



Republika ng Pilipinas
KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN
 Department of Justice
 Manila

09 SEP 2002

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. **54**


TO : ALL REGIONAL STATE PROSECUTORS,
 PROVINCIAL AND CITY PROSECUTORS AND THEIR
 ASSISTANTS, STATE PROSECUTORS AND
 PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS

SUBJECT : *Non-dismissal of cases involving violations of Republic Act No. 7610, as amended, (Special Protection of Children from Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act), despite desistance of victims*

It has come to our attention that several cases involving violations of R.A. No 7610 were dismissed based on mere Affidavit of Desistance executed by the victims or by their parents or legal guardians during the preliminary investigation stage or during trial. However, it is not remote that the child-victims and/or their parents or legal guardians are being forced or harassed to execute such desistance.

In pursuit of the government's policy of protecting children from all forms of abuse, cruelty, neglect and discrimination and in order not to frustrate the ends of justice, you are hereby directed to relentlessly prosecute the offenders and vigorously oppose and/or manifest strong objection to motions for dismissal of cases involving violations of R.A. No. 7610 filed in court despite the desistance of the child-victims and/or the victims' parents or legal guardians; neither shall motion to dismiss on account of such said desistance be initiated by the prosecution.

Strict compliance herewith is enjoined.


HERNANDO B. PEREZ
 Secretary

Copy furnished:

All concerned.