



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS

Maricao Avenue, Pasig City

February 27, 1997


OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
DECS MEMORANDUM  
No. 62. s. 1997

1997 WOMEN'S MONTH/DAY CELEBRATION

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities  
Vocational School Superintendents/Administrators

1. Presidential Proclamation No. 227 declared the month of March as "Women's Role in History Month", while Republic Act No. 6949 provided for the observance of March 8 of every year as "National Women's Day".
2. The theme for the celebration is "Yes, to Women's Health! No, to Violence Against Women!". In line with this theme, the 1997 celebration aims to accomplish the following objectives: (a) to identify in each region a woman hero of the revolution or an exemplary survivor of violence against women who can be present-day role models; and (b) to increase awareness among women regarding services that are available in the different regions and in the National Capital Region to those who are victims of violence against women.
3. To contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the celebration, all elementary and secondary schools are enjoined to focus their activities for the month of March on the theme and objectives of the celebration. This is to underscore the importance of creating awareness among students and their families on the violence perpetrated against girls and women and how this can be prevented/eliminated and remedied. Activities that may be undertaken by both the elementary and secondary schools are listed in the inclosure.
4. The submission of regional reports by the end of March to the DECS Central Office Focal Point for Women on activities undertaken by the regions will be highly appreciated.
5. Regional offices are encouraged to designate a Regional Coordinator to link with and support the regional offices of the Department of Health in leading the regional celebration of Women's Month/Day. In this connection, Focal Points for Women and Sexual Harassment Units established in some DECS regions may be tapped for this purpose.

6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned and compliance thereto is desired.

  
RICARDO T. GLORIA  
Secretary

*Rem  
2/21*

Incl.:  
As stated

Reference:  
DECS Memorandum: No. 56, s. 1997

Allotment: 1-2-3-4--(M.O. 1-87)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

BUREAUS & OFFICES  
CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS  
REPORTS  
SCHOOLS

(Inclosure to DECS Memorandum No. s., 1997)

### **SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE 1997 WOMEN'S MONTH**

1. Putting up in strategic places in the school of bulletin board displays depicting the celebration theme;
2. Putting up in each school a streamer with the following message - Join the 1997 Women's Month/Day Celebration! " Yes to Women's Health No to Violence Against Women! "
3. Integration into/taking up in lessons in appropriate subjects basic/core messages on violence against women such as the following:
  - a. There are various forms of violence against girls and women committed at home, in the schools, in places of work and in the community.
  - b. Domestic violence against women stems from unequal power relations between men and women; parents and children.
  - c. Violence against women affects not only the physical health of victims but also their mental and emotional health as well.
  - d. There are services available to victims of violence against women.
  - e. All forms of violence against women are violations of human rights and therefore should be eliminated/prevented.
4. Holding of parade/program to celebrate Women's Month/Day.
5. Search for and documentation of local exemplary survivors of violence against women and honoring/giving recognition to same during the Women's Day Celebration.
6. Collecting newspaper clippings of feature stories/information related to the theme of the celebration.
7. Conducting poster making contest at the elementary level and essay writing contest in the high school on the celebration theme starting February so that winner can be proclaimed and recognized in March.
8. Demonstration of martial arts such as karate, judo, taekwondo and the like to create awareness of self-defense strategies that can be available to women.