

ADVENTURES OF KARAPATANA

Who is Karapatana?

She is a super heroine who has dedicated her life in defending human rights. Her power emanates from the aspirations set forth by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She draws her strength and inspiration from upholding the rights of other people. She gives voice to the voiceless and stands with those without power.

MY BODY MY RIGHTS

Despite commitments made nearly 20 years ago at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to put human rights, young people's needs and women's empowerment at the heart of policies on population and development, many of the 1.8 billion young people globally today still struggle to access the information, sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services they need for a safe and healthy life. The campaign 'My Body, My Rights' (MBMR) calls on governments and UN agencies to protect the sexual and reproductive rights of young people, in particular young women and adolescent girls.

The campaign is aimed to reach out to young people and other Amnesty activists worldwide, and engage them, alongside international partners, to speak out and demand that the sexual and reproductive rights of young people are respected, protected and fulfilled now and in the future and commitments made are put into practice.

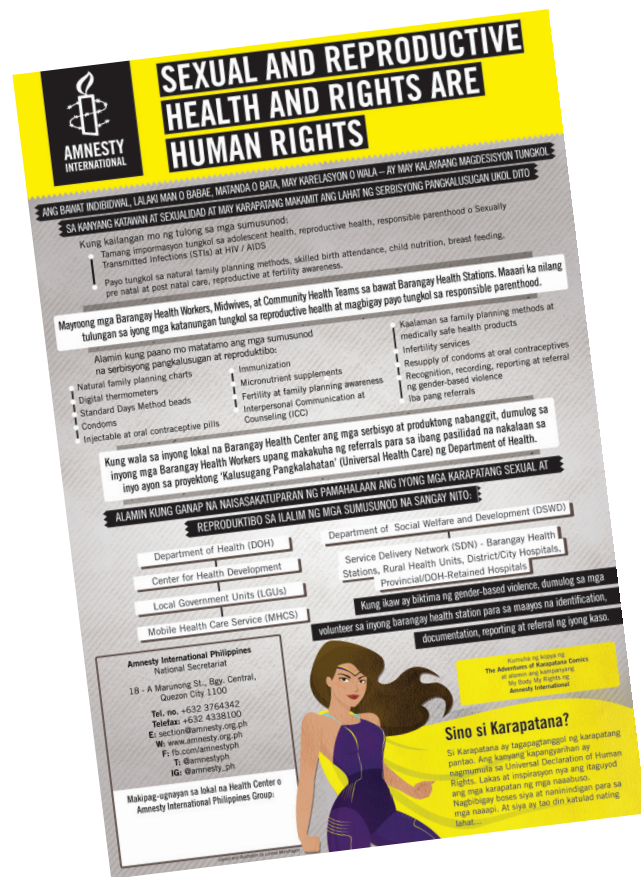
The MBMR campaign works with people to enable them to claim and exercise their rights so that they can make free and informed choices about their sexuality and reproductive rights free from discrimination, coercion and violence.

Philippine legislature passed Republic Act 10354 or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act (RH Law) in 2012. According to the law, which has not been implemented in full to date, the government must provide sexual and reproductive health services that are readily available at local health centers but most communities do not have the right information on how to access these services or are simply not aware that they have sexual reproductive rights and in most cases, services are not available at all.

Amnesty International Philippines (AIPh) focused its efforts on building capacity for communities in order for them to claim their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) through the MBMR Global Campaign. As part of its continuing campaigning work in 2015, AIPh advances its SRHR education by producing resources in order to promote public awareness on the RH Law in local areas.

Late in 2014, AIPh started its work on printed resources for the Adventures of Karapatana and by May 2015, launched the poster and comics alongside the MBMR Human Rights Education roll out in different barangays and schools in the Philippines. These materials were distributed to select health centers and schools in the country, including Tondo, and Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Manila; Infanta Quezon, Zambales, Bataan, University of the Philippines in Baguio City, Lorma College in San Fernando City, La Union, University of Iloilo, Iloilo City and Cagayan de Oro City.

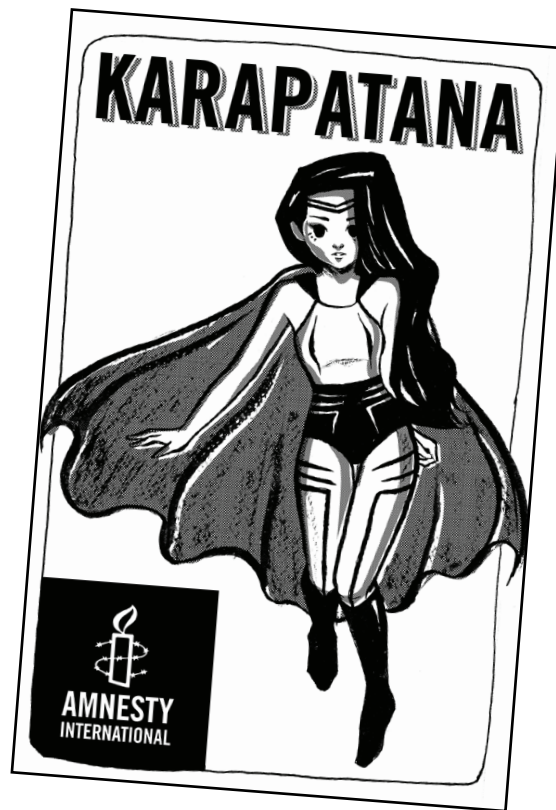




The Adventures of Karapatana Project introduces, Karapatana, our human rights champion and SRHR heroine. She is depicted as a strong young woman who defends human rights but like any ordinary human being, she is also vulnerable to difficult circumstances in life.

One has to read the comics in order to understand how Karapatana became an SRHR heroine. The comics reveals Karapatana pregnant with Jake's child. Although she's a super hero, she begins to doubt her strength, simply because she does not know where or whom to turn to for help. She contemplates on the reaction she will get from her Karapatananay, friends and even Jake. That thought alone has made her feel hopeless and helpless until help came in the character of Tina, the health worker.

While AIPh's focus on the Adventures of Karapatana Project revolves around information dissemination through human rights education and popular materials for the RH Law and services that should be made available at barangay health centers, it would also like to reiterate that the duty bearers - the government, should still be at the forefront of public awareness as provided for by the law on Section 20. Hence, Tina's character. Alongside the distribution of the comics is the installation of posters in health centers. The posters include



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essential information from different laws that provide access to services related to sexual and reproductive health and women and girl's rights as well as Department of Health project on Universal Health Care.

The social media component of the project also started in May while the 'Adventures of Karapatana' video was being produced. This supported visibility for the HRE roll out and served as a teaser as well to the video. We finished production in August and the first episode debuted in September.

The story takes off from the comic's ending showing Karapatana pregnant with Jake's child. After she gives birth and learns about her sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), with the help of 'Tina' the health worker, Karapatana continues on her human rights adventures and focuses her time on helping people with SRHR woes.

Episode 1: 'When True Love Won't Wait'

The story revolves around Carlo and Alyssa, a young couple who are in a relationship crossroad – Carlo is ready to take it another level by having sex leaving Alyssa confused on whether to allow this to happen or not.

Karapatana comes to Alyssa's aid. She explains the



Posters and comics developed for the Adventures of Karapatana Project disseminated to health centers in different local areas.



Scarlet Cale, AIPh volunteer, as Karapatana. She stars the Adventures of Karapatana trilogy.



individual's right to choose when to have sex and options for family planning.

Episode 2: 'Express Yourself But Protect Yourself'

Karapatana's super human hearing ability alerts her that many people were deciding to have sex and she senses that none of them are aware of their SRHR. So Karapatana talks to George, Beth and Alfred, and they discuss the importance of SRHR and other related services,

Episode 3: 'Be Your Own Super Hero'

We meet Karapatana's support system in this episode and will get to know different perspectives on SRHR. Amnesty International's work on SRHR is also discussed.

We use AIPh's YouTube Channel, <http://www.youtube.com/aiphilippines>, and Facebook Page, <http://www.facebook.com/amnestypth>, for the online distribution of the videos.

The National Secretariat encourages regions and local groups to use all materials being shared for organizational and human rights work. Groups can utilize these resources as a way to introduce Amnesty International and recruit new members or to keep members taking action for human rights towards renewing their commitment with us. We have designed

the materials to promote our SRHR work beyond MBMR and also to promote Amnesty International as an organization in your area.

The same process apply to the use of these materials, each group has to submit a Project Planning Form (PPF) to corresponding program coordinator depending on the nature of your action – whether campaigning, membership or HRE. All materials are accessible via our Wikispaces: <http://amnestyinfoshop.wikispaces.com> or <http://bit.ly/aiphinfoshop>. Note that you will need to sign up to Wikispace in order to access the materials after you have sent us your request,

For other inquiries, email Mei Palma, MCP Program Coordinator at meipalma@amnesty.org.ph or get in touch via 09178858634.

FIND OUT MORE

- www.amnesty.org.ph/mbmr
- Follow the Adventures of Karapatana at <http://bit.ly/karapatana>