

# PREVENTING GENDER- BASED ARMED VIOLENCE: WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

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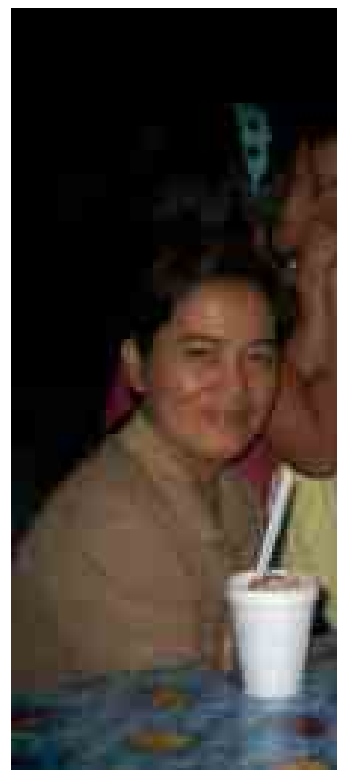
# WOMEN I KNOW



Rorie



Trish



Gigi

Mina

# GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV), NOT JUST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (VAW)

Statistics show that men account for around 80-90% of homicide victims globally

Gender-based violence disproportionately impacts women and girls.

# GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- The term “gender-based violence” recognises the broader context and some of the fundamental root causes of violence. It acknowledges the gender dimensions of armed violence, from the perspective of both perpetrators and victims.

# SEX AND GENDER

- **Sex** refers to the biological characteristics of males and females. These characteristics are congenital and their differences are limited to physiological reproductive functions.
- **Gender** is the socially constructed roles as ascribed to women and men, as opposed to biological and physical characteristics.. Gender is learned through socialisation.

# GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- Gender-based violence has been defined by the CEDAW Committee as violence that is directed at a person on the basis of gender or sex.

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE: PHILIPPINES

## The Philippines is awash in small arms

- The Small Arms Survey put civilian firearms holdings in the country at 4.2million
- Police shared that there are roughly 500 applications for gun licensing processed everyday

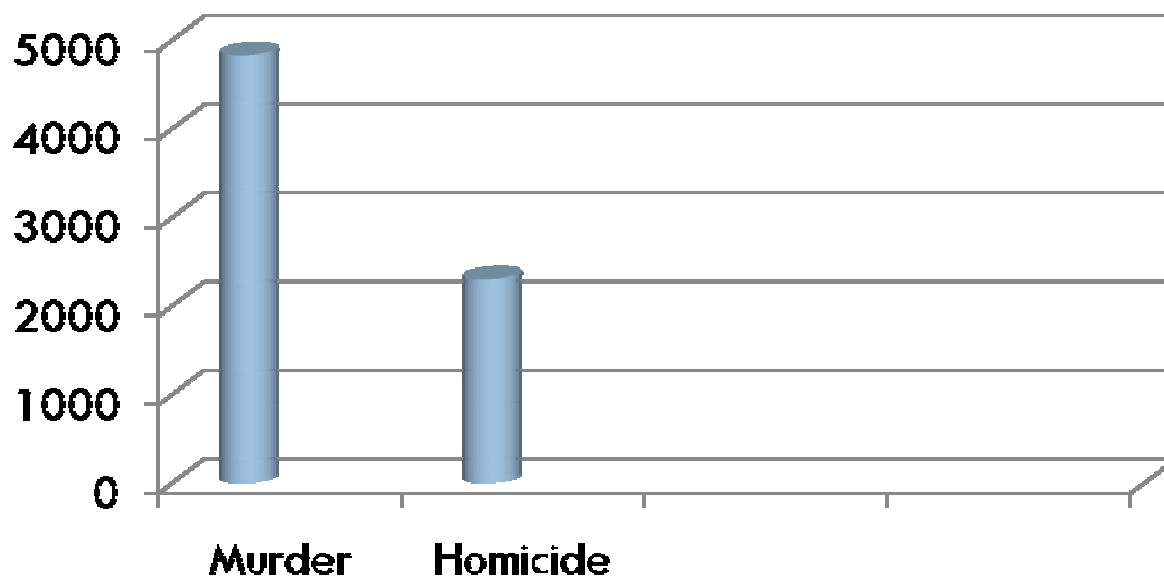
# PHILIPPINES: SMALL ARMS PROLIFERATION

- Wide range of weapons in circulation: AK-47s, M-16s, M-14s, M-1s, .38 and .45 pistols and revolvers, rocket-propelled grenades, M-79s, PV-49s, landmines, machine guns (30/50/60) and 81mm mortars and paltik (locally-manufactured guns)
- There is an existing policy (EO 194) which authorizes the possession and licensing of firearms of any type and/or caliber and in unlimited quantity



# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE

**Crime rate in the country is high**



**Murder and Homicide Rate January-September 2009**

Source: Philippine National Police Directorate for Investigative and Detective Management

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE

- If there were 7,114 murder and homicide rates in 270 days, that means 26 people perish daily from such crimes. If 78% of murders and homicides are done using small arms, that means **guns kill 21 Filipinos on a daily basis**
- In the 2010 Global Peace Index, Philippines was among the least peaceful countries placing 130 out of 149 countries ranked

## SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE

# Bloody Politics

- 65 killed (so far) in the elections of 2013
- 156 killed in the elections of 2010 (if we will include the massacre in Maguindanao)
- 276 killed in the elections of 2007
- 312 killed in the elections of 2004



The massacre in Maguindanao on November 23, 2009 killed 57 people, 21 of them women. Results of police laboratory tests found traces of semen in five of the 21 slain women, evidence that they were raped. The bodies of all five women had bruises or injuries in their genitals.

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE

## *Clan Wars*

-clan conflicts create patterns of revenge among its members caused by disputes over property, political rivalry, and violation of the family's honor or dignity

Ex. The Philippine National Police in ARMM estimate that 5,500 people have died in 'rido'-related cases over the past three decades - equivalent to about 183 deaths per year

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE AND WOMEN

It is most often small arms and light weapons (SALW) that are used to facilitate and commit various forms of violence and crimes against women, both during and outside of armed conflict

Weapons facilitate and perpetuate violence against women. Such violence takes many forms, including: murder; intimidation; rape; torture; sexual abuse; sexual harassment; threats and humiliation; forced prostitution, and; trafficking of women and girls.

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE AND WOMEN

The primary weapon holders, users and traders may be men- but women are particularly at risk of certain crimes because of their sex - crimes such as violence in the home, on the streets and in the battlefield (WNK).

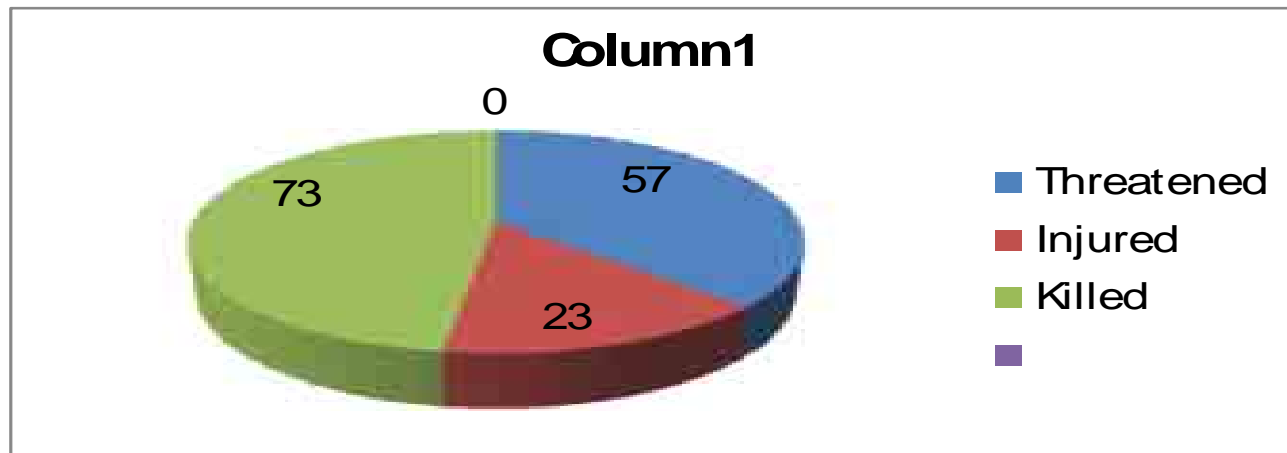
# ARMED CONFLICT & WOMEN: SOME GLOBAL FIGURES

- ◉ 20,000 -50,000 women were raped during war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the early 1990s.
- ◉ 250,000 -500,000 women were raped during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.
- ◉ 64,000 women and girls are estimated to have suffered war-related sexual violence in Sierra Leone's civil war between 1991 and 2002. Testimonies of women explain how the assaults were endured at gunpoint. 'They put their guns to our throats and stomachs to make sure that we followed their orders,' one woman reported



# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE AND WOMEN: PHILIPPINES

- An average of 23 SGBV cases are reported on a daily basis in the Philippines
- 153 cases of gun violence against women were published in a major newspaper in 2007
- 68% of gun violence against women reported in the Year 2007 in Philippine Star were cases of rape



# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE AND WOMEN

- 3,159 rape cases tallied by the Philippine National Police in 2009 (average of 9 rape cases daily or one incident every 2 ½ hours)). A study posited that “half of rape victims would not file a complaint because of the stigma and the embarrassment of recalling their ordeal to the authorities.”

# SMALL ARMS VIOLENCE & WOMEN

## Review of 93 cases of small arms violence against women (2010-May 2013)

- ◉ **Top 3 causes:** elections (25%), arguments (10%), robbery (10%)
- ◉ **Location:** Streets (49%), home (32%), workplace (7%)
- ◉ **Weapon used:** .45 caliber pistol (64%); .38 (14%)
- ◉ **Perpetrators:** motorcycle riding men (68%); security sector (13%); partner (6%)  
Men (97%)

# DOCTORS SAVE LIVES!

Of 48 cases of gun violence we recently reviewed:

15% died on the spot

46% dead on arrival (in health institution)

6% died while receiving treatment

Total % of deaths- 67%

33% survived after treatment

# PREVENTING GENDER-BASED ARMED VIOLENCE: WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

Prevention is an  
effective pathway  
to saving lives!