



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
18th City Council

PO2011-54

55th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 2180, S-2011




**AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE QUEZON CITY CHILDREN'S
CODE OF 2012.**

Introduced by Councilors **ALEXIS R. HERRERA, JULIENNE ALYSON RAE V. MEDALLA, JESUS MANUEL C. SUNTAY, GODOFREDO T. LIBAN II, EUFEMIO C. LAGUMBAY, EDEN "Candy" A. MEDINA, RAQUEL S. MALAÑGEN, ANTHONY PETER D. CRISOLOGO, DOROTHY A. DELARMENTE, PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO, RANULFO Z. LUDOVICA, FRANCISCO A. CALALAY, JR., RICARDO T. BELMONTE, JR., JOSEPH P. JUICO, ALFREDO D. VARGAS III, RODERICK M. PAULATE, JULIAN ML. COSETENG, ALLAN BENEDICT S. REYES, JAIME F. BORRES, JOSE MARIO DON S. DE LEON, GIAN CARLO G. SOTTO, EDCEL B. LAGMAN, JR., JESSICA CASTELO DAZA, VINCENT DG. BELMONTE, MARVIN C. RILLO and JOHN ANSELL R. DE GUZMAN.**

WHEREAS, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which the Philippines signed and ratified recognizes that all children have the right to survival, development, protection, and participation;

WHEREAS, in 1997, the Quezon City government (QC or City) enacted its landmark legislation on children and youth, entitled the Quezon City Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance (Ordinance No. SP-572 S-97) in acknowledgment of its role, obligation and commitment to ensure the child's survival, development, protection, and participation;

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WHEREAS, several developments regarding national and international policies concerning or affecting children have taken place since the enactment of the QC Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance;

WHEREAS, the Philippines formulated its vision for children and articulated a roadmap for child protection and development in The Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children (2000-2025) or Child 21;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Child 21 and the child-friendly movement, local government units commit to deliver four gifts to children: (1) Local Development Plan for Children; (2) Local Investment Plan for Children; (3) Local Code on Children; and (4) Local State of Children Report;

WHEREAS, in the year 2000, the United Nations hosted the Millenium Summit where the member countries committed to the eight-point Millennium Development Goals (MDG), a set of time-bound, concrete and specific goals to reduce extreme poverty, illiteracy, and disease by 2015, six (6) of which are directly related to children;

WHEREAS, following the adoption of the MDG, the United Nations convened the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children in May 2002, where the World Fit for Children was drafted and adopted, which contained a declaration of four (4) priority objectives for the world's children, i.e. promoting healthy lives; providing quality education; protection from violence, abuse, and exploitation; and combating HIV/AIDS;

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WHEREAS, new national laws affecting children have been enacted, including the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 (Republic Act No. 9208), An Act Providing for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Affording Stronger Protection for the Working Child Amending for this Purpose Republic Act No. 7610 (Republic Act No. 9231), the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004 (Republic Act No. 9262), the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 (Republic Act No. 9344), and the Anti-Child Pornography Act (Republic Act No. 9775), among others;

WHEREAS, in recognition of and in an effort to further enhance the existing Ordinances affecting or concerning children, primarily the Quezon City Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, and other related Ordinances including but not limited to the following:

- a) Ordinance No. SP-2100, S-2011 (An Ordinance Regulating the Operations of Birthing Homes);
- b) Ordinance No. SP-2076, S-2011 (An Ordinance Providing for the Promotion of Breastfeeding in Accordance with RA 7600 and EO No. 51);
- c) Ordinance No. SP-1915, S-2009 (Special Children's Ordinance in Quezon City);
- d) Ordinance No. SP-1730 S-2006 (An Ordinance Providing Support for All Day Care Centers and Public Schools in Quezon City with Complete Textbooks, Audio-visual Equipment, School Facilities and Other Instructional Materials);
- e) Ordinance No. SP 1767, S-2007 (An Ordinance Prescribing for the Mandatory Posting of Notice and Information Regarding Child Protection on Establishments Unsafe to the Development and Welfare of Minors);
- f) Ordinance No. SP-1721, S-2006 (An Ordinance on the Quezon City Alternative Learning Program);




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- g) Ordinance No. SP-1734, S-2006 (An Ordinance Establishing the Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPC) to Implement RA 9344);
- h) Ordinance No. SP-1564, S-2005 (An Ordinance Prioritizing Quezon City Residents for Enrollment in Quezon City Public Schools);
- i) Ordinance No. SP-1537, S-2005 (An Ordinance Declaring All Day Care Centers in Quezon City as Schools Inclusive of Children with Special Education Needs);
- j) Ordinance No. SP-1623, S-2005 (An Ordinance Creating a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children in Every Barangay);
- k) Ordinance No. SP-1624, S-2005 (An Ordinance Establishing Children's Welfare Fund for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Abandoned, Abused, and Sexually Exploited Children);
- l) Ordinance No. SP-1685, S-2005 (An Ordinance Prohibiting the Sale on Retail in All Sari-Sari or Convenient Stores of Rugby);
- m) Ordinance No. SP-1488, S-2005 (An Ordinance Exempting Indigent Children from the Payment of Foundling Registration Fee);
- n) Ordinance No. SP-1628, S-2005 (An Ordinance Requiring Schools to Educate High School Students on Basic First Aid and Treatment in Cases of Emergency);
- o) Ordinance No. SP-1610, S-2005 (An Ordinance Providing Exemption from Payment of Birth Registration Fees by Parents or Guardians Whose Gross Income Does Not Exceed Sixty Thousand Pesos);
- p) Ordinance No. SP-1274, S-2003 (One-is-to-One Textbook Allocation for Public Schools in Quezon City);

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- q) Ordinance No. SP-1157, S-2002 (An Ordinance Prohibiting Owners of Computer Sales and Rental Shops, Cyber Net Cafes, Internet Shops and Other Similar Establishments From Allowing Minors to Play Computer Games Which are Violent);
- r) Ordinance No. SP-1145, S-2002 (An Ordinance Establishing a Maternal and Infant Health Home Visiting Program in Every Barangay Health Center);
- s) Ordinance No. SP-1053, S-2001 (An Ordinance Strengthening the QC STD/AIDS Council);
- t) Ordinance No. SP-1028, S-2001 (An Ordinance Creating the QC Council for Protection of Children);
- u) Ordinance No. SP-855, S-2000 (An Ordinance Declaring All Schools in QC as "Pollution Free Areas");
- v) Ordinance No. SP-784, S-99 (An Ordinance Penalizing Owners/Operators of Establishments For Hiring or Employing Children or Minors);
- w) Ordinance No. SP-838, S-99 (An Ordinance Creating the QC STD/AIDS Council); and
- x) Ordinance No. SP-681, S-98 (An Ordinance Prohibiting the Sale of Cigarettes, Cigar, Tobacco and Similar Tobacco Products to All minors).

WHEREAS, during the first Quezon City Summit on Children's Rights held on September 17, 2010, current issues on children were raised and recommendations were proposed by representatives of government agencies, barangays, and non-government organizations working with children, as well as child advocates from the Quezon City schools and child representatives of non-government organizations;

WHEREAS, in recognition of and building on the achievements of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, and in light of the developments, current issues, persistent problems and emerging concerns involving and affecting children, there is a need to strengthen local legislation to ensure a child-friendly Quezon City.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY
IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as "THE QUEZON CITY CHILDREN'S CODE OF 2012".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES.
- It is hereby declared that the Quezon City government shall adopt the following policies and principles:

(a) It recognizes the inherent rights of the child to survival, development, protection, and participation in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the relevant Philippine laws on children. As such, the City adopts the following core principles of the U.N. Convention and shall uphold the same principles in all matters concerning or affecting children:

1. Non-discrimination - The rights of the child shall be respected without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, gender, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status;

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2. *Best interests of the child - In all actions concerning children, whether undertaken by public or private social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies, the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration;*
 3. *Survival and development - Every child has the inherent right to life, and the survival and development of the child shall be ensured to the maximum extent possible; and*
 4. *Respect for the views of the child - Any child capable of forming a view has the right to express such views freely in all matters affecting him or her, and the child's views shall be given due weight in accordance with age and maturity.*
- (b) *It is committed to provide quality service which will make the City an enabling environment for children to grow and develop their full potential at every stage of development and where children are protected by a responsive government from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, discrimination, and other conditions prejudicial to their development.*
- (c) *It shall uphold the sanctity of family life and to protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution; to equally protect the life of the mother and the child; and to support the natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character;*
- (d) *It shall establish and integrate affirmative action as a strategy and gender equality as a framework in planning and implementing the City's budget, programs, services, and activities with full recognition of the special needs of girls and of children with disabilities;*

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- (e) It shall uphold the principle of inter-generational responsibility such that every generation shall recognize its responsibility to the next to preserve the rhythm and harmony of nature for the full enjoyment of a balanced and healthful ecology for the children of today and the children of tomorrow; and
- (f) It shall pursue and strengthen its community approach to uphold the rights of the child through the Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children and the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children, in partnership with key stakeholders, including but not limited to families, local communities, non-governmental organizations, people's organizations, civil society, church, private organizations, schools, local government units, national government, mass media, and children.

SECTION 3. GOVERNING LAWS. - This Code hereby adopts all relevant and enforceable national laws, rules and regulations, and local ordinances governing children. All other matters relating to the impositions or regulations provided in this Code shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of existing laws and other ordinances. Pertinent provisions of the Quezon City Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance and its amendments, and all other existing Ordinances, Executive Orders, Rules and Regulations or parts thereof which are consistent with the principles and policies laid down in this Code are hereby adopted and incorporated, including but not limited to:

- a) Ordinance No. SP-2100, S-2011 (An Ordinance Regulating the Operations of Birthing Homes);
- b) Ordinance No. SP-2076, S-2011 (An Ordinance Providing for the Promotion of Breastfeeding in Accordance with RA 7600 and EO No. 51);
- c) Ordinance No. SP-1915, S-2009 (Special Children's Ordinance in Quezon City);
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- d) Ordinance No. SP-1730, S-2006 (An Ordinance Providing Support for All Day Care Centers and Public Schools in Quezon City with Complete Textbooks, Audio-visual Equipment, School Facilities and Other Instructional Materials);
- e) Ordinance No. SP-1767, S-2007 (An Ordinance Prescribing for the Mandatory Posting of Notice and Information Regarding Child Protection on Establishments Unsafe to the Development and Welfare of Minors);
- f) Ordinance No. SP-1721, S-2006 (An Ordinance on the Quezon City Alternative Learning Program);
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- i) Ordinance No. SP-1537, S-2005 (An Ordinance Declaring All Day Care Centers in Quezon City as Schools Inclusive of Children with Special Education Needs);
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- k) Ordinance No. SP-1624, S-2005 (An Ordinance Establishing Children's Welfare Fund for the Protection and Rehabilitation of Abandoned, Abused, and Sexually Exploited Children);
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- m) Ordinance No. SP-1488, S-2005 (An Ordinance Exempting Indigent Children From the Payment of Foundling Registration Fee);
- n) Ordinance No. SP-1628, S-2005 (An Ordinance Requiring Schools to Educate High School Students on Basic First Aid and Treatment in Cases of Emergency); X

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- o) Ordinance No. SP-1610, S-2005 (An Ordinance Providing Exemption from Payment of Birth Registration Fees by Parents or Guardians Whose Gross Income Does Not Exceed Sixty Thousand Pesos);*
- p) Ordinance No. SP-1274, S-2003 (One-is-to-One Textbook Allocation for Public Schools in Quezon City);*
- q) Ordinance No. SP-1157, S-2002 (An Ordinance Prohibiting Owners of Computer Sales and Rental Shops, Cyber Net Cafes, Internet Shops and Other Similar Establishments From Allowing Minors to Play Computer Games Which are Violent);*
- r) Ordinance No. SP-1145, S-2002 (An Ordinance Establishing a Maternal and Infant Health Home Visiting Program in Every Barangay Health Center);*
- s) Ordinance No. SP-1053, S-2001 (An Ordinance Strengthening the QC STD/AIDS Council);*
- t) Ordinance No. SP-1028, S-2001 (An Ordinance Creating the QC Council for Protection of Children);*
- u) Ordinance No. SP-855, S-2000 (An Ordinance Declaring All Schools in QC as "Pollution Free Areas");*
- v) Ordinance No. SP-784, S-99 (An Ordinance Penalizing Owners/Operators of Establishments For Hiring or Employing Children or Minors);*
- w) Ordinance No. SP-838, S-99 (An Ordinance Creating the QC STD/AIDS Council); and*
- x) Ordinance No. SP-681, S-98 (An Ordinance Prohibiting the Sale of Cigarettes, Cigar, Tobacco and Similar Tobacco Products to All Minors).*

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- (a) Child - a person below eighteen (18) years of age or over but is unable to fully take care of or protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition.*



(b) *Child abuse – the maltreatment, whether habitual or not, of the child which includes any of the following:*

1. *Psychological and physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse and emotional maltreatment;*
2. *Any act by deeds or words which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;*
3. *Unreasonable deprivation of the child's basic needs for survival, such as food and shelter; or*
4. *Failure to immediately give medical treatment to an injured child resulting in serious impairment of his/her growth and development or in his/her permanent incapacity or death.*

(c) *Abandoned child - a child who has no proper parental care or guardianship, or whose parent(s) have deserted him/her for a period of at least three (3) continuous months, which includes a foundling.*

(d) *Neglected child - a child whose basic needs have been deliberately unattended or inadequately attended within a period of three (3) continuous months. Neglect may occur in two (2) ways:*

- (1) *There is physical neglect when the child is malnourished, ill-clad, and without proper shelter. A child is unattended when left by himself/herself without proper provisions and/or without proper supervision.*



(2) *There is emotional neglect when the child is maltreated, raped, seduced, exploited, overworked, or made to work under conditions not conducive to good health; or is made to beg in the streets or public places; or when children are in moral danger, or exposed to gambling, prostitution, and other vices.*

(e) *Child labor – refers to any work or economic activity performed by a child that subjects him/her to any form of exploitation or is harmful to his/her health and safety or physical, mental or psychosocial development.*

(f) *Worst forms of child labor – refers to :*

a. *All forms of slavery, as defined under the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003", or practices similar to slavery such as sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labor, including recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;*

b. *The use, procuring, offering or exposing of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;*

c. *The use, procuring or offering of a child for illegal or illicit activities, including the production and trafficking of dangerous drugs and volatile substances prohibited under existing laws; or*

d. *Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is hazardous or likely to be harmful to the health, safety or morals of children.* X

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- (g) *Child trafficking* - refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer or harboring, or receipt of children with or without their consent or knowledge, within or across national borders for the purpose of exploitation which includes at a minimum, the exploitation or the prostitution of children or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude, removal or sale of organs, and engagement in armed activities.
- (h) *Children at risk* - a child who is vulnerable to and at the risk of committing criminal offenses because of personal, family and social circumstances, such as, but not limited to, the following:
1. being abused by any person through sexual, physical, psychological, mental, economic or any other means and the parents or guardian refuse, are unwilling, or unable to provide protection for the child;
 2. being exploited including sexually or economically;
 3. being abandoned or neglected, and after diligent search and inquiry, the parent or guardian cannot be found;
 4. coming from a dysfunctional or broken family or without a parent or guardian;
 5. being out of school;
 6. being a street child;
 7. being a member of a gang;
 8. living in a community with a high level of criminality or drug abuse; and
 9. living in situations of armed conflict. X 25 8

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- (i) *Children in conflict with the law (CICL) – children who are alleged as, accused of, or adjudged as, having committed an offense under Philippine laws.*
- (j) *Children with disabilities – children who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.*
- (k) *Court appointed special advocates/guardians ad litem – a person appointed by the court to protect the best interests of the child where a case is pending involving a child who is a victim of, accused of, or a witness to a crime, or a child who is a witness in non-criminal proceedings.*
- (l) *Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Program – the full range of health, nutrition, early education and social services programs that provide for the basic holistic needs of young children from birth to age six (6), to promote their optimum growth and development. These programs include:*
 - 1. *Center-based programs which are services at the community level undertaken in a center, school or in the workplace such as the Day Care Service established under Republic Act No. 6972, public and private pre-schools, kindergarten or school-based programs, community or church-based early childhood education programs initiated by non-government organizations or people's organizations, workplace-related child care and education programs, child-minding centers, health centers and stations; and*

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2. Home-based programs which are services at the family level undertaken at home or in the neighborhood such as neighborhood-based play groups, Parent Effectiveness Service, family day care programs or child-minding homes, parent education and home visiting programs.

- (m) Gender equality – the principle recognizing that all human beings are free and equal in dignity and rights, and asserting the equality of men and women/boys and girls, and their right to enjoy equal conditions realizing their full human potentials to contribute to and benefit from the results of development.
- (n) Inter-generational responsibility – the principle of holding the natural resources in trust for future generations such that every generation has a responsibility to the next to preserve the rhythm and harmony of nature for the full enjoyment of a balanced and healthful ecology.
- (o) Parent education – the various formal and alternative means of providing parents with information, skills, and support systems to assist them in their roles as their children's primary caregivers and educators. These include public and private parent education programs linked to center, home and media-based child care and education programs.
- (p) Pornography – refers to any representation, through publication, exhibition, cinematography, indecent shows, information technology, or by whatever means, of a person engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts of a person for primarily sexual purposes. X

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- (q) *Prostitution* – refers to any act, transaction, scheme or design involving the use of a person by another, for sexual intercourse or lascivious conduct in exchange for money, profit or any other consideration.
- (r) *Sexual exploitation* – refers to participation by a child in prostitution or the production of pornographic materials as a result of being subjected to a threat, deception, coercion, abduction, force, abuse of authority, debt bondage, fraud or through abuse of the child's vulnerability.
- (s) *Right to survival* – the child's inherent right to life and to the needs that are most basic to existence, the right to a name and nationality, the right to identity and those dealing with parental and governmental duties and obligations, adequate and decent standard of living, access to basic health care and medical services, social security, and rehabilitation.
- (t) *Right to development* – the child's right to education and to develop his or her personality, talents, and mental and physical abilities to the fullest extent, participation in cultural activities, access to appropriate and relevant information, and opportunities for rest, play, and leisure.
- (u) *Right to protection* – the child's right to be protected from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty exploitation and discrimination and other conditions prejudicial to his or her development.
- (v) *Right to participation* – the child's right to participate in all matters that affect him or her by providing all appropriate venues where he or she can express his or her opinions freely and to have these opinions taken into account; involvement in decision-making; freedom of association and peaceful assembly. X
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SECTION 5. RIGHTS OF CHILDREN. – Pursuant to Article II, Section 5 of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, all children shall be entitled to rights, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, gender, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth, or other status. Such rights include, among others:

- (a) The inherent right to life, and the State, as *parens patriae*, as well as the City, has an obligation to ensure every child's survival and development;
- (b) The right to express his or her views freely or without fear of rejection in all matters which affects his or her life and his or her opinion should be given due weight depending on his or her age and maturity;
- (c) To freedom of expression, except if it will violate or jeopardize the rights or reputation of others or for the protection of national security, public order, public health or morals;
- (d) No child shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his/her honor and reputation;
- (e) To freedom of thought, conscience and religion, subject to proper guidance by his/her parents or legal guardian;
- (f) To avail himself or herself of information and materials aimed at the promotion of his or her social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health;

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- (g) To leisure, and to participate freely in recreational, cultural and art activities appropriate for his or her age;
- (h) The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents;
- (i) To preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law without unlawful interference;
- (j) To live with his or her parents unless this is deemed to be incompatible with the child's best interests;
- (k) To maintain contact with both parents, if separated from one or both, unless incompatible with the child's best interest;
- (l) Children and their parents have the right to leave any country and to enter their own, for purposes of reunion or the maintenance of the child-parent relationship;
- (m) To meet with others, and to join or form associations;
- (n) A disabled child has the right to special care, education, and training to help him or her enjoy a full and decent life in dignity and achieve the greatest degree of self-reliance and social integration possible;

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- (o) *To the highest standard of health and medical care attainable, with special emphasis on the provision of primary and preventive health care, public health, education and the reduction of infant mortality;*
 - (p) *A child who is placed by the State for reasons of care, protection or treatment is entitled to have the placement evaluated regularly;*
 - (q) *To benefit from social security including social insurance;*
 - (r) *To a standard of living adequate for his or her physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development;*
 - (s) *To compulsory and quality elementary and high school education and access to higher levels of education;*
 - (t) *Children of minority communities and indigenous populations have the right to enjoy their own culture and practice their own religion and language;*
 - (u) *To be protected from work that threatens his or her health, education and development, especially from the worst forms of child labor;*
 - (v) *To protection from the use of narcotics and psychotropic drugs, and from being involved in their production or distribution; and*
 - (w) *A child in conflict with the law has the right to treatment which promotes the child's sense of dignity and worth, takes the child's age into account and aims at his or her reintegration into society.*
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SECTION 6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD. – All children shall have the following responsibilities:

- (a) *Strive to lead an upright and virtuous life in accordance with the tenets of his religion, the teachings of his or her elders and mentors, and the biddings of a clean conscience;*
- (b) *Love, respect and obey his or her parents, and cooperate with them in the strengthening of the family;*
- (c) *Extend to his or her brothers and sisters his or her love, thoughtfulness, and helpfulness, and endeavor with them to keep the family harmonious and united;*
- (d) *Exert his or her utmost to develop his or her potentialities for service, particularly by undergoing a formal education suited to the child's abilities, in order that he or she may become an asset to himself or herself and to society;*
- (e) *Respect not only his or her elders but also the customs and traditions of our people, the memory of our heroes, the duly constituted authorities, the laws of our country, and the principles and institutions of democracy;*
- (f) *Participate actively in civic affairs and in the promotion of the general welfare, always bearing in mind that it is the youth who will eventually be called upon to discharge the responsibility of leadership in shaping the nation's future; and*
- (g) *Help in the observance of individual human rights, the strengthening of freedom everywhere, the fostering of cooperation among nations in the pursuit of their common aspirations for programs and prosperity, and the furtherance of world peace.*

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SECTION 7. PRIMARY RIGHT OF PARENTS. – The parents shall have the right to the company of their children and, in relation to all other persons or institutions dealing with the child's development, the primary right and obligation to provide for their upbringing.

SECTION 8. GENERAL DUTIES OF PARENTS. – Parents shall have the following general duties toward their children:

- (a) To give their child affection, companionship and understanding;
- (b) To extend to their child the benefits of moral guidance, self-discipline and religious instruction;
- (c) To supervise their child's activities, including his recreation;
- (d) To inculcate in their child the value of industry, thrift and self-reliance;
- (e) To stimulate their child's interest in civic affairs, teach him or her the duties of citizenship, and develop his or her commitment to his or her country;
- (f) To advise their child properly on any matter affecting his or her development and well-being;
- (g) To always set a good example;
- (h) To provide their child with adequate support;
- (i) To administer their child's property, if any, according to the child's best interests, subject to the pertinent provisions of the Family Code;
- (j) To ensure that their children are able to access all health services provided by government; χ

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- (k) To have their child immediately registered after birth and give their child a name; and
- (l) To rear their child responsibly, provide quality education, and send them to school, subject to certain exceptions allowed by law.

SECTION 9. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE COMMUNITY. -
To ensure the full enjoyment of the right of every child to live in a society that offers or guarantees him or her safety, health, good moral environment and facilities for his or her wholesome growth and development, it shall be the duty of the community to:

- (a) Bring about a healthy environment necessary to the normal growth of children and the enhancement of their physical, mental and spiritual well-being;
- (b) Help institutions of learning, whether public or private, achieve the fundamental objectives of education;
- (c) Organize or encourage movements and activities, for the furtherance of the interests of children and youth;
- (d) Promote the establishment and maintenance of adequately equipped playgrounds, parks, and other recreational facilities;
- (e) Support parent education programs by encouraging its members to attend and actively participate therein;
- (f) Assist the City in addressing issues relating to children-in-conflict with the law and design and implement preventive programs;

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- (g) Aid in carrying out special projects for the betterment of children in the remote areas or belonging to cultural minorities or those who are out of school; and
- (h) Cooperate with private and public child welfare agencies in providing care, training and protection to destitute, abandoned, neglected, abused, disabled children and children-at-risk.

SECTION 10. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION. - Any provision of this Code which may be ambiguous or vague shall be reasonably construed in a manner that gives effect to the purpose for which this Code or the specific provision has been enacted and in accordance with the best interests of the child.

ARTICLE II RIGHT TO SURVIVAL

SECTION 11. BIRTH REGISTRATON. - The Quezon City government shall establish a system to ensure the 100% registration of births in Quezon City to guarantee the right of the child to identity.

SECTION 12. EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT. - The Quezon City government shall promote the care of 0-6 years old children through the Early Childhood Care and Development Program.

SECTION 13. CHILD CARE AND MATERNAL HEALTH. - Every barangay shall improve the health status of pregnant women, mothers and children consistent with ECCD policies and programs, with the goal that:

- (a) All infants are exclusively breastfed up to about 6 months;
- (b) All infants undergo newborn screening within 24-48 hours from birth; X

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- (c) All children are fully immunized against diseases for which vaccines have been developed for administration to children up to 6 years old, including tuberculosis, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus, polio, tetanus, hepatitis B, and measles;
- (d) All children 0-2 years old are weighed monthly;
- (e) All children are well-nourished and mothers with underweight children undergo a Nutrition Education Program;
- (f) All mothers undergo pre-natal and post-natal programs, which shall include at least four complete pre-natal check-ups, immunization against tetanus, sufficient doses of Vitamin A and iron for pregnant/lactating mothers, and emergency obstetric care to pregnant women who are at risk;
- (g) All birth deliveries are facility-based and attended by skilled birth personnel; and
- (h) All HIV-exposed newborns and HIV-positive mothers are identified and receive enhanced case follow-up, care, and support.

SECTION 14. CHILD-FRIENDLY HOSPITALS. - All hospitals in Quezon City shall set up child-friendly policies, services, and units to include rooming-in facilities and pediatric-appropriate mechanisms, equipment, tools, and gadgets.

SECTION 15. BARANGAY HEALTH CENTER. - All barangays shall establish and operate a Health Center certified as Sentrong Sigla, which shall implement the Primary Health Care Program. Each Barangay Health Center shall have a Barangay Child Health Officer who shall monitor child health in the barangay level.

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The Quezon City government, through the City Health Department, in particular, shall take appropriate measures:

- (a) To combat disease and malnutrition within the framework of primary health care, through the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious food and safe drinking water, taking into consideration the dangers and risk of environmental pollution.
- (b) To establish a comprehensive parents orientation development program which include courses on reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, child health, and child rearing practices in the context of Filipino psychology.
- (c) To conduct massive information and education on breastfeeding, utilizing existing reference materials for effective breastfeeding edification program.
- (d) To conduct massive information and education on HIV/AIDS, especially among adolescent children.

SECTION 16. NUTRITION PROGRAM. – The Quezon City government shall promote good nutrition for all children and towards this end it shall establish and implement the following:

- (a) Community-based and in-school feeding program for children;
- (b) Nutrition education program for parents, which includes the promotion of the use of iodized salt in every household;
- (c) Breastfeeding program for nursing mothers to ensure that infants are exclusively breastfed up to 6 months; *Y* *A* *S* *D*

- (d) Provision of adequate nutritious food and access to clean drinking water for all children, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution; and
- (e) Regulation of the sale of food in public and private elementary and high school levels to ensure that schools sell only nutritious food and beverage to children.

SECTION 17. INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICE FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. - The Quezon City government shall provide an integrated health service for children with disabilities which shall include the prevention of disability through immunization, nutrition, environmental protection and preservation, and genetic counseling; early detection of disability and timely intervention to arrest disabling condition; and medical treatment and rehabilitation. It shall also train its field health personnel in early detection and intervention and in the provision of medical attention to children with disabilities.

SECTION 18. CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT. - The Quezon City government shall ensure the judicious disposition, utilization, management, renewal, and conservation of the City's natural resources for the full enjoyment of children and the generations yet unborn consistent with the principle of inter-generational responsibility and the precautionary principle, especially in dealing with toxic chemicals. It shall develop and implement programs and services towards this end, which shall include the following:

- (a) The creation of an urban garden in every barangay and public school;
- (b) Regulation of the use of non-biodegradable materials in schools and business establishments; and

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- (c) *Prohibition on the purchase, use, and improper disposition or storage of mercury, lead, and other toxic substances in all private and public schools in the elementary and high school levels.*

SECTION 19. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION. – *The Quezon City government shall consider the special needs of children in the formulation, planning, and implementation of its Local Climate Change Action Plan, pursuant to Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9729 (The Climate Change Act of 2009). It shall coordinate with non-government organizations, the academe, people's organizations, the private and corporate sectors, and other local stakeholders in the planning and implementation of its Local Climate Change Action Plan. It shall further capacitate the officials at the barangay level to identify issues concerning or affecting children and implement the most applicable solutions relevant to climate change adaptation and mitigation.*

**ARTICLE III
RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT**

SECTION 20. ACCESS TO QUALITY PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION. – *The Quezon City government recognizes the right of every child to education, and with a view to achieving this right progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity, it shall, in particular:*

- (a) *Establish and maintain a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels;*
- (b) *Develop different forms of secondary education, including general and vocational education, make them available and accessible to every child, and take appropriate measures such as the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need; y*

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- (c) *Make higher education accessible to all on the basis of capacity by every appropriate means;*
- (d) *Make educational and vocational information and guidance available and accessible to all children;*
- (e) *Take measures to encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates; and*
- (f) *Ensure that children with disabilities are provided with access to quality education and ample opportunities to develop their skills, and learning institutions take into account their special needs with respect to the use of school facilities, class schedules, physical education requirements, provision of auxiliary services, and other pertinent considerations.*

SECTION 21. BARANGAY DAY CARE CENTER. – *Consistent with the policies and programs of Republic Act No. 6972 (or the Barangay-Level Total Development and Protection of Children Act) and in line with ECCD, there shall be a day care center established in every barangay with a total development and protection of children program as provided in Republic Act No. 6972*

SECTION 22. IN-SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM. – *An in-school feeding program shall be established in every public elementary school and day care center to eliminate malnutrition as the cause of poor academic performance and provide an incentive to ensure regular school attendance. Undernourished children shall be provided at least one (1) full meal a day for free while in attendance in school, subject to implementing guidelines to be passed subsequent to this Code.* x

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SECTION 23. PUBLIC LIBRARIES. – The Quezon City Public Library shall develop a children’s section that shall provide access to child-appropriate facilities, information and material from a diversity of national and international sources, especially those aimed at the promotion of the child’s social, spiritual and moral well-being and physical and mental health. All barangays shall likewise establish a children’s library and a summer reading and literacy program for children.

SECTION 24. QUEZON CITY EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. – The Quezon City government shall establish an educational assistance program that will provide access to scholarship assistance to economically marginalized but deserving high school and college students. Such assistance may be in the form of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives to qualified students in both public and private schools. At least 5% of the allocation for the program shall be set aside for children with disabilities.

SECTION 25. LEISURE, PLAY, AND CULTURE. – The Quezon City government shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall provide appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity. In pursuit thereof, the Quezon City government shall, in particular:

- (a) Invest in the production of local literature or other relevant materials for children, especially those made by children;
- (b) Ensure that every barangay has a playground/park or other recreational facility for children;
- (c) Recognize children who are gifted in sports or the performing arts and provide access to resources for the further development of their talents, which may be in the form of grants, subsidies, and other incentives to qualified children; and

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- (d) Pursuant to Article IV, Section 17 of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, and in support of the socio-cultural development of children in Quezon City, invest in the production of local literature or other relevant materials for children.

SECTION 26. PARENT EDUCATION. – In order to enhance the capacity of parents to raise their children in a healthy, loving and nurturing environment and in a manner that is consistent with the child's normal growth and development, parent education shall be incorporated into the following:

- (a) Pre-marriage counselling seminars provided by the City;
- (b) Orientation for parents in public and private elementary and secondary schools, including but not limited to values formation, seminar on the rights of the child, and responsible parenthood; and
- (c) Social welfare programs of the local government.

Parent education shall include a reinforcement and expansion of existing training and capability building programs targeted at parents, such as but not limited to Parents' Effectiveness Service (PES); Parents, Teachers and Community Associations (PTCA); and Enhanced Reaffirmation of Paternity Skills (ERPAT), which shall incorporate when appropriate training modules on children's rights, positive non-violent discipline, child abuse, juvenile justice, character development, and values formation. x

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**ARTICLE IV
RIGHT TO PROTECTION**

SECTION 27. INTEGRATED QUICK RESPONSE SYSTEM TO ABUSE, CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION. - The Quezon City government shall establish a mechanism to provide an integrated quick response system that will provide immediate, appropriate and holistic response to cases involving child abuse, sexual exploitation, child trafficking, child pornography, child prostitution, and child labor. Towards this end, it shall ensure child-friendly and gender-sensitive procedures that prevent revictimization, formulate and/or strengthen protocols in providing immediate response to specific issues, and institute systems to document reported cases and monitor the status of actions taken.

SECTION 28. QUEZON CITY CHILD PROTECTION NETWORK. - The Quezon City government shall establish a Quezon City Child Protection Network (QCCP Network) which shall be a multi-sectoral group consisting of key government agencies, civil society organizations, faith-based groups, non-government organizations, people's organizations, schools and other stakeholders; provided, that an accreditation system shall be adopted for organizations other than government agencies. The QCCP Network shall be regularly consulted in matters concerning or affecting children.




SECTION 29. CHILDREN'S DESK. - Ensure that all police stations have children's desks with child and youth relations officer who render service 24 hours a day and 7 days a week to handle cases involving children, and who are trained in children's rights, as well as gender and child sensitivity.

SECTION 30. SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER FOR CHILDREN.
- The Quezon City government shall ensure that at least one (1) local Social Welfare and Development Officer devoted to children's concerns is assigned per district. y D J

SECTION 31. CHILD-FRIENDLY JUSTICE SYSTEM. - The Quezon City government shall endeavour to support the judicial system in creating and maintaining an environment that will allow children to give reliable and competent evidence, minimize trauma to children, encourage children to testify in legal proceedings, and facilitate the ascertainment of truth. In pursuit thereof, it shall endeavour to:

- (a) Train all members of the Katarungang Pambarangay on children's rights and child protection to ensure a child-sensitive village justice system;
- (b) Support the setting up of child-friendly courtroom facilities in all family courts in Quezon City;
- (c) Establish a program for training and utilizing court-appointed special administrators/guardians ad litem to uphold and protect the best interests of the child in cases where the child is a witness, victim, or accused in a criminal case, as well as child witnesses in non-criminal proceedings; and
- (d) Provide access to free interpretation services for speech and/or hearing-impaired children who are witnesses, victims, or accused in a criminal case or witnesses in non-criminal proceedings, provided that such services shall be extended whenever the child is present at any stage of the proceedings, regardless of whether the child is on the witness stand.

SECTION 32. CHILD PROTECTION POLICY. - All government offices shall adopt a Child Protection Policy that sets standards of conduct and behavior for public officials and employees to ensure that they promote and protect the rights of children. Provided, that all public schools in the elementary and high school levels, as well as other relevant agencies, shall abide by the Child Protection Policy issued by the Department of Education. ✓

SECTION 33. STREET CHILDREN. - The Quezon City government shall provide special protection for street children and as such shall ensure that rescue operations to take street children away from the streets are conducted with respect to the dignity of the child and in accordance with child-friendly protocols. The rescue shall be a reaching out process where the children know that there is assistance available to them and its ultimate purpose is to enable them to come to a decision towards a better option and a clear direction in life. Every effort shall be exerted to reconcile street children who are separated from their families unless circumstances require otherwise as provided by law.

Pursuant to Article III, Section 13 of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, barangay officials shall keep a record of the trend of the proliferation or diminution of the existence of street children in the barangay. This is for the purpose of providing the concerned government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders with facts and statistics which may be used as a basis for determining how to effectively address the needs of street children.

SECTION 34. INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT OF AN ABANDONED OR NEGLECTED CHILD. - The Social Services Development Department shall, whenever appropriate, file a petition for involuntary commitment of an abandoned or neglected child in accordance with the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 603 or the Child and Youth Welfare Act.


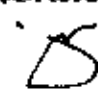

SECTION 35. LEGAL PROTECTION TO VICTIMS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING. - Pursuant to Section 17 of Republic Act No. 9208 (The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003), victims of child trafficking shall be recognized as victims of the act or acts of trafficking and as such shall not be penalized for crimes directly related to the acts of trafficking enumerated in Republic Act No. 9208 or in obedience to the order made by the trafficker in relation thereto. In this regard, the consent of a trafficked child to the intended exploitation shall be irrelevant.

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SECTION 36. CHILDREN IN EMERGENCY OR DISASTER SITUATIONS. – The Quezon City government shall ensure that in emergency or disaster situations, children shall be given first priority in the delivery of services. All efforts shall be exerted to ensure that children are not separated from their parents/family. In case of separation, the reunification of children with their parents/family shall be given utmost priority and immediate attention.

SECTION 37. CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW. – The Quezon City government shall adopt measures to ensure that the rights of CICL are upheld and protected by all levels of local government in compliance with the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 (Republic Act No. 9344). Towards this end, the City shall, among others:

- (a) Formulate a Comprehensive Juvenile Intervention Program, in accordance with Chapter 2 of Republic Act No. 9344, embodying the detailed strategy to realize the objectives of juvenile intervention and delinquency prevention to be instituted from the barangay to the city level;
- (b) Ensure that immediately, but not later than eight (8) hours after apprehension, custody of CICLs are turned over to the Social Services and Development Department or other accredited NGOs;
- (c) Ensure that a CICL shall only be searched by a law enforcement officer of the same gender and shall not be locked up in a detention cell;

- (d) Ensure that should detention of a CICL be necessary, the child is secured in quarters separate from that of the opposite sex and adult offenders but never in a detention cell;
- (e) Ensure that authorities who subject CICL to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment are dealt with through the People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB) and/or other appropriate action; and
- (f) Ensure that children regardless of age are not held criminally liable for vagrancy, mendicancy, prostitution, sniffing of rugby, or status offenses, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9344.

SECTION 38. CRIMES OR OFFENSES COMMITTED WITH THE AID OF CHILDREN. - The City shall establish a system to ensure that all crimes or offenses allegedly committed by children are thoroughly and immediately investigated to determine whether children are being used by adults to aid in the commission thereof, and that the necessary criminal charges are filed against the responsible adults. If the child is fifteen (15) years old or younger, the criminal complaint filed against the adult shall clearly indicate that the crime or offense was committed with the aid of such child, to ensure that the same shall be appreciated as an aggravating circumstance that will increase the penalty for the crime, when appropriate, in accordance with Article 14 paragraph 20 of the Revised Penal Code.

SECTION 39. SEPARATE YOUTH HOMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. - The City shall ensure that boys and girls who are placed in the custody of youth homes shall be housed in separate facilities that provide the necessary services to promote their welfare and development. X

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SECTION 40. CANCELLATION OF BUSINESS PERMITS/LICENSE AND CLOSURE OF ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR. – In accordance with Republic Act No. 9231, or the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor, the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) shall initiate proceedings for the permanent cancellation and revocation of the business permit/license of establishments if they are found to engage children in prostitution or obscene or lewd shows or where the violation of any provision of the Act resulted in the death, insanity or serious physical injury of a child employed in such establishment. Further, the City shall coordinate with the Department of Labor and Employment for the immediate and permanent closure of such establishments, as provided by law.

SECTION 41. REGULATION OF INTERNET CAFES, KIOSKS AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS. – Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9775, or the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009, the City shall monitor and regulate the establishment and operation of internet cafes, kiosks and similar establishments located within its jurisdiction in order to prevent violation of the provisions of R.A. 9775. The business permit/license of establishments found to be violating any of the provisions of R.A. No.9775 shall be cancelled and revoked permanently.

SECTION 42. REGULATION ON PLAYING VIDEO-GAMES AND OTHER SIMILAR EQUIPMENT. – Pursuant to Article V, Chapter I of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance as amended by Ordinance No. SP-1712, S-2006, all minors, particularly school children, are totally restricted to play video games, machines, and other similar equipment in amusement centers, malls and other similar establishments located in Quezon City, during weekdays. Minors may be allowed to play video-game machines and other similar equipment at the mentioned establishments only during weekends (Saturday and Sunday) from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Provided, that children may be allowed to do so during weekdays when accompanied by parents or a responsible adult but only from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Provided further, that all children are prohibited from playing ultra-violent and/or pornographic games under any and all circumstances. Y W S D

(a) *Ultra-violent games refer to those that reveal audio, visual or other forms of profanity, bestiality and brutality such as the throwing of invectives, slandering, the breaking of limbs, mutilation or dismemberment, spewing of blood, blasting of limb/body with high powered guns or equipment.*

(b) *Pornographic games refers to those that reveal audio, visual or other forms of pornography.*

The sale, distribution and operation of video games and machines shall be regulated in accordance with Article V, Chapter I of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance. Violation by any operator, owner, seller or distributor of video games and machines shall be penalized in accordance with the same.

ARTICLE V RIGHT TO PARTICIPATION

SECTION 43. PARTICIPATION RIGHTS IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES. – Pursuant to Article II, Section 6 of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, children in the family, school, community or their organization or institution shall be heard without any form of discrimination. Every child has the right to express his or her opinion freely and to have that opinion taken into account in any matter or procedure affecting the child. It shall be the responsibility of the adults to provide opportunities for children to express their views, obtain information, and make their ideas known,

SECTION 44. PARTICIPATION IN POLICY-MAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION. – The Quezon City government shall institute mechanisms for meaningful participation by children in decision-making processes on issues that directly affect them. It shall, in particular: *γ* *Δ* *δ*

- (a) *Ensure that children participate in designing and implementing the City's Local Development Plan for Children;*
- (b) *Include at least one (1) child advocate in the Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children and the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children;*
- (c) *Include a child advocate in the City Development Council and the Gender and Development Council; and*
- (d) *Ensure that the Sangguniang Kabataan shall design and implement programs and activities to encourage child participation, especially for children ages 15 to below 18.*

SECTION 45. ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF CHILDREN'S GROUPS OR ORGANIZATIONS. - *The City shall facilitate the process in leadership development and formation of children's groups consisting of children from different sectors. It shall strengthen such groups or organizations through technical assistance, funding, and other forms of support.*

SECTION 46. ANNUAL CHILDREN'S SUMMIT. - *The City shall conduct an annual children's summit every October in celebration of children's month, which shall be planned and implemented with the participation of children. Participants in the Summit shall include children and parents, and representatives from the Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children, the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children, civil society organizations, faith-based groups, non-government organizations, people's organizations, and schools.*

The agenda for the Summit shall include the following matters, at a minimum:

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- (a) Annual State of the City's Children Report to be delivered by the City Mayor as the Chairperson of the Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children;
- (b) Consultation with stakeholders, including children, on their assessment of the implementation of the Local Development Plan for Children and Annual Investment Plan; and
- (c) Consultation with stakeholders, including children, on strategies for moving forward in the implementation of the plans.

Provided, that age-appropriate mechanisms shall be established to ensure that children with ages seven (7) to twelve (12) years old and thirteen (13) to below eighteen (18) years old are involved in the planning and implementation of the Summit. Provided, further, that at least fifty percent (50%) of the participants are children.

ARTICLE VI PROMOTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

SECTION 47. PROMOTION OF THE CHILDREN'S CODE AND RELEVANT LAWS. - The City shall pursue effective dissemination of information and promote understanding of this Code and relevant laws in all schools, offices, churches, and other relevant public spaces. Information, education and communication materials shall be produced in English and Filipino and distributed to all barangays and local communities.

SECTION 48. PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AMONG CHILDREN. - The Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as other information on child rights shall be integrated in the curriculum of all public and private schools in the elementary and high school levels. The same shall be done in other youth training activities as may be appropriate.

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SECTION 49. PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AMONG LAW ENFORCERS. – Pursuant to Article III, Section 9 of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance, a special course for members of the Philippine National Police/Quezon City Police District shall be designed on children's rights, with special focus on child-friendly procedures in handling children. The course shall be compulsory for all police officers.

SECTION 50. PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AMONG OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS. – Capability-building efforts for government service providers shall be established with focus on understanding children in various life stages, addressing age-specific concerns and issues, and promoting and protecting children's rights. Capability building programs shall likewise focus on total child development and the exploration of culture- and community-appropriate child development practices. Competency development (knowledge, skills, attitudes) shall be instituted through comprehensive and ladderized capability-building programs for service providers at different levels (institutional and individual, especially day care workers and public school teachers in the elementary and high school levels).

SECTION 51. CHILDREN'S MONTH AND CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION. – The City shall celebrate the National Children's Month in October and the National Children's Day on October 17, pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 267 and Presidential Decree No. 74, respectively, by conducting child-focused activities promoting the rights and responsibilities of children.

SECTION 52. MEDIA PARTNERSHIP. – The City shall partner with media to inform and educate the general public on issues affecting children. Strategic partnership with media shall be established for social marketing, alternative education, and mass information dissemination. Existing interventions centered around children, and the principles of creating a child-friendly society shall be disseminated broadly through special television programming, print, information technology, or other forms of media. Partnership with media shall also be established to provide alternative education through the collaboration with government and non-government agencies on education efforts such as the schools on the air or schools on-line. x



ARTICLE VII
THE QUEZON CITY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

SECTION 53. QUEZON CITY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN. – The Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children (QCCPC) shall be constituted in accordance with Executive Order No. 2 as amended by Executive Order No. 2-A, Series of 2011, with the City Mayor as Chairperson and the Vice-Mayor as Co-Chairperson. It shall consist of the following members:

- (a) Vice Chairperson, Head of the Social Services Development Department;
- (b) Chairperson, City Council Committee on Women and Family Relations;
- (c) City Director, Department of the Interior and Local Government-Quezon City;
- (d) UNICEF Country Programme for Children (CPC) Coordinator;
- (e) Division of City Schools Superintendent;
- (f) City Budget Officer;
- (g) Chief, Public Employment Services Office;
- (h) City Planning and Development Officer;
- (i) Quezon City Health Officer;
- (j) District Director, Quezon City Police District;
- (k) Chief, City Treasurer's Office;
- (l) President, Liga ng mga Barangay;
- (m) President, Sangguniang Kabataan Federation, Quezon City Chapter;
- (n) Head, Barangay Operations Center;
- (o) Head, City Civil Registry Department;
- (p) Head, Scholarship and Youth Development Department;
- (q) Head, Parks Development and Administration Department;
- (r) Head, City Public Library;
- (s) Chief, City Prosecutor's Office;
- (t) Executive Judge, Regional Trial Court or his/her duly authorized representative;

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- (u) President, Federation of Parents-Teacher Association;
- (v) Child representative; and
- (w) At least three (3) representatives from non-government organizations (NGOs);

The three (3) representatives from NGOs shall be nominated by the government agency representatives of the QCCPC, for appointment by the City Mayor for a term of five (5) years.

SECTION 54. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP. – The QCCPC shall be assisted by a Technical Working Group consisting of at least one (1) staff from each of the following members to be headed by the Social Services Development Department:

- (a) Division on City Schools;
- (b) City Planning and Development Office;
- (c) City Budget Office;
- (d) Quezon City Health Department;
- (e) Social Services Development Department;
- (f) City Treasurer's Office;
- (g) Barangay Operations Center;
- (h) Quezon City Council;
- (i) Public Employment and Services Office;
- (j) Scholarship and Youth Development Program;
- (k) City Civil Registry Department; and
- (l) NGO representatives.

SECTION 55. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. – The QCCPC shall perform the following functions and responsibilities:

- (a) Formulate plans, programs and policies including the Local Development Plan for Children and the City's Annual Investment Plan for Children referred to in Sections 46 and 51, respectively, that are gender-fair, culturally relevant and responsive to the needs of diverse groups of children; x

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- (b) *Prepare an Annual Work and Financial Plan for children and recommend appropriations to the Sangguniang Panlungsod;*
- (c) *Provide coordinative linkages with other agencies and institutions in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of programs for children and encourage private sector participation in its programs and activities;*
- (d) *Provide technical assistance and recommend financial support to the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children including accreditation of ECCD programs and services;*
- (e) *Establish and maintain a database on children in the City, including the screening and implementation of an intervention program for children with disabilities and other special needs;*
- (f) *Foster education for every child;*
- (g) *Recommend local legislation promoting child survival, development, protection and participation;*
- (h) *Advocate for the regulation of audio visual materials to ensure that they are child-appropriate and that they are not detrimental to children;*
- (i) *Advocate for the establishment and maintenance of playgrounds, day care centers, and other facilities necessary for child and youth development;*
- (j) *Provide assistance to children in need of special protection and referral of cases to appropriate agencies;*

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- (k) Conduct capability building programs to enhance knowledge and skills in handling children's programs, including a Human Resource Development Program for ECCD service providers and supervisors citywide;
- (l) Document barangay best practices on child development and protection;
- (m) Establish an incentives and awards system to deserving entities from the public and private sector, parents, and children for their outstanding performance in upholding the rights of children and effective implementation of child-friendly programs;
- (n) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of development programs and submit quarterly reports to the City Mayor for transmittal to the Regional Committee for the Welfare of Children;
- (o) Encourage participation in the Annual Presidential Award for Child Friendly Cities; and
- (p) Such other functions as may be necessary to implement this Code.

SECTION 56. COMMITTEES. - The QCCPC may organize Sub-committees to assist in the performance of its functions. It may also call upon other offices/departments of the City government and other agencies for necessary assistance and support.

SECTION 57. SECRETARIAT. - The City Planning and Development Office shall serve as the Secretariat of the Council.

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SECTION 58. ENTITLEMENT OF HONORARIA. - The members and staff of the QCCPC are hereby entitled to payment of honoraria, subject to the usual accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations: Provided, further, that such entitlement shall be extended based on their actual attendance in all QCCPC meetings and activities.

SECTION 59. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CHILDREN. - Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Code, the QCCPC shall formulate the City's Local Development Plan for Children (LDPC) which shall cover a period of five (5) years, and every five (5) years thereafter, which should be aligned with the National Plan of Action for Children. The LDPC shall include, at a minimum, the city's vision for children; ways to ensure the participation of children in the development and implementation of the LDPC; partners in the development and implementation of the LDPC; situation analysis; aims or priorities; specific programs, projects, and activities; anticipated obstacles and challenges to the implementation of the LDPC and means to mitigate them; and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of results. It shall also include a communications plan to ensure that this Code and relevant laws and policies on children are effectively popularized among children and adults, especially among government service providers.

SECTION 60. RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT. - The QCCPC shall establish a resource development system that will enhance the funding support and human resource base for the implementation of this Code, including public-private partnerships and collaboration with international and local donor organizations.

SECTION 61. MONITORING AND EVALUATION. - An Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force shall be created to monitor and evaluate the functionality of the QCCPC as provided for under DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2008-126 or the Revised Guidelines in Monitoring for Functionality of the Local Council for the Protection of Children at all levels. The monitoring and evaluation process shall engage local communities, including children.

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SECTION 62. ANNUAL STATE OF THE CITY'S CHILDREN REPORT. – An Annual State of the City's Children Report shall be prepared by the QCCPC. It shall discuss, at a minimum, an assessment of the implementation of the LDPC, an accounting of the Children's Fund based on the Annual Investment Plan, and future courses of action to be taken to fully implement the LDPC.

**ARTICLE VIII
FINAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 63. CHILDREN'S FUND. – All levels of local government shall establish a Children's Fund to support the implementation of this Code. A minimum of one percent (1%) of the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of all levels of local government shall be set aside for this purpose. The Children's Fund shall be distinct and separate from the amount mandated under other laws, such as but not limited to the one percent (1%) of the IRA under the Juvenile Justice & Welfare Act of 2006 and the One Million Pesos (Php 1,000,000.00) of the Children's Welfare Fund established in Ordinance No. SP-1624, S-2005.

SECTION 64. ANNUAL INVESTMENT PLAN. – All levels of local government shall formulate an Annual Investment Plan to efficiently allocate the Children's Fund for its programs, projects, and activities to implement this Code.

SECTION 65. PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS. – Violations of any provision of this Code and its Implementing Rules and Regulations shall be penalized and sanctioned in accordance with the provisions of applicable administrative law, civil service, special laws, or other appropriate laws. Where specific penalties and/or sanctions are provided in this Code, the same shall be applied without prejudice to the imposition of other penalties as may be provided in other laws.

Any parent or guardian found to be grossly negligent in the performance of the duty imposed by this Code shall be punished as follows:    

- a) For the first offense, counselling, parent education, and/or community service as may be imposed by the SSDD and with written warning from the SSDD that the appropriate criminal and civil charges under pertinent laws shall be filed for second and subsequent offenses; Provided, that community service shall not be longer than five (5) days for such offense.
- b) For the second and subsequent offenses, the filing by the SSDD of the appropriate charges for child abuse under Republic Act No. 7610 and/or Petition for Involuntary Commitment pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 603, or other criminal or civil cases under applicable laws.

SECTION 66. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

- Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Code, the QCCPC shall formulate and issue the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of any and all provisions of this Code.

SECTION 67. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Code shall be declared or deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 68. REPEALING CLAUSE. - Pertinent Provisions of the Quezon City Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance (Ordinance No. SP-572 S-97), and all other Ordinances, Executive Orders, Rules and Regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly; Provided, that provisions of the Child and Youth Welfare Ordinance affecting or concerning children consistent with this Code, existing national laws and the best interests of the child shall remain in force. X

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SECTION 69. EFFECTIVITY. – This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: March 26, 2012.


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:



Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept Head III

APPROVED: May 14 2012


HERBERT M. BAUTISTA
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on March 26, 2012 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on May 14, 2012.


Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept Head III 