



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Reference No. 22CRCS003-ADV-008

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2022- 20

TO : ALL CONCERNED PSA OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, CITY/MUNICIPAL REGISTRARS, PHILIPPINE FOREIGN SERVICE POST OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL

SUBJECT : Preference of the Use of the Terms "Marital" and "Nonmarital" in Place of "Legitimate" and "Illegitimate"

DATE : 15 August 2022

In accordance with the Supreme Court Ruling on *Aquino vs. Aquino*, G.R. Nos. 208912 and 209018 dated 07 December 2021, the use of the terms "marital" and "nonmarital" in place of "legitimate" and "illegitimate" in describing children based on the marital status of their parents to uphold the dignity of every person in our choices of words and language is hereby encouraged.

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 10625 otherwise known as the "*Philippine Statistical Act of 2013*", the Philippine Statistics Authority through the Civil Registrar General is the authority having technical control and supervision on civil registration in the Philippines. In this regard, all concerned Philippine Statistics Authority officials and employees, City/Municipal Registrars, Philippine Foreign Service Post officials and personnel are directed to address them accordingly on all future communications.

This shall be notwithstanding the fact that the terms "legitimate" and "illegitimate" can be used interchangeably with the term "marital" and "nonmarital" on documents as both have the same meaning and legal effect.

For your information and guidance.

DENNIS S. MAPA, Ph.D.

Undersecretary

National Statistician and Civil Registrar General

gen/s
EP/AMBG/RMRQ



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