

## **Police Brutality**

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It's a taboo but it is happening here in the Philippines and around the world.

Today, on the news another expose about Philippine police brutality has surfaced. The victims of police brutality are usually suspects of some crime. The latest of which was a suspect with numerous charges against him.

As far as I can recall, the first torture video that caught the media attention were three holdup suspects - all delinquents, was shown beaten up and were forced to lock lips with one another.

Then there was another. The video was apparently shot at the Daet, Camarines Norte police station on April 2009. The victim was punched repeatedly and had a plastic bag over his head. It was to have him confess his crimes and accomplices.

Another police torture video that triggered an outrage was a cellphone video shown by ABS-CBN news showing a naked man grimacing in pain. A string was supposedly tied on the man's genitals and police reportedly tugged on the string everytime the victim failed to answer questions. Later, the torture victim was reported to have died although he has not been identified. All 21 police men including their chief superintendent has been suspended due to this incident. Again, an investigation unit has been put up. The vow to get these policemen and promise to end police brutality is strong but what keeps these policemen from committing the same "crime" over and over again?

As soon as the media frenzy dies on the issue, let us hope that the fight for human rights do not die with it.

### ***REACTION***

This is not the first time it happened and I'm sure there are more torture cases that haven't been reported. I'm sad to say that Filipinos have crab mentality and *ningas kugon*. I'm sure that with the entire clamor for justice, there will be numerous government bodies who would like "justice" for torture victims. The real question is, will they really get it? and also that they are a police, the one that should protect the people. As to the police they should do their job correctly, not just only because they are police they can do what they wanted even do they, they self violet the rules, where is the justice that the people are needs from them, where is the protection that the people expecting that they should do, they should not be like that, making brutality, violating the rules. The rules that should be followed. We people are expecting to do their job and we are humble respecting them. Where is the justice that we wanted if they, they self are holding it? We should follow the rules even we are in highest position, for us to respect by are followers. They should be the role model in our country.