

EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING

Rhegine D. Buenaobra
School of Criminal Justice
Universidad de Zamboanga
Zamboanga City, Philippines

Can we not see what is currently happening in our surrounding? Are we blind not to witness killings in our community or are we too afraid to fight for our justice?

Filipinos are known to be gentle but strong-willed person. But how come there are increasing numbers of murders, homicide and mass killings? The sad part of this is that we tolerate what is happening, we act as if nothing has changed and that change is not needed.

If we can all put a stop to these extrajudicial killings something will change, if not, turn back to normal. Because lives have been wasted already, lives of innocent people who only want to be heard and acquire justice. But what happened to them? They are all dead because of fighting freedom for their loved ones and community. Many innocent people are risking their lives to fight for us.

Reports and news of today are about the killings of media men and witnesses who are trying to reveal hidden secrets from unlawful person. I know there are lots of people who wants to help solve this kind of problem in our community but they too want to protect their family from unnecessary involvement that might put to risk in their lives. So, the only alternative is to keep silent and act as if nothing happened.

Even our current government cannot stop all this happenings by themselves. We have to stand up and fix everything. Put things back to normal where we can live a happy and harmonious life. Change can come about if all of us will move and believe that change is near. Our government plus citizens joining forces to stop extrajudicial killings will bring hope to those asleep Filipinos.

Let us remember that this is our country. Whatever happens is all our responsibility and therefore it is our primary obligation to restore and maintain peace in our community. Let us think that this is for us. A single step will go further if all of us will move to one goal to have everlasting peace. Let us fight for justice among all those innocent Filipino people who died for our benefit. Let us move as one and start creating a concrete plan to stop extrajudicial killing!

Our country needs us...if not now? When? Are we all going to sit back and relax? Just watch everything turn to dark? Hear voices of innocent people begging for justice. I believe that with all of us helping each other, killings will not be heard anymore as if it never really existed. So, let us move now...I know we can put to a stop to this.