

## **EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS**

Limuel O. De Julian  
BS Criminology  
Universidad de Zamboanga  
Zamboanga City, Philippines

Extrajudicial killings are the illegal killings of leading political, trade union, dissident, religious and social figures by either the state government, authorities like armed forces and police. It is forced disappearances in the Philippines refer to the illegal liquidations, unlawful or felonious killings and forced disappearances in the Philippines. These are forms of punishment and include extrajudicial executioner, summary execution, and arbitrary arrest in detentions and failed prosecutions due to political activities of leading politician, aside from the Philippines extra killing, death squads and many others.

Former Philippine Senate President Jovito Salonga enumerates 3 main current problem in the Philippines: poverty, graft and corruption in the government, and increasing criminality including extrajudicial killings.

Marcos regime charges were filed by victims on their surviving relatives for torture, execution and disappearances. Human rights groups placed the number of victims of extrajudicial killings under martial law. I choose this example because there is one of the most famous and talked about crime in the history of the Philippines. It was in the time of Marcos regime under his declaration of martial law; many innocent civilians were brutally killed without prior justice. It gave a big impact to all Filipinos and throughout the world that every person has the right to live and no one has the right to take it or deprive it from a person.

In spite of massive protest locally and internationally, the government of the Philippines has not taken and stop extrajudicial killings. Either the government is unwilling or it is not capable of stopping it.

It is just sad to hear that there are unlawful element that takes the innocent life of many people for their own sake and purposes in order for them to have power in the society and able to control the government and the people.

May this country finally have peace for the hope that President Noynoy Aquino has given us for somehow that will lead us to the real and true meaning of democracy which is our freedom and liberty.

We urge everyone to take part of active protests to stop these killings and to return to the democratic way of life, as envisaged in the constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.