

POLICE AND MILITARY ABUSES

Helgie H. Siyari
BS Criminology
Universidad de Zamboanga
Zamboanga City, Philippines

You can see this kind of abuses in our place Mapun, Tawi-Tawi. We already have fifteen presidents but as of now only former President Diosdado Macapagal and former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo visited our place.

Our place is just an island surrounded of many mangroves, sand and sea of mane corals. But there was a time they cut down the mangroves. Cause they planned to built some shelter. But they don't know the benefits of the mangroves to the community. These mangroves serve as livelihood to other people and even in case of calamity, like strong waves, it can prevent waves to hit houses near on shore.

All places in the world there are law enforcers like police officers and military. Police is a branch of criminal justice system that has the specific responsibility of maintaining law and order and combating crime within the society. From the meaning of police, I believed that not all of our law enforcers in our country are doing their jobs, because I, myself have experienced that these law enforcers especially those assigned in our place are uneducated, from what they are doing. They are abusing the rights of the people. There were times when I passed at the police station I saw they were maltreating the prisoners.

Almost all people who are living in our place do not know their rights. That's why they are being maltreated by these people, who supposedly protecting the people. As the law is concerned, when a police officer arrest the offender of the law, he/she must be informed of his/her constitutional rights. But there are police officers neglect this. They will just arrest the offender and bring to the station and also the offender who doesn't know anything about his rights, he will obediently follow the arresting officer.

All of us have our rights. But not all have the privilege to know these rights.