the 21st century despite the generally progressive trend of cultural, racial, and sexual boundaries being erased in almost all areas of life nowadays. Females, no matter their geographical or cultural background, still have to endure a lifelong struggle against discrimination, abuse, and violence, with those who are poor bearing the brunt the most (Oxfam International, 2021). The prevalence of violence against women and their children (VAWC) is so extensive that the international community has been prompted to declare it as a public health and human right issue of worldwide scope (Guedes, et al., 2016). Organizations pushing for the protection of women's health and rights have been lobbying for the abolition of such cruel acts for decades,

resulting in the holding of several global and regional conventions and agreements, most notable of which were the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women of 1993 and the Beijing Platform for Action of 1995 (World Health Organization, 2021).

The Philippine government has long recognized the importance of protecting women and their children against violence and threats to their safety and security; several government agencies and programs have been established to perform functions that serve this purpose: the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), created in 1975; the Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC) of the Philippine National Police (PNP); and the

Gender and Development (GAD) Program in all government departments, among others. The passage of Republic Act 9262, or the Anti-Violence against Women and their Children Act of 2004, is the biggest step the government has taken so far towards ending VAWC (UNICEF, 2020). The government has also partnered with United Nations (UN) agencies and civil society organizations in pursuing its goals of ending VAWC and helping people who suffered from gender-based violence get back on their feet (United Nations, 2020). A testament to the government's commitment is the Philippines being ranked 8th among the top 14 countries that have achieved the goal of closing the gender gap in Economic Participation and Opportunity by more than 80% through an increase in wage equality and educational attainment for women, according to the World Economic Forum (WEF)'s 2018 Global Gender Gap Report.

Despite combined efforts from the government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), however, VAWC is still rampant. Among women aged 15 to 49, one out of four reported having suffered physical or sexual violence in the 12 months preceding the National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) in 2017 (Philippine Commission on Women, 2019). Data from the Philippine National Police (PNP) revealed that physical abuse accounted for 38.54 percent of the 108,675 cases of domestic violence (PSA Infographic, n.d.), making it the most common. Furthermore, a survey commissioned by the Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) in early 2021 and conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) reported that "harmful acts" in the form of physical, sexual, and emotional violence are causing great concern in their everyday life under the "new normal" for 25% of the adults surveyed (Cudis, 2021).

The Philippine National Demographic and Health Survey in 2018 (cited in Ranada, 2020) revealed that family members are the ones most typically inflicting physical violence on women. In ever-married women, their current

husband/partner (47.5%), former husband/partner (24.7%), and mother/stepmother (15.6%) are the top 3 perpetrators, while for those who were never married these are the mother/stepmother (26.1%), the father/stepfather (25.3%), and the sister/brother (19.2%). These numbers corroborate the observation that intimate partners and family members are responsible for the most common forms of violence committed against women and children (WHO and LSHTM, 2010). Consequently, many cases of VAWC are unreported and victims choose to live in silence and shame, carrying the stigma throughout their lives instead of blowing the whistle on the perpetrators who frequently are the victims' relatives or acquaintances (Forum on Global Violence Prevention, 2011).

In the Philippines, Legarda (2016), a former Senator, remarks that despite efforts by the government to document all forms of VAW, the number of women who are victims of domestic abuse can only be estimated at best due to many cases being unreported. She observes that many victims choose not to report incidents of abuse mainly because they are not aware of their legal rights; she thus gives emphasis on increasing public awareness of women's rights to address the incidence of gender-based violence. Garcia (2020), on the other hand, notes that "government assistance is insufficient and responsive rather than preventive". Her study also revealed that "numerous aspects of Philippine culture serve as risk factors and protective factors" that perpetrate abuses against women.

This study seeks to collect data on 1) the level of awareness of women of the a) types and b) acts of domestic violence, and c) their legal rights as women (RA 9262); 2) the reasons why VAWC incidents are unreported, and 3) the preferences of women in reporting VAWC incidents. The data collected hopefully will contribute to the growing body of research on VAWC and be useful in finding solutions to address the above issues, which the researcher believes is a crucial step in eliminating gender-based discrimination and violence.

METHODOLOGY

Data were collected using a two-part questionnaire validated by three officers from the PNP Women’s Desk and two from the GAD Office. The first part contained questions about the respondents’ demographic information and their preferences in reporting VAWC incidents. The second part measured the respondents’ level of awareness of the different kinds and acts of violence that women and children experience, as well as their awareness of the legal provisions of RA 9262 (Anti-VAWC Law).

The respondents were female residents of towns in the fourth district of the province of Laguna between the ages of 15 and 75. They were contacted through social media and informed that participation in the study was voluntary. Those who agreed to participate were

interviewed and given instructions on how to answer the questionnaires online. They were allowed 3-5 days to submit their responses through Google Forms. In addition, they were briefed that all their responses will be held confidential and all their data will be deleted after the study is concluded.

The respondents chose their answers to the questions in the second part of the questionnaire using a 5-point Likert scale (5: Highly Aware; 4: Very Aware; 3: Aware; 2: Slightly Aware, and; 1: Not Aware). Demographic data were analyzed using descriptive statistics while the respondents’ level of awareness of the a) types and b) acts of domestic violence, and c) their legal rights as women as stipulated in RA 9262 were tested for significance using the Kruskal-Wallis test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic variables. A total of 356 female respondents submitted their responses. The majority were unmarried, between 16-20 years old, and graduated from high school. Table 1 and 2 shows a summary of the data. A noticeably large number of single respondents

are college graduates or pursuing postgraduate studies. The study of Sarkar (2010) reported that access to education, economic opportunities, and better wages are the top factors that can help female victims of domestic violence cope with their situation.

Table 1. Age and Civil Status of the Respondents

Age	Single	Married	Separated	Widow	Total
10 - 15	3	0	0	0	3
16 - 20	176	3	0	0	179
21 - 25	78	5	1	1	85
26 - 30	14	12	0	0	26
31 - 35	3	13	1	0	17
36 - 40	1	9	2	1	13
41 - 45	1	7	3	3	14
46 - 50	1	4	1	0	6
51 - 55	0	5	0	0	5
56 - 60	2	1	0	0	3
61					
Above	1	2	0	2	5

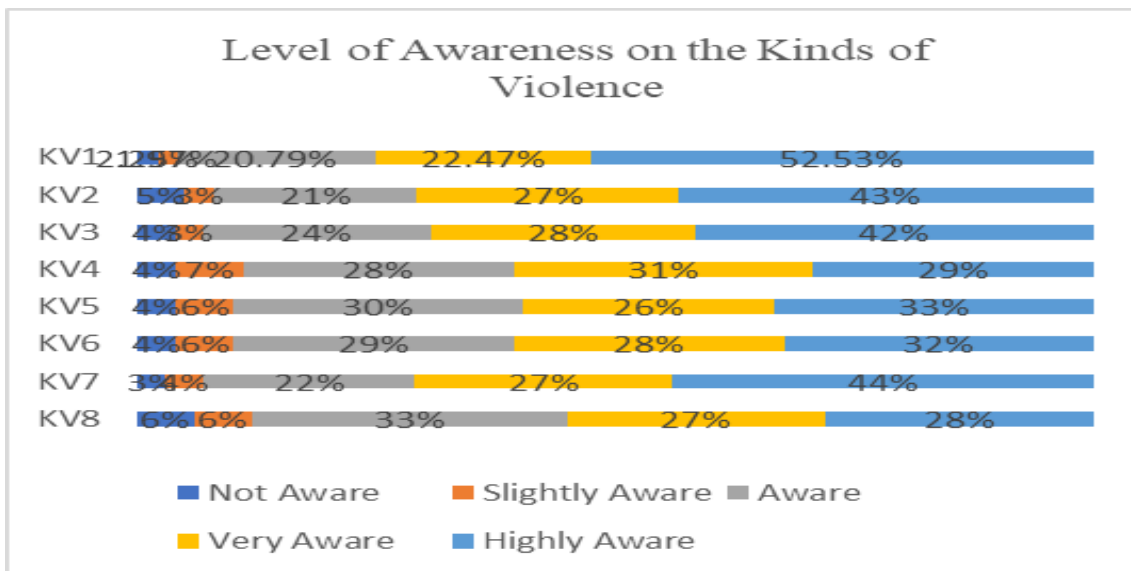
Table 2. Educational of the Respondents

Educational Attainment	Single	Married	Separated	Widow	Total
Elementary					
Undergraduate	0	0	1	1	2
Elementary Graduate	2	1	0	1	4
Highschool Undergraduate	1	0	1	0	2
Highschool Graduate	151	8	1	0	160
College Undergraduate	19	8	1	0	28
College Graduate	59	34	3	3	99
Post Graduate	48	10	1	2	61

TO IDENTIFY THE RESPONDENT’S LEVEL OF AWARENESS IN VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The Level of Awareness of the Kinds of Violence is shown in figure 1. Based on the results, most of the respondents are “Highly Aware” in the KV1- Acts of physical harm or physical maltreatment committed by a partner or any person”. The respondents are also “Very Aware” of the KV1- Acts of lasciviousness or forcing a woman or her children to engage in sexual activity but does not constitute rape”. The same level of awareness which is “Very Aware” was got in terms of KV3-Acts or omissions causing mental or emotional suffering of the victim, KV 4-Acts of controlling the access to economic resources or financial deprivation by intimate partner or husband,KV5- Acts of

restraining to practice a profession, to engage in any work to gain additional income, KV 6- Acts of restraining to practice a profession, to engage in any work to gain additional income, KV7- Forms of humiliation, intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, and public ridicule that cause sleepless night and anxiety, and KV 8-Acts of controlling to manage own property or to invest in any forms of business transaction. Wherein the finding of study of Panerio and Albay (2020),that the female residents of the City of Digos were moderately aware of the existence of Violence Against Women. Residents from the far-flung areas have varying levels of awareness ranging from unaware to undecided resulting in a greater contribution on below the threshold awareness on violence against women.



Furthermore, respondents who acknowledge the lack of awareness about the kinds of violence experienced by women and children are similarly reflected in a survey conducted on male residents of Tanay, Rizal to determine their level of awareness about R.A. 9262. It was discovered that while respondents are aware of general facts, they lack thorough knowledge of the information of the Republic Act. Responses were primarily based on internal states such as feelings and emotions. (San Juan, Garcia, and Escleto, 2020).

While in in table 3, the respondents are “Highly Aware” that Hitting, kicking, punching, or causing harmful injury to the woman or child, and Shouting, blaming, use of profane language to a woman or her child to feel low self – esteem was an act of violence. While the rest of the questions about acts of violence from table 4 shows that the respondents are “Very Aware”. On the contrary, it can also be found that, there are respondents who are slightly aware though some are truly not aware to acts of violence against women, respectively. The findings is in consonance with the perception of the

housewives in the different municipalities of Palawan regarding R.A. 9262. It reveals that, all of the housewives' respondents strongly agreed that the provisions or statements of R.A. 9262 are considered acts of violence against women and their children. It implies that, the respondents have positive perception on the provisions of the Republic act (Santiago and Aya, 2014).

However, the figure implies that, although there are women who are aware of the acts, which constitutes violence against women and children, still it does not justify the percentage of unaware women who may have contributed in the unending existence of violence against women and children.

Table 3. Acts of Violence processed data with mean, standard deviation and median

LEVEL OF AWARENESS AS TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE	Not Aware	Slightly Aware	Aware	Very Aware	Highly Aware	SD	MEDIAN
1. Hitting, kicking, punching, or causing harmful injury to the woman or child.	3.09%	2.25%	13.48%	20.79 %	60.39%	0.999842	5
2. Acts of grave threat that cause a woman or her child a traumatic experience or risk of imminent danger.	2.53%	1.97%	18.54%	28.09 %	48.88%	0.973437	4
3. Shouting, blaming, use of profane language to a woman or her child to feel low self – esteem.	3.37%	1.12%	15.73%	24.72 %	55.06%	0.993092	5
4. Depriving a woman and her children on financial support to become dependent.	3.37%	3.37%	22.47%	28.65 %	42.13%	1.042369	4
5. Depriving a woman and her child to provide the basic needs, and sustain the educational needs of their child.	3.37%	3.37%	20.51%	28.09 %	44.66%	1.042885	4
6. Preventing a woman to practice her profession or to work in any establishment to gain additional income.	3.93%	5.90%	25.00%	26.40 %	38.76%	1.105121	4
7. Controlling a woman to make her own decisions or actions.	3.37%	3.37%	21.63%	30.34 %	41.29%	1.03423	4
8. Forcing a woman and/or her children to watch a pornographic scene and engage in any sexual activity and/or acts of lasciviousness.	5.34%	5.34%	21.07%	24.44 %	43.82%	1.15971	4
9. Forcing a woman and/or her children to engage in copulation.	7.30%	8.71%	28.93%	23.60 %	31.46%	1.215852	4
10. Limiting a woman and her children to attend social gatherings with her family, relatives/close kin, or even to meet neighbor's.	5.62%	6.74%	26.69%	26.97 %	33.99%	1.154431	4
11. Staying of intimate partner or husband in the house of a woman with her child without any consent or against her will.	6.18%	6.74%	28.37%	26.40 %	32.30%	1.165115	4

In table 4, the respondent’s awareness in terms of the law rights and protection in Anti-VAWC depicts in two level. Based on the results, the respondents are Very Aware in terms of filing a VAW case against her intimate partner, husband, or any person who commit domestic violence they also know the place to report it which is in the barangay or lawful authority. They are also Very Aware how to request for the barangay protection order to secure permanent or temporary protection against the offender not to harm the woman and her child. In terms of assistance of the barangay desk officer, the respondents are Very Aware to file an action against the offender who commits violence against women and their children and they are also Very Aware that any concerned citizen who has knowledge of the commission of domestic violence may file (in behalf of the victim – survivor) a complaint against the offender.

The respondents are also Very Aware that they can seek assistance from clinical or psychological experts to help a woman suffering from Battered Woman Syndrome. They are Very Aware that they can seek legal assistance from the Public Attorney’s Office to defend a woman and her child against any form of domestic violence. And they also Very Aware that there is a temporary shelter or referral to Haven Rehabilitation Center to every woman survivor assisting by the C/MSWD.

While the respondents are Aware that they have a privilege of filing 10 days leave of

absence with pay to cope up with suffering and they also aware that filing of complaint even uncommon relationship, such as lesbian/gay, or whom she has a sexual or dating relationship with LGBTQi+ that commits intimate partner violence.

The study of Columna (2014) looked into how well female students at UC - Banilad were aware of the provisions of the law on violence against women and children (RA. 9262). The bulk of the respondents were Business Administration students between the ages of 18 and 20, single and Roman Catholics. In general, female respondents had a moderate level of awareness of the provisions of the law on violence against women and children (RA. 9262).

On the contrary, all the respondents in the study of Garcia (2020), acknowledged a lack of awareness about the issue, the laws, and the services. Despite their information drives and different efforts, the PNP WCPC believes that their reach is limited, and that many people remain unaware. People are not aware that VAW is a public offense and that there are laws in place to protect women from abuse. The QCPD considered that not only women, but also males and potential perpetrators, should be aware of the legislation. The men should also be aware that these actions are illegal and have major legal consequences. She stated that, according to Saligan, many people are unaware of the laws and their rights due to the legal profession's exclusivity

Table 4. Anti-VAWC Law Rights and Protection processed data with mean, standard deviation and median.

ANTI-VAWC LAW RIGHTS AND PROTECTION AWARENESS OF THE RESPONDENTS	Not Aware	Slightly Aware	Aware	Very Aware	Highly Aware	SD	MEDIAN
1. Filing a VAW case against her intimate partner, husband, or any person who commit domestic violence in barangay or lawful authority.	5.34%	8.15%	32.58%	23.03%	30.90%	1.152919	4

2. Request for the Barangay Protection Order to secure Permanent or Temporary Protection against the offender not to harm the woman and her child.	4.78%	6.18%	28.65%	27.25%	33.15%	1.119749	4
3. Assistance of the barangay desk officer to file an action against the offender who commits violence against women and their children.	4.21%	6.74%	31.74%	25.00%	32.30%	1.107896	4
4. Any concerned citizen who has knowledge of the commission of domestic violence may file (in behalf of the victim – survivor) a complaint against the offender.	5.34%	10.11%	33.43%	23.60%	27.53%	1.149155	4
5. Assistance from clinical or psychological experts to help a woman suffering from Battered Woman Syndrome.	7.87%	9.27%	28.37%	25.84%	28.65%	1.21567	4
6. Legal assistance from the Public Attorney’s Office to defend a woman and her child against any form of domestic violence.	4.21%	8.43%	25.00%	28.09%	34.27%	1.127678	4
7. Assistance from C/MSWD to have a temporary shelter or referral to Haven Rehabilitation Center to every woman survivor.	6.74%	10.39%	31.46%	23.31%	28.09%	1.193735	4
8. The privilege of filing 10 days leave of absence with pay to cope up with suffering.	17.13%	17.13%	27.25%	18.26%	20.22%	1.359475	3
9. Filing of complaint even uncommon relationship, such as lesbian/gay, or whom she has a sexual or dating relationship with LGBTQi+ that commits intimate partner violence.	8.43%	11.52%	33.99%	20.22%	25.56%	1.224813	3

FACTORS	H- VALUE	P-VALUE	DECISION	INTERPRETATION
Level of Awareness on the Kinds of Violence	5.42	0.144	ACCEPT	Not significant
Level of Awareness as to Acts of Violence	6.91	0.075	ACCEPT	Not significant
Anti-VAWC Law Rights and Protection Awareness of the Respondents	6.50	0.090	ACCEPT	Not Significant

Table 5. Significant relationship of Civil Status and Level of Awareness results using Kruskal-Wallis test.

Table 5 shows the results of the test using Kruskal- Wallis. It reveals that there is no significant difference in the Civil Status with regards to the Level of Awareness on the Kinds of Violence because the P-Value of the first factor is 0.144 which is higher than the level of significance which is 0.05. The results also shows that there is still no significant difference between the Level of Awareness as to Acts of Violence and the civil status because the P-Value of it is 0.075 which is still higher than the 5% level of significance. Same results were reveals in the Anti-VAWC Law Rights and Protection Awareness of the Respondents and Civil Status, there is no significant difference because 0.090 is higher than the set level of significance. Therefore, it concludes that the Level of Awareness on the Kinds of Violence, the Level of Awareness as to Acts of Violence, and Anti-VAWC Law Rights and Protection Awareness of the Respondents are not significant to the Civil Status of the respondents so, the decision is to “Accept” the hypothesis. This implies that, the civil statues of the respondents have no effect on the level of awareness of the respondents.

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Based on the results of the survey, the respondents are aware of the R.A 9262 or Violence Against Women and Children gained 88% of the total responses. Moreover, some of the respondents experienced abuses with 22.75% responses.

Relatively, the study found that the majority of women are abused by their former husbands/partners (51), current husbands/partners (39), and intimate relationships (12). These findings are consistent with the findings of the Philippines National Demographic and Health Survey (2018), which identified the top three reported sexual violence perpetrators for ever married people. However, the findings of WHO and LSHTM (2010) that the majority of violence against women and children is perpetrated by partners, family members, friends, or acquaintances, and that intimate relationship violence and family violence are the most common forms of violence against women and children, contradict the findings of the study.

Many abused women give in to "pressure" from children who ask them not to file complaints against their spouses, or these

women are monetarily reliant on their husbands, according to Socorro, President of GWAVE (Partlow,2020). Majority of women who were subjected to domestic violence claimed that their husbands were the abusers (Sarkar, 2010)

In terms of reporting of abuses, the results from the respondents shows 70.5% that they are not reporting the abuses they experience, followed by 10.39% who reported the abused to their parents and relatives, 6.3% who reported to Barangay Officials, 4.49% who shared to their friends, and 4.21% reported to Police officers.

To further discuss the reason of unreported violence, Table 6 depicts the reasons for unreported violence incidents. It maybe gleaned on the table that, top reasons why victims do not report abuses/violences, includes statement numbers 1,12, 8, 4 and 3 such as

“Fear of harming oneself and hurting members of the family” , “ I prefer to keep quiet and keep it to myself.”, Ashamed to be the topic of conversation in the barangay”,” Do not know who to approach for help” and “Afraid that the case will have an emotional impact on the children and that I cannot do anything”, with 50.28%, 47,75%, 24.16%, 21.62%, and 17.70%, respectively. Whereas; the least reason is statement number 6 “Do not want to cause harm to the abuser.” with 7.10%.

As the findings of Bernabe (2012) the incidents of VAWC are often unreported due to the sensitivity of the issues and its impacts on the women and their families which is same with the findings of this study. The reasons why so many cases go unreported are both personal it might be embarrassment, economic dependent, privacy of families and victim blaming attitudes (Garcia, 2021)

Table 6. Reasons of Unreported Violence Incidents

CATEGORIES	Single	Married	Separated	Widow	Total	Rank
1. Fear of harming oneself and hurting members of the family.	155	22	2	0	179	1
2. Fear of losing support from the abuser.	26	4	2	0	32	10
3. Afraid that the case will have an emotional impact on the children and that I cannot do anything.	43	15	3	2	63	5
4. Do not know who to approach for help.	65	10	1	1	77	4
5. In the belief that personal matter was the cause of the abuse	34	7	1	0	42	7
6. Do not want to cause harm to the abuser.	19	5	0	1	25	12
7. Believes that the abuser will change later on in life.	27	7	4	1	39	8
8. Ashamed to be the topic of conversation in the barangay.	71	11	2	2	86	3
9. I do not know enough about the law that protects women and children.	37	6	1	0	44	6
10. No support from friends and relatives	33	1	1	0	35	9
11. My family (mother-in-law, relative, or parents) encouraged me not to complain for the betterment of my children and spouse.	23	6	0	0	29	11
12. I prefer to keep quiet and keep it to myself.	144	23	1	2	170	2

To determine the preferences of respondents in reporting VAWC cases. Leading to the developing of a mobile application

Women and children's violence are related. Women and children found themselves trapped in, dangerous situations, confined in the same space as their abusers, cut off from peer support and assistance. Services, like as shelters, were severely disrupted as demand surged. A lack of responsive institutions and limited legal measures against violence are among the risk factors for these effects (Anderson, et.al.,2020). The study found out that most of the respondents believed that a mobile application and website for providing way to help them in terms of abuses garnering 62.89% and 35.62 somewhat believed and 1.49 who did not believe.

Moreover, it is shown that 85.62 agreed to use a mobile application to report different type of abuses to women.13.48 somewhat agree and 0.9 did not agree. Furthermore, to easily report abuses the respondents held 53.89 that mobile application and website is a big help to response or take action to the victim, while 24.85% wanted to have brgy.official rounding in the community, and only 21.25% response the use of police hotline.

Based on the results, in determining on how to inform the location of the respondents/victims with total of 59.88% desired to have mobile application wherein they can just put their location then it will be identified with the use of GPS. Meanwhile, 62.87% shows that mobile application is ideal in getting proper information about women's right, laws and protections. At the same time, 62.57% of the respondents wanted to have a mobile application that is like social media platform where they can share and collaborate to empower women.

Additionally, 72.75% of the responses longing to have a feature that can input their profile like address, contact number of family and relatives who can also receive message or notification in terms of emergency to inform. Likewise, to have immediate response to the victims and problem on abuses, 63.47% of total

respondents desire to a mobile application that can send reports to responders to direct action which also protect their confidentiality. Once the victims were save and away from their partner but not able to earn money or lend a job, 60.77% of the respondents wanted to have a mobile application which can cater to give information on job opportunities and provide location of shelter where can they able to live and survive after the violence/abuses they experience.

A study on the evaluation of RA 9262 they discovered that the law is ineffective and poorly implemented. The following are the respondents' preferences for the solutions that should be implemented: 17.14 percent stated the legislation should be enforced efficiently, whereas 8.57 percent indicated that instead of issuing protection orders, instead put offenders directly to jail, 21.43% proposed that budget should be increased in advertising the campaign, 10% said that there should be a grievance desk and a hotline in every barangay. 35.71% said seminars should be conducted to make women aware and empowered. With regard to preferred information sources of VAWC, a big percentage went to TV and radio ads, and seminars and orientations (Lobusta, Molod and Santos, 2014). With these findings, it is recommending for the development of a mobile application and web portal as the relevant of the technologies to our everyday life it supports to leverage the awareness and increase the reporting of violence. It must also address the impact of VAWG on children and young people, ensuring that women and girls can access long-term specialist support services and empowerment programs, and putting an end to impunity of perpetrators. We need to invest in innovative approaches that utilize new technologies and behavioral science to promote behavioral change (Valeza, 2020).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings, the researcher arrives at the following conclusion that, the level of awareness on the provisions of Republic Act

9262 among majority of female respondents from the Province of Laguna is “very high”. However, a number of unaware female should be taken in consideration because it may contribute to the unending battle to eliminate violence against women despite the campaigns. Majority of them are not reporting the abuses they experienced.

Additionally, it was revealed that the respondent’s civil status has no influence on their level of awareness on Republic Act 9262.

Several reasons are hindering them from reporting abuses such as “Fear of harming oneself and hurting members of the family”, “I prefer to keep quiet and keep it to myself.”, “Ashamed to be the topic of conversation in the barangay”, “Do not know who to approach for help” and “Afraid that the case will have an emotional impact on the children and that I cannot do anything”.

Majority of the respondents believed that a mobile application and website could help them in terms of abuses. As a result, a System that will address the needs of the VAWC victims in a more effective, faster, reliable and dependable manner will have to be developed based on the findings of the study. It will feature a mobile application and web portal to be utilized in reporting violence against women cases that will make use of various technologies such as geo-mapping with a Geolocation Information System, web and mobile application, SMS and code generator which may reinforce violence insights among the public, as well as learning different violence prevention activities to

increase wide dissemination of VAWC awareness to all woman and children. Additionally, it will also include elements such as mobile software capable of reporting Violence against Women and Children and a customizable e-reporting mechanism for pre-selected people to call in an emergency. Moreover, it may be used as method of providing VAWC-related Information and questionnaire module, generating questionnaire assessment to determine if person is a VAWC Victim based on the VAWC legislation in the Philippines. Lastly, in order to assist victims and empower them, there is a need for a mobile app that help out in locating shelter and work opportunity that would allow them to survive even without their husband/partner.

For further study, it is recommended to conduct more investigation on acquiring a better understanding of the type, scale, severity, and frequency of violence against women and children. Data is essential to widen the analysis, so it need to gather more information of VAWC through proper communication protocol to the PNP Women’s Desk to have access to the VAWC reports. Better statistics can help us understand the types and kinds of violence women face, whether survivors receive support, the dangers and repercussions of this violence, the costs of this violence. To the development of the mobile and web portal it can use to answer the severe deficit in data on violence against women and children that can be use to have comprehensive, reliable, comparative, and up-to-date information of VAWC.

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