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A SITUATION ANALYSIS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS, by UNICEF and the Government of Solomon Islands

This book introduces us to the women and children in the Solomon Islands: their status and their plight. The first part lays down the conditions in which they live. Then it delves deeper into the issues and factors such as health policies, formal education and environmental factors affecting the situation of women and children. After identifying persistent and emerging problems facing women and children, a discussion on the future directions comprises the last part of the book. In this section the document presents a strategy that attempts to address the problems and needs identified. This strategy includes responding to identified needs such as facilitating community education as well as bridging gaps between policy and action.

The book is complete with statistical tables, figures and photographs that give the reader a very clear picture of the status of women and children in this country. (UNICEF and the Government of Solomon Islands, January 1993. 113pp.)

LABOURING UNDER THE LAW, by Atu Emberson-Bain and Claire Slatter

Labouring Under the Law is a study commissioned by the Fiji Women's Rights Movement for the group to understand the task that lies ahead in lobbying for reform in poli-

cies and the law with regards women in employment. It provides an analysis of the status of women under employment legislation in Fiji through a study of specific provisions and legislation.

As the foundation for its findings and recommendations, the study used Article 11 of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) which states that all countries that are party to the UN Women's Convention must take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against them in the field of employment in order to ensure that women are given equal rights to men. (Fiji: Fiji Women's Rights Movement, 1995. 60pp.)

NEPALI WOMEN RISING, by Prativa Subedi

Born in 1954 in Kathmandu, Prativa Subedi has been actively involved in women development work for the last nine years. In this book, she gives us an overview of the status of women in Nepal and the fundamental issues affecting them. Problems of injustice, oppression and exploitation of women in different fields are presented in this book. Subedi draws her insights through her work among communities of poor women in the rural areas of Nepal. Throughout the book, Subedi highlights the many ways Nepali women have struggled to rise above their condition. (Nepal: Women Awareness Centre, 1993. 124pp.)

WOMEN, GENDER RELATIONS AND

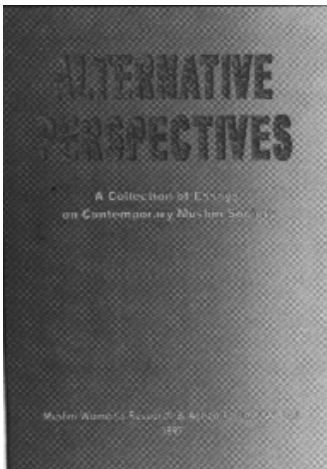
DEVELOPMENT IN THAI SOCIETY, edited by Virada Somswasdi and Sally Theobald

This book collates papers presented at the Sixth International Conference on Thai Studies held in Chiang Mai on 14-17 October 1996. The 22 papers in this volume were prepared for the theme "Women, Gender Relations and Development in Thai Society."

Divided into eight theme areas, they provide gendered analyses across a range of issues and disciplines including economics, industrialisation, environment, religion, literature, politics, health, sociology and cultural studies. The collection also elaborates on issues of gender and development within Thai society. Unlike much of the English discourse on women or gender issues in Thailand, this collection of writings transcends a focus on women's sexuality and prostitution. Instead, the articles contextualise and analyse women's roles, contribution and resistance to changes in many sectors in Thai society. (Thailand: Women's Studies Center, Chiang Mai University, 275 pp. ISBN 974-656-106-5)

ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES: A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS ON CONTEMPORARY MUSLIM SOCIETY, by Muslim Women's Research and Action Forum and Women Living Under Muslim Laws

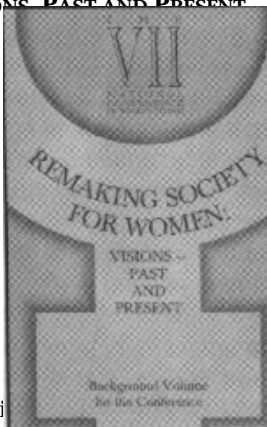
This collection forms a component of the action research undertaken by Muslim Women's Research and Action Forum (MWRAF) in col-



laboration with Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) as part of the “Women and Laws in the Muslim World” program covering 26 countries.

The first two essays of the volume highlight and analyse the internal specifics of Muslim communalism. These essays also address the gender dimensions of ethno-nationalism and religious fundamentalism. The third essay examines how revivalist movements through educational institutions at both the formal and nonformal levels function as contested venues for accumulating and legitimising multiple messages. (Sri Lanka: Muslim Women’s Research and Action Forum, 1997. 106pp. ISBN 955-625-000-x)

REMAKING SOCIETY FOR WOMEN: VISIONS PAST AND PRESENT



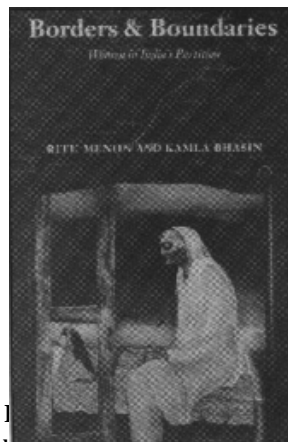
compiled by
Maithreyi Krishnaraj

This anthology is a background volume, produced by the Indian Association of Women’s Studies, to capture the varied dimensions of the major theme for the Seventh National

Conference on Women Studies. The collection of essays in this anthology is not about the women’s movement. It is not about recovering women’s history, or celebratory writings on their contributions or their resistance. It is about alternative visions for the women of India.

The book spans three phases. The first recaptures the voices of the forerunners of the women’s movement in India who thought deeply on women’s position in family and society. The second phase presents different visions for rebuilding a more civilised Indian society. The third phase explores voices of the contemporary women’s movement and the challenges facing it. (India: Indian Association of Women’s Studies, 1995. 162pp.)

BORDERS & BOUNDARIES: WOMEN IN INDIA’S PARTITION, by Ritu Menon and Kamla Bhasin



...ultaneously freed and divided. The departure of the British was accompanied by a bloody partition that left one million people dead and over ten million displaced. From this war India, Pakistan and erstwhile East Pakistan or Bangladesh were born. Forty years have passed but each incident of hostility or expression of difference “swiftly recalls that bitter and divisive erosion of social relations between Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs, and each wave of brutality is measured against what was experienced then...”

Borders and Boundaries attempts a feminist reading of Partition, providing for the first time testimonies and memories of women caught in the turmoil of the time. The

authors make women not only visible, but central, by looking at the general experience of violence, dislocation and displacement from a gendered perspective. Interviews with women—survivors, social workers, and government functionaries—form the core of the book, supplemented by a narrative based on confidential reports, parliamentary debates, letters and diaries. (India: Kali for Women, 1998. USA: Rutgers University Press, 1998. 274pp. ISBN 0-8135-2551-9 cloth, ISBN 0-8135-2552-7 pbk)

THE HEALTHSHARING READER: WOMEN SPEAK ABOUT HEALTH, by Healthsharing Women



This is an anthology that interweaves strands of political analysis with personal voice, and theory with experience. Through 30 articles that give equal weight to evidence provided by experts and uneducated women alike, it acknowledges the truth and importance of women’s lives and the effect of health on women’s daily living.

The daily truths of women’s lives meet the realities of today’s health system, women’s ways of knowing and learning meet the information of medical science, and personal experience meets political and economic analysis. Like pieces of a jigsaw, when fitted together, these accounts form a picture of women’s health.

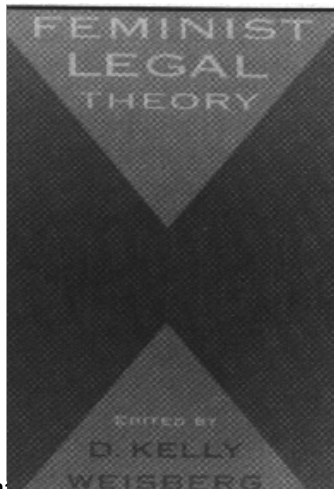
Among the many messages these essays deliver is that women are less and less willing to relinquish power to make decisions about their health and wellbeing. This book is not about women as victims. The sto-

ries are tributes to the courage and persistence of women, and the book celebrates women's understanding and action. (Australia: Pandora Press, 1990. 238pp. ISBN 0-04-442154-0)

FEMINIST LEGAL THEORIES:

FOUNDATIONS, edited by D. Kelly Weisberg

How should feminists interpret the law and use it to their advantage? What are the nuances in the law that

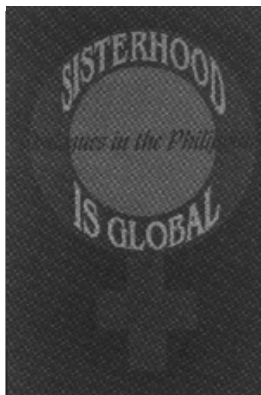


may open the difference for women? Why is the curriculum in law schools silent on the issues of women?

This volume offers a discussion of one of the most important movements in legal scholarships today: feminist legal theory. It examines theoretical issues about the interaction between law and gender. In this first of two volumes, 38 articles by distinguished legal scholars and feminists address issues of equality, difference, separate spheres, essentialism, legal methodology, and theories of law. *Foundations* highlights the principal debates in feminist legal theory, in particular, the debates about similarities and differences, about gender and race and about the meaning of equality and the best manner of achieving it. (USA: Temple University Press, 1993. 620pp. ISBN 1-56639-028-1 cloth/ ISBN 1-56639-029-X paper)

SISTERHOOD IS GLOBAL: DIALOGUES IN THE PHILIPPINES, edited by Rosario Garcellano, Elizabeth Lolarga, Anna Leah Sarabia

Sisterhood is Global: Dialogues in the Philippines was once dubbed



“a series of anti-male conferences.” For the first time since the anti-Marcos People's Uprising, hundreds of Filipino women from different classes and backgrounds converged in key cities in the Philippines to openly discuss feminism and revolution, homosexuality, religious fundamentalism, and similar issues in women-only spaces. These historic meetings of women leaders from six countries revealed the flux and flow of women's movements in some of the most formidably patriarchal nations of the Asia Pacific region.

The book covers a series of eight sessions on the following topics: sexuality, media, politics, patriarchal culture, human rights, women and work, and leadership and sharing. The eighth session is an evaluation of the dialogues that were held in October 1988 in Quezon City, Davao, Bacolod and Baguio. (Philippines: Circle Publications, 1992. 307pp. ISBN 971-8824-02-2)

WOMEN'S STUDIES IN THE PHILIPPINES: AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF WSAP IN PROMOTING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE, by Sylvia H. Guerrero, Ma. Carmela Patron and Marjorie Leyesa

Women's studies, a new academic discipline, works towards eliminating sex-role stereotypes in the curriculum. It aims to develop a body of knowledge that embodies women's perspectives, experience and realities, and endeavors to use this knowledge to transform women's lives and their society.

This report is divided into three parts. Part One gives a brief history of the development of women's stud-

ies in the Philippines, including the initiatives and efforts of selected schools in transforming the curricula to achieve a gender-fair and balanced educational program. Part Two presents the results of the survey on the impact of the Women's Studies Association of the Philippines (WSAP) on its members, perception of WSAP's contributions towards institutionalising women's studies, their current involvement and their views on problems and obstacles faced by women's studies as a discipline. Part Three analyses the experience of selected schools and institutions in integrating women's studies and gender concerns into the curriculum. (Philippines: The Women's Studies Association of the Philippines, 1996. 147 pp. ISBN 971-8720-01-4)

TOWARDS FEMINIST CONSCIOUSNESS: FILIPINO MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS TELL THEIR STORY, edited by Sylvia H. Guerrero

The inspiring stories of 15 sets of mothers and daughters are presented in this book that is actually a study on the development of feminist values in the Philippines. Using the life histories of women and their daughters, the study describes and analyses the process of feminist value formation, modification and transmission. Values are drawn from personal narrations by selected “known feminists and nationalists” of their socialisation, particularly their recollection of events and influences on their lives and their feminist consciousness.

The study also tapped other data sources such as written accounts and oral testimonies of friends and colleagues, to enrich the description and analysis of the values held by feminists. A major concern for the study is a deeper understanding of feminist values using essentially an inductive approach. Sociologists and other members of the academe wrote the life histories of these women. (Philippines: University Center for Women's Studies, University of the Philippines, 1997. 244pp. ISBN 971-8720-03-0 Philippine edition/ ISBN 971-8720-04-9 international edition)

Violence Against Women

ACTION AGAINST VAW: THE ARUGAAN NG KALAKASAN EXPERIENCE

Violence against women, particularly abuse of women in intimate relationships, is a global reality and a violation of human rights. Arugaan ng Kalakasan based the findings in this book from its 1,053 cases (1993 to 1995) of abused women in intimate relations. Their data showed that six out of 10 women survivors of abuse are legally married to the abuser, making domestic violence one of the most tragic forms of violence.

Arugaan ng Kalakasan (Nurturing Strength) is a Philippine nonprofit, nongovernmental organisation that has been providing services for battered women and working to mobilise the community in action against domestic violence. The sections of the book outline their work. The first, about implementing creative strategies in mobilising for awareness and action against domestic violence, tackles the issue of domestic violence and the important points to highlight in educating the public. It also describes some of the activities like concerts and sports events that the group has launched to generate interest in the issue. There is a section on telephone counseling as a feminist option for abused women, and a profile of survivors and their abusers. Another section focuses on the Philippine National Police Women's Desk, a brainchild of the feminist movement introduced in 1993. It studies the role of the police force in directly addressing violence against women, particularly domestic violence. (Philippines: Arugaan ng Kalakasan Action Research and Publications, 1997. 214pp.)

SHAME, SECRECY AND SILENCE: STUDY OF RAPE IN PENANG, coordinated and edited by Rohana Ariffin

This book is the result of two-and-a-half years of research by the Women's Crisis Centre, a nongovernmental organisation based in Penang, Malaysia. This study on rape is part of a special project initiated by the Violence against Women Committee. It was set up to organise awareness-raising activities in schools, communities,

factories, about various forms of violence inflicted upon women such as rape, sexual assault and domestic violence.

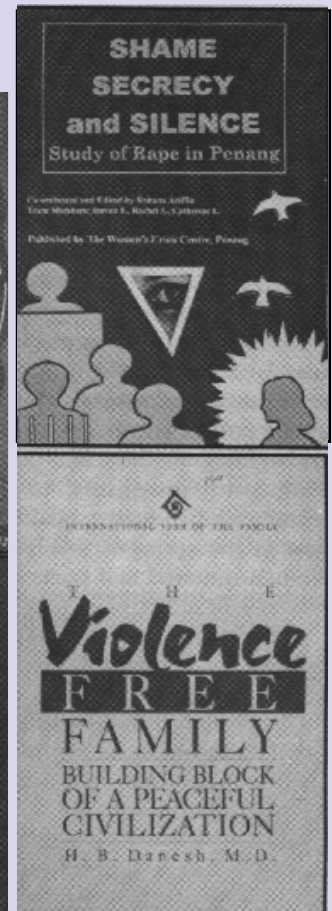
In view of the increasing number of rape and sexual abuse cases in Malaysia, the Committee felt it important to conduct an in-depth study on rape in the country, particularly in Penang.

The book is a comprehensive study of rape at the macro and micro levels. It covers the history of rape and legislation and how society views the crime. It looks into the legal system, the medical system and social welfare and examines how all these contribute to the rape victim's recovery or trauma. The research team interviewed several victims and their convicted rapists and reveals insights on the victims' ordeal and the criminal minds of the abusers. (Malaysia: Women's Crisis Centre, 1997. 264pp. ISBN 983-99348-0-5)

HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS, by Amnesty International

Women and their families are most vulnerable when wars break out. Most of the casualties of war are women and children; most of the world's refugees and displaced people are women and children; most of the world's poor are women and children. Human rights violations against women remain rampant because they are largely hidden.

This report launches Amnesty International's 1995 campaign for the protection of women's human rights. It highlights the situation of women in some 75 countries and shows how much work must be done to achieve equality for women. (UK: Amnesty In-



ternational Publications, 1995. 135pp. ISBN: 0-86210-242-1)

THE VIOLENCE-FREE FAMILY: BUILDING BLOCK OF A PEACEFUL CIVILIZATION, by H. B. Danesh, M.D.

The Violence-Free Family: Building Block of a Peaceful Civilization was originally presented as the keynote address at the International Symposium on Strategies for Creating the Violence-Free Family, held in New York City in May 1994.

This essay studies the family as a traditional and contemporary institution. It summarizes the author's 30 years of research and clinical work on marriage and family. It examines existing power relations in the traditional family and gives recommendations on how to build and nurture a violence-free family. (Canada, Bahai Studies Publications, 1995. 53pp. ISBN 0-920904-27-0)

FEMINIST RESEARCH EXPERIENCES: A CASEBOOK, edited by Sylvia H. Guerrero

This casebook is one of the major outputs of the Women's Health Research Consortium Project designed to strengthen gender-sensitive research and women-centered methodologies and to integrate these into policy, planning and programs to enhance women's reproductive health. It is the first in the series of publications on women-centered and participatory research methodologies.

The book presents six case studies of selected feminist research approaches used in exploring issues and concerns on health, sexuality, and personal, family and community relationships.

The studies used methods that are guided by feminist principles and processes. The methods chosen include life history, feminist ethnography, interactive learning, indigenous participatory research and focus group discussion. The project was supported by the United Nations Population Fund. (Philippines: University Center for Women's Studies, University of the Philippines, 1997. 137pp. ISBN 971-8720-05-7)

GENDER MAINSTREAMING: A HANDBOOK FOR DEVELOPMENTAL WORKERS, by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women

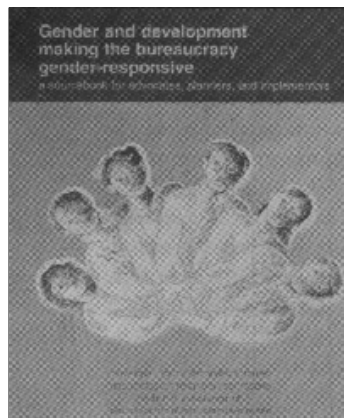
This handbook provides insights in the continuing search for strategies to mainstream gender in development planning and therefore position it on the "highway" and major avenues of development. Its main objective is to advance women's status by providing readers some guidelines from the experiences of women in the Philippines.

This thin volume has two main features that are useful for women and men working in the field of gender mainstreaming. First, it is basically a "how-to" document and offers an extensive discussion of the concepts, theories and issues related to gender and development. Second, it presents recommended courses of action for gender mainstreaming that can be used as a springboard to help local agencies



get started in their mainstreaming activities. (Philippines: National Commission On The Role Of Filipino Women, 1997. 74pp.)

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT: MAKING THE BUREAUCRACY GENDER-RESPONSIVE (A SOURCEBOOK FOR ADVOCATES, PLANNERS AND IMPLEMENTORS), by Dr.



Amaryllis T. Torres, Prof. Rosario S. del Rosario et al.

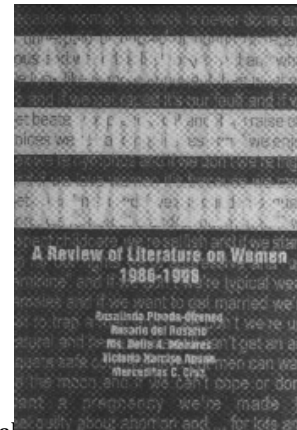
This sourcebook presents the results of the original assessments undertaken by the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women to determine the institutional mechanism for gender-responsive development in six agencies of the Philippine government.

Aside from identifying key organisational factors, which impact on gender and development, this manual also expounds on more basic concepts such as providing a gender view of development and development planning. It also elaborates a theory and methodology for identifying gender concerns, including the use of gender analysis. It emphasizes the human dimension of the planning process, which necessi-

tates the use of participatory strategies. (Philippines: UNIFEM & NCRFW, 1994. 162pp. ISBN 971-8701-00-1)

A WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE: A REVIEW OF LITERATURE ON WOMEN 1986-1996, by Rosalinda Pineda-Ofreneo et al.

This review of literature was un-



dertaken by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) as part of the preparations for its second Philippine Human Development Report focusing on women and gender issues. The objective was to study the extent of information and analyses of issues already available on Women/Gender in Development and to identify the gaps.

The review covers existing literature in the following areas of concern: labour migration, poverty, labour force and household dynamics, violence against women, legal and political rights, and health. In each area the authors make bibliographic entries of studies and research work relevant to the subject. The authors provide inventories and descriptions of the data, focusing on those which require the attention of both government policymakers and the public; discussions of gaps in research topics; and specific agenda for further research. (Philippines: Human Development Network Philippines, 1996. 184pp. ISBN 971-91812-0-6)

THE PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY AGENDA, VOLS. I-III

How far should organised groups relate with the state without endangering their own agenda? What mechanisms might be devised to mitigate tensions arising from diverse views and strategies, slow bureaucratic procedures, and the overwhelming, almost gravitational pull of corrupt and other antidemocratic practices? Given the diversity of Philippine society, and the open as well as subliminal conflicts between the state and interest groups, communities and armed movements, could a consensus be forged while respecting the plurality of perspectives, goals and interests?

These are some of the questions that go with the democratisation process. Aware that the question of popular empowerment has been taken up again and again, the Third World Studies Center of the University of the Philippines undertook the Philippine Democracy Agenda project seeking a different focus. Rather than look into the policy issues which are the subject of numerous documents, the authors of the project sought to focus on the participants involved in the process as well as those left out of it, their modes of interaction, the points of understanding both in the realm of perception and practice.

The fundamental conviction of the Democracy Agenda project is that civil society is the proper terrain for the evolution and development of democratic processes, institutions, and political cultures. The primary purpose of the project, then, was to identify ways (hence, an action agenda) to strengthen civil society as the arena of Philippine democracy.

Major themes are treated in three separate volumes, a result of conferences held over a five-month period. Overview papers and case studies were presented and discussed in workshops and plenary sessions. Each volume contains some of the papers in full while abstracts of the rest are provided.

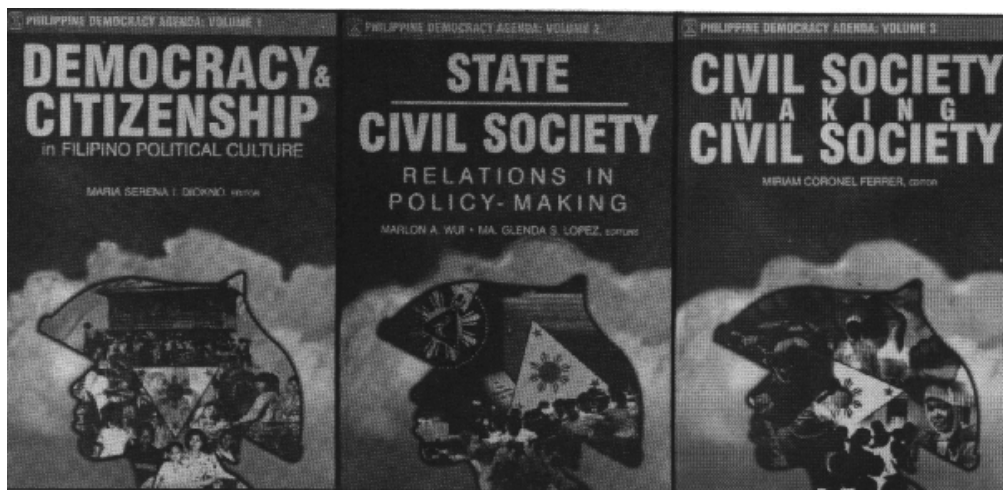
VOL. I: DEMOCRACY AND CITIZENSHIP IN FILIPINO POLITICAL CULTURE, edited by Ma. Serena I. Diokno

Some of the papers included here are: "Perceptions and Practices of Democracy and Citizenship Among Urban Middle Class Families" (Anna Marie A. Karaos), "Perceptions on Democracy and Citizenship in Muslim Mindanao" (Wahab Ibrahim Guialal), "Perceptions of Democracy and Citizenship in the Philippine Business Sector" (Renato M. Lee), and "The Influence of an NGO on the Political Culture of a Community." (Philippines: University of the Philippines Third World Studies Center, 1997. 298pp. ISBN 971-91111-2-7)

VOL. III: CIVIL SOCIETY MAKING CIVIL SOCIETY, edited by Miriam Coronel Ferrer

This volume explores the dynamics within sections of civil society. It examines the different areas that have caused tensions or conflicts; factors or developments that have helped resolve these tensions; and mechanisms that are being put in place or may be necessary to constructively resolve conflicts or free up areas of tension among civil society groups.

Titles include: "Building Civil Society at the Grassroots: The Philippine Community Organizing Experience" (Oscar D. Francisco), "Philippine Feminist Politics: Disunity in Diversity?"



VOL. II: STATE-CIVIL SOCIETY: RELATIONS IN POLICY-MAKING, edited by Marlon A. Wui and Ma. Glenda S. Lopez

Some 50 delegates from nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), people's organisations (POs), government and the academe, the areas where civil society has been engaging the state under the current constitutional/legal and policy environment, were identified.

Titles in this volume include "The Influence of the Congress for a People's Agrarian Reform on the Legislative Process" (Pi Villanueva), "Civil Society and the State in the Arena of Women's Reproductive Rights: A Case Study" (Naida G. Pasion). (Philippines: University of the Philippines Third World Studies Center, 1997. 298pp. ISBN 971-91111-6-X)

(Antoinette Raquiza), "The Women's Voice in the Bodong: The Guilayan Women's Story" (Marie Victa-Labajo). (Philippines: University of the Philippines Third World Studies Center, 1997. 298pp. ISBN 971-91111-5-1)

