



Republic of the Philippines  
 PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN  
 City of Tuguegarao  
**SEVENTH CITY COUNCIL**



EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 54<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION  
 OF THE SEVENTH CITY COUNCIL OF TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN  
 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2017, 9 AM, TUESDAY,  
 AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SESSION HALL

PRESENT:

Hon. Danilo L. Baccay	City Vice Mayor, Regular Presiding Officer
Hon. Jude T. Bayona	Sangguniang Panlungsod Member
Hon. Maila Rosario T. Que	-do-
Hon. Arnel T. Arugay	-do-
Hon. Gilbert S. Labang	-do-
Hon. Winnoco R. Abraham	-do-
Hon. Imogen Claire M. Callangan	-do-
Hon. Mary Marjorie P. Martin-Chan	-do-
Hon. Raymund P. Guzman	-do-
Hon. Grace B. Arago	-do-
Hon. Anthony C. Tuddao	-do-
Hon. Jose G. Velasco	-do-

ABSENT:

Hon. Kendrick S. Calubaquib Sangguniang Panlungsod Member (on Sick Leave)

**CITY ORDINANCE NO. 34-2017**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CODE OF TUGUEGARAO CITY**

Introduced By: **HON. MAILA ROSARIO T. QUE**  
**HON. MARY MARJORIE P. MARTIN-CHAN**  
**HON. JUDE T. BAYONA**  
**HON. GRACE B. ARAGO**

Co-Sponsors: **HON. DANILO L. BACCAY**  
**HON. ARNEL T. ARUGAY**  
**HON. GILBERT S. LABANG**  
**HON. WINNOCO R. ABRAHAM**  
**HON. IMOGEN CLAIRE S. CALLANGAN**  
**HON. RAYMUND P. GUZMAN**  
**HON. ANTHONY C. TUDDAO**  
**HON. JOSE G. VELASCO**

**WHEREAS**, Section 12, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution, and shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the same provision, it states that the Government shall provide support and assistance to parents in rearing the youth for civic efficiency and for the development of their moral character;

**WHEREAS**, further and of equal consideration, Section 15, Article II of the Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10354, otherwise known as "*The Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012* (RPRH Act)", emphasizes that the State recognizes and guarantees the human rights of all persons including their right to equality and nondiscrimination of these rights, the right to sustainable human development, the right to health which includes reproductive health, and the right to education and information;

**WHEREAS**, the State recognizes and guarantees the promotion of gender equality, gender equity and women empowerment and dignity as a health and human rights concern and as a social responsibility;

**WHEREAS**, the advancement and protection of women's human rights shall be central to the efforts of the State to address reproductive health care;

**WHEREAS**, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights is made a vital agendum of the same;

**WHEREAS**, as an agendum in the SDGs, the latter targets health, education and gender equality, encompassing access to sexual and reproductive health services, sexuality education and the ability to make decisions on one's health, thus, the Philippines, being a member of the United Nations, is obliged to conform with the latter's standards and institutionalize effective approaches and principles to be able to meet this issue;

**WHEREAS**, moving on to facts, considering that our government gives primary value to families being a basic societal institution, it is undeniable that in order for the latter to sustain healthy life for each of their members, an awareness must be raised and instilled to them by way of effective sexuality and reproductive education;

**WHEREAS**, in line with the above consideration, we must also create measures and mechanisms which include the participation of families and family associations in the planning and implementation of policies and programs;

**WHEREAS**, in the present days, some societal considerations such as technology, social media trends and the use of the internet oftentimes raise misconception to the people; the latter are affected and dragged by sexual trends or practices that negatively affect the concept of responsible parenthood, thus, the need for proper sexual education and awareness must be in place;

**WHEREAS**, a particular scenario which is brought about by lack or insufficient responsible sexual education is unintended pregnancy, which in some cases leads to illegal abortion of the fetus from the mother's womb which at the very least, in its very thought, undermines our moral obligation to the sanctity and preciousness of life;

**WHEREAS**, considering the number of unplanned pregnancies including the alarming climb in the number of underage pregnancies, it is apparent that there are things missing in our system to address this issue, mainly on how we educate our people;

**WHEREAS**, finding place also in this argument, our national health data reveal that Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is already making its way to plague our country; although cases of HIV infection are still considered as contained and isolated, we cannot take risks and chances, hence, we must immediately act on it by setting up policies to prevent our fears from animating;

**WHEREAS**, the medical facilities and services that we provide are also main considerations in this issue, thus, they must step up notches and create effective and efficient measures to sustain the health and medical concerns brought about by this issue;

**WHEREAS**, we are mandated to guarantee the people universal access to affordable, effective and quality medical facilities;

**WHEREAS**, another point on this matter is that there is also a need to eradicate discriminatory practices, laws and policies that infringe a person's exercise of reproductive health rights;

**WHEREAS**, partnership with local governments as lead implementers of basic health services is central to the success of the RPRH Act, hence, the active participation in the process of implementing

rules and regulations drafting and commitment to implementation thereof by Tuguegarao City is necessary;

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon this august Body to institutionalize and localize the Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012, its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other related standards as an Ordinance and in addition thereto and for the furtherance of its objectives, additional measures must be made and put in force;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of a Reproductive Health Team, a specialized body designed to address the present matter, is needed to formulate and put into action specific mechanisms and programs in line with the objectives of this Ordinance;

**WHEREAS**, it shall be the role of the Reproductive Health Team to supplement policies and mechanisms to bring about the full objective of this Ordinance;

**WHEREAS**, in consideration of its broad aspect, the Local Government of Tuguegarao City shall coordinate the matter with pertinent government agencies and all other organizations for effective attainment of this objective;

**WHEREAS**, in pursuance to the present societal call of this problem and by mandate of the laws, this matter needs this Honorable Council's action through the passage of this Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, that City Ordinance No. 34-2017 shall be enacted by the Tuguegarao City Council assembled:

**SECTION 1. TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "**Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Code of Tuguegarao City.**"

**SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is hereby declared that it is the policy of the Local Government of Tuguegarao City that the right of all persons to development, effective and sustainable reproductive health, education, equality and equity and their right to make informed decisions for the establishment of their families in accordance to their cultural beliefs and religion to meet the demands of responsible parenthood are of primary consideration in order to create a thrust in pursuing the objectives of a peaceful and orderly society.

### **SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

1. Family Planning – a program that enables couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have information and means to carry out their decisions, and have informed choices and access to a full range of safe and effective family planning methods, techniques and devices, excluding abortion which is a crime.
2. Gender Equality – the principle of equality between women and men and equal rights to enjoy conditions in realizing their full human potentials to contribute to, and benefit from, the results of development, with the State recognizing that all human beings are free and equal in dignity and rights. It entails equality in opportunities, in the allocation of resources or benefits, or in access to services in furtherance of the rights to health and sustainable human development among others, without discrimination.
3. Gender Equity – the policies, instruments, programs and actions that address the disadvantaged position of women in society by providing preferential treatment and affirmative action. It entails fairness and justice in the distribution of benefits and responsibilities between women and men, and often requires women-specific projects and programs to end existing inequalities. This concept recognizes that while reproductive health involves women and men, it is more critical for women's health.
4. Reproductive Health (RH) - the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes. This implies that people are able to have a responsible, safe, consensual and satisfying sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when, and how often to do so. This further implies that women and men attain equal relationships in matters related to sexual relations and reproduction.



5. Reproductive Health Care - the access to a full range of methods, facilities, services and supplies that contribute to reproductive health and well-being by addressing reproductive health-related problems. It also includes sexual health, the purpose of which is the enhancement of life and personal relations. The elements of reproductive health care include the following:
  - (1) Family planning information and services which shall include as a first priority making women of reproductive age fully aware of their respective cycles to make them aware of when fertilization is highly probable as well as highly improbable;
  - (2) Maternal, infant and child health and nutrition, including breastfeeding;
  - (3) Proscription of abortion and management of abortion complications;
  - (4) Adolescent and youth reproductive health guidance and counseling;
  - (5) Prevention, treatment and management of reproductive tract infections (RTIs), HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmittable infections (STIs);
  - (6) Elimination of violence against women and children and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence;
  - (7) Education and counseling on sexuality and reproductive health;
  - (8) Treatment of breast and reproductive tract cancers and other gynecological conditions and disorders;
  - (9) Male responsibility and involvement and men's reproductive health;
  - (10) Prevention, treatment and management of infertility and sexual dysfunction;
  - (11) Reproductive health education for the adolescents; and,
  - (12) Mental health aspect of reproductive health care.
6. Reproductive health care program - systematic and integrated provision of reproductive health care to all citizens prioritizing women, the poor, marginalized and those vulnerable due to crisis situations.
7. Reproductive health rights - the rights of individuals and couples to decide freely and responsibly whether or not to have children; the number, spacing and timing of their children; to make other decisions concerning reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence; to have the information and means to do so; and to attain the highest standard of sexual health and reproductive health: Provided, however, That reproductive health rights do not include abortion, and access to abortifacients.
8. Reproductive health and sexuality education - a lifelong learning process of providing and acquiring complete, accurate and relevant age- and development-appropriate information and education on reproductive health and sexuality through life skills education and other approaches.
9. Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI) - refers to sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and other types of infections affecting the reproductive system.
10. Responsible Parenthood - the will and ability of a parent to respond to the needs and aspirations of the family and children. It is likewise a shared responsibility between parents to determine and achieve the desired number of children, spacing and timing of their children according to their own family life aspirations, taking into account psychological preparedness, health status, sociocultural and economic concerns consistent with their religious convictions.
11. Sexual health - a state of physical, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality. It requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free from coercion, discrimination and violence.
12. Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) - any infection that may be acquired or passed on through sexual contact, use of intravenous drug needles, childbirth and breastfeeding.
13. Tuguegarao City Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Team (TCRPRHT) – the City's key body responsible for the enforcement of this Ordinance and its objectives.
14. Visual Acetic Acid Test – a visual inspection of specimen; a method used to determine and detect presence of precancerous lesions leading to cervical cancer.

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15. A substitute for *colposcopy*, a procedure to look at the cervix in a magnified way using a colposcope to identify areas of abnormality meant to be biopsied if suspicious malignancy based on an abnormal Pap Smear result.
16. Women's Clinic – A specialized clinic which will be situated at the Tuguegarao City People's General Hospital which will attend to the reproductive health concerns of the women of Tuguegarao City.

**SECTION 4. TUGUEGARAO CITY RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH TEAM (TCRPRHT).** The TCRPRHT is hereby created and to ensure the effective implementation of this Ordinance and its objectives, the following shall be its members:

1. The City Health Officer - Lead
2. The City Social Welfare and Development Coordinator – Co-Lead
3. Chair of the Committee on Health of the Sangguniang Panglungsod
4. The Schools Division Superintendent of Tuguegarao City
5. The Regional Director of the Commission on Higher Education
6. A representative from the Philippine Statistics Authority
7. A Representative of College Student Government/Councils in the City

The Team shall provide effective approaches and measures through policy formation and implementation and objectively aim development efforts for reproductive health and responsible parenthood programs.

**SECTION 5. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH/MEDICAL FACILITIES AND SUPPLIES.** Tuguegarao City shall endeavor to establish or upgrade hospitals and facilities with adequate qualified personnel, equipment and supplies to be able to provide emergency obstetric and newborn care. The City Government shall appropriate funds for the upgrade of the equipment and facilities so as to meet the necessity of the public.

**SECTION 6. WOMEN'S CLINIC.** The Tuguegarao City People's General Hospital shall establish a *Women's Clinic* in its out-patient function. The Clinic shall work hand in hand with the City Health Office in conducting family planning education and provide different acceptable contraceptive methods based on RPRH Act. It shall be headed and attended to by the Obstetrician-Gynecologist on duty at the TCPGH.

Medical/Clinical services of the Clinic shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Intra-uterine Device Insertion (IUD)
- b. Progesterone Implant Insertion
- c. Bilateral Tubal Ligation

**SECTION 7. PAP SMEAR DAY** – Every Monday of every week shall be scheduled as Pap Smear Day.

The Women's Clinic shall set up a calendar of appointments per barangay to enable proper organization of the conduct of the procedures and for the systematic handling of data and cases. Preparation of instruments and sending of specimens to the pathologist shall be done by batches to maximize time and to economize the costs.

The Obstetrician-Gynecologist on duty shall make Pap Smear procedure as her priority in her regular duty.

**SECTION 8. CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION.** The City shall make efforts for the prevention of cervical cancer and to set up the latter as a priority in the health agenda of the Local Government.

The City Government shall encourage women in the City to undergo a regular Pap Smear test to increase the rate of detection in order to mitigate the cases and for prevention and cure.

Efforts shall be made through the midwives and barangay health workers with the assistance and supervision of medical doctors who specialize in reproductive health to educate men and women at the Barangays about cervical cancer. Cervical cancer education shall be made at least once every two (2) months in every barangay in the City.

Midwives are required to conduct a routine Visual Acetic Acid Tests in their health stations.

Midwives are required to undergo training to do Visual Acetic Acid Test to enable them to competently conduct the procedure and in order for them to identify abnormalities and to make proper referrals to patients.

The City Government through the City Health Office shall partner with the Division Office of the Department of Education and the Department of Health in encouraging parents to have their grade school children aged nine (9) years and above to be vaccinated with Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine.

**SECTION 9. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES.** The Tuguegarao City Government shall provide, but not limited to, the following reproductive health procedures and medicines free of charge to residents of the City:

- a. Pap Smear;
- b. Tetanus toxoid vaccine;
- c. Hepatitis B vaccine;
- d. Intra-Uterine Device implant insertion; and,
- e. Tubal Ligation.

**SECTION 10. DEPLOYMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS.** Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) shall play a vital role in the implementation of the programs and all other efforts related. Their familiarity with and immediate access to the people situated in their locality is indispensable for the success of this Ordinance. BHWs shall be tasked to perform the following:

- a. Organizing
- b. Data gathering
- c. Health information campaigns
- d. Counselling
- e. Community assistance

**SECTION 11. VOLUNTEERING.** Volunteer Community Health Workers are encouraged and called upon to join this effort in order to utilize all available force and resources for the attainment of the objectives of this Ordinance.

Compensation of the volunteers shall be subject to the availability of funds.

**SECTION 12. RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATION (RPRHE).** Adolescents and school-age children shall be taught by adequately trained teachers and educators of age- and development-appropriate responsible parenthood and reproductive health education. RPRHE shall be incorporated in the educational approaches of formal and informal educational systems and shall be integrated in the relevant subjects and shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- a. values formation;
- b. knowledge and skills in self-protection against discrimination;
- c. sexual abuse and violence against women and children and other forms of gender based violence and teen pregnancy;
- d. physical, social and emotional changes in adolescents;
- e. women's rights and children's rights;
- f. responsible teenage behavior;
- g. gender sensitivity and development;
- h. population and development; responsible parenthood; and,
- i. other reproductive health concepts.

Flexibility in the formulation and adoption of appropriate course content, scope and methodology in each educational level or group shall be allowed only after consultations with parents-teachers-community associations, school officials, civil society organizations and other interest groups.

**SECTION 13. TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS.** To ensure the quality and relevance of teaching reproductive health education, DO-DepEd (Tuguegarao City), CHED and TESDA shall provide appropriate instructional materials and visual aids for teaching and shall undertake a comprehensive

educators' training program for public and private schools to enable educators to develop appropriate knowledge and skills on responsible parenthood and reproductive health education and life coaching.

These measures shall be focused on the development of the following outcomes for children, to include, among others:

- a) Raising awareness on the rights of the child to survival, development, participation and protection;
- b) Providing them with scientifically-accurate and evidence-based information on the reproductive system;
- c) Teaching them how to take proper care of their bodies and live a healthy lifestyle;
- d) Developing health-affirming and health-promoting behaviors;
- e) Developing informed choices in reproductive health; and,
- f) Developing their capacity to make intelligent options on how to live their life as they enter adulthood.

**SECTION 14.** The Division Office of the Department of Education (DO-DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall integrate into their respective curricula complete, accurate and relevant age and development-appropriate information on responsible parenthood and reproductive health, respectful of culture and religious convictions, for integration across all subjects and key areas, among others:

- a) Rights of the Student;
- b) Child Health and Nutrition;
- c) Child and Adolescent Development;
- d) Gender and Development;
- e) Life skills;
- f) Age-Appropriate Sexuality Education;
- g) Population and Development;
- h) Marriage and Family;
- i) Prevention of STIs, including HIV (as provided by RA 8504 or the Philippine AIDS and Control Act of 1998); and,
- j) Recognition and Elimination of Gender-Based Violence.

The DO-DepEd Tuguegarao City, CHED and TESDA shall institute regular monitoring and reporting on the integration of responsible parenthood and reproductive health information in the formal, non-formal, community-based education and indigenous learning systems. The TCRPRH Team shall be furnished with copies of the reports.

Educational institutions are also required to incorporate seminars and lectures against risky behaviors toward illegal drugs, sexually transmitted infections, teenage pregnancy and the like in their school activities.

DO-DepEd Tuguegarao City, CHED and TESDA shall require schools to conduct regular lectures against adverse behaviors affecting students and invite resource speakers who specialize in reproductive health and other related issues for this purpose.

**SECTION 15. STUDENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORT.** Colleges and universities shall integrate Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Education for the Communities in their curricula subject to the approval of the Commission on Higher Education for the following courses:

- a. Post-Graduate Medicine;
- b. Nursing;
- c. Social Work; and
- d. Psychology

RPRH Education for the Communities conducted by students shall be in accordance with the instructional information on RPRH developed by the Department of Health.

**SECTION 16. ACCESS TO FAMILY PLANNING.** All accredited public health facilities shall provide a full range of modern family planning methods, which shall also include medical consultations, supplies and necessary and reasonable procedures for poor and marginalized couples having infertility issues who

desire to have children: *Provided*, That family planning services shall likewise be extended by private health facilities to paying patients with the option to grant free care and services to indigents, except in the case of non-maternity specialty hospitals and hospitals owned and operated by a religious group, but they have the option to provide such full range of modern family planning methods: *Provided, further*, That these hospitals shall immediately refer the person seeking such care and services to another health facility which is conveniently accessible: *Provided, finally*, That the person is not in an emergency condition or serious case as defined in Republic Act No. 8344.

No person shall be denied information and access to family planning services, whether natural or artificial: *Provided*, That minors will not be allowed access to modern methods of family planning without written consent from their parents or guardian/s except when the minor is already a parent or has had a miscarriage.

**SECTION 17.** All other pertinent provisions of Republic Act 10354, otherwise known as the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations are deemed adopted and institutionalized in this Ordinance.

**SECTION 18. FUNDING.** The City Council of Tuguegarao shall appropriate the necessary funds for the implementation of the provisions of this Code.

**SECTION 19. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

Should any provision of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or illegal by any court of competent jurisdiction, the parts which are not affected shall remain in full force or effect.

**SECTION 20. REPEALING CLAUSE**

Any provision of ordinance, rules, and regulations and/or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby amended, modified and/or repealed accordingly.

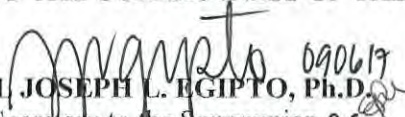
**SECTION 21. EFFECTIVITY.**

This ordinance takes effect immediately upon its approval.


On motion of Hon. Maila Rosario T. Que, duly seconded by Hon. Raymund P. Guzman and Hon. Grace B. Arago and without any objection, **CITY ORDINANCE NO. 34-2017** was **APPROVED** on its Second, Third and Final Reading under suspended rules.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE FOREGOING:

  
**JOEL JOSEPH L. EGIPTO, Ph.D.**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian *Cv*

ATTESTED:

  
**HON. DANILO L. BACCAY**  
City Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer  
Date: 09/11/17

APPROVED:

  
**HON. BIENVENIDO C. DE GUZMAN II**  
City Mayor  
Date: 09/11/17

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