



*Ms. Oslon*

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
A. Francisco Golf Condominium II, EDSA cor. Mapagmahal St.,  
Diliman, Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

March 10, 2005

NO. 2005-24

TO : ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY/MUNICIPAL  
MAYORS, PUNONG BARANGAYS, DILG REGIONAL  
DIRECTORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : LIGTAS BUNTIS 2005 CAMPAIGN

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The Population Growth Rate (PGR) of the Philippines has remained high at 2.36 percent annually compared to the 1.4 and 0.7 percent growth rates in the middle and high income countries, respectively. On the average, Filipino couples gives birth to 3.5 children when they only want 2.5 children.

The 2003 National Demographic Health Survey (NDHS) reveals that a significant percentage (17 percent) of Filipino women want to practice Family Planning (FP) but are unable to. Majority of the non FP users do not have the opportunity to discuss FP with Local Health Workers in the field or at the health facility.

The gap between what women want and the seemingly inadequate availability of FP and safe motherhood information and services result in most cases to unwanted pregnancies and unsafe deliveries. Also, data shows that one (1) in six (6) pregnancies ends up in abortion because they are either unplanned or unwanted.

In view of this, a nationwide **Ligtas Buntis Campaign** is set for February to March 2005 to address the needs of men, women, and couples to plan their families which have not been met due to deficiencies in social structures and health care systems, as well as problems on availability, accessibility and affordability of Family Planning Services. The Department of Health (DOH) thru their Regional Health Center for Development as the lead agency in the implementation of the campaign shall be responsible in training local health officers on the procedures in the implementation of the campaign, make available advocacy materials for local health units, and provide augmentation funds for selected local health workers in the delivery of services during the campaign.

Relative to this, all Local Chief Executives, are hereby encouraged to conduct related activities but not limited to the following:

- 1) intensify information and education campaign about the Ligtas Buntis Campaign;
- 2) direct their respective health offices to manage the activities of the campaign like services on Family Planning and Maternal and Child Care;
- 3) subject to availability of funds, may allocate resources for supportive medicines for the FP services.

All LGUs are advised to seek the necessary assistance from DOH thru its regional offices to effect efficient and effective implementation of the campaign.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

  
ANGELO T. REYES  
Secretary



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

IN REPLYING, PLS CITE:  
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