WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SEX EDUCATION?

By: Carmelita F. Cuizon, LPT
Hermosa, Bataan

The Philippines is the center of Christianity in Southeast Asia. A home where being a conservative person lingers as tradition. But prostitution remains invincible, heightening figures of early or unwanted pregnancy, cybersex businesses sprouting anywhere and the alarming rate of HIV increases. Some people said that these are just few of the many problems which resulted from lack of information and zero knowledge in sex education that lead to the proposed inclusion of sex education to both elementary and high school level which evoked varying opinions, huge deals of arguments and debates in Philippine senate.

According to a Department of Education (DepEd) official, the primary aim of sexual education in the K-12 curriculum is not about sex, but about matters that affect one’s personal safety, hygiene and well-being that detractors of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law of 2012 (RH Law) have denounced for supposedly teaching adolescents and grade-school pupils about the sex act.

“Who is Responsible for Sex Education?” have been the question of many people. Some people want to have sex education taught in the school. The chief problem with this is that schools can’t teach values with sex education and sex education without values could be most unfortunate. Sex education in public schools will not reverse the damaging legacy of the sexual revolution unless the clear message is premarital chastity and marital monogamy. Students should be given the values and understandings about sex- the importance of constraint, responsibility and control before marriage, and the beauty and importance of sex in the setting of marriage.

A leader from one of religious sects states that “… serious hazards are involved in entrusting to the schools the teaching of this vital and important subject to our children. This responsibility cannot wisely be left to society, nor the schools; nor can the responsibility be shifted to the church. It is the responsibility of parents to see that they fully perform their duty in this respect”.

The students should talk to their parents. Ask them their questions. It will honor them, and they will discover that their parents are the persons who can best answer their candid and honest questions. When sex education is presented in school, the students must discuss it with their parents and together keep things in perspective.