

PRESS RELEASE

DepEd hits false claims on sex ed comics

The Department of Education (DepEd) is not distributing illustrated comics on sex education in public high schools contrary to the claims of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines. .

“We never had those as part of our modules,” said Education Secretary Mona Valisno when asked about the comics shown on television by members of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP). “They may have obtained it from other sources but definitely it is not part of our learning modules on sex education,” Valisno stressed.

“The fear of some that we are teaching sex in school is not true. Why would we do that? I believe that discussion on sex should be the responsibility of the parents who should draw guidance from the moral teaching of the Catholic Church. Both are our partners in educating our children,” she added.

“We are not insensitive to the child’s state of mind as what some perceive us to be. I believe it is grossly unfair to make public such document without really checking the source of the said sex education materials,” Valisno explained.

Valisno maintains that DepEds modules that guide teachers on integrating sex education in various subjects are carefully prepared to suit the understanding level of students from Grade 5 to 4th year high school.

“Child psychologists were part of the team that developed these modules and we are careful that what is contained in the learning modules are appropriate to their age level,” said Valisno.

She also shared that during a forum with the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas (KBP) and in a dialog with the members of the Presidential Council for Values Formation (PCVF), parents who are present agree that schools should teach sex education.

While they all agree that parents still have the primordial roles of molding their children, complementing this with proper teaching will help strengthen the child’s values. With topics on sex and sexuality circulating on all medium, the parents believe that teachers, who spend more time with their children, play an important role in building the character of the child.

“We are here to build the child’s social, cultural and spiritual foundation and we need everyone’s support to make it effective,” Valisno said.

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