

## PROHIBITED UNDER THE SAFE SPACES ACT

Catcalling and wolf-whistling



Persistent telling of sexual jokes



Statements that threatens one's personal space or sense of safety



Public masturbation



Flashing of private parts



Groping



Misogynistic, transphobic, homophobic, and sexist slurs



Similar lewd actions



Staking



Touching, pinching or brushing against the genitalia, face, arms, anus, groin, breasts, inner thighs, face, buttocks, or any part of the victim's body

## PENALTIES OF SAFE SPACES ACT

**1st Degree Offense**—Penalties range from P1,000-fine to P10,000-fine and 30 days in prison

**2nd Degree Offense**—Penalties range from P10,000-fine to P20,000-fine and 6 months in prison

**3rd Degree Offense**—Penalties range from P30,000-fine to P100,000-fine and 11 days in prison

**4th Degree Offense**—Penalties range from P100,000-fine to P500,000-fine and 2-4 years in prison

## WHERE DO WE GO FOR HELP?

*for government sector employees:*

**Civil Service Commission (CCS) - Tarlac**

Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, 2300 Tarlac City

Tel.# (045) 982-0455

[ro03.fo\\_tarlac@csc.gov.ph](mailto:ro03.fo_tarlac@csc.gov.ph)

[cscro3fo\\_tarlac@yahoo.com.ph](mailto:cscro3fo_tarlac@yahoo.com.ph)

*for private sector employees:*

**Department of Labor and Employment—Tarlac**

2F MAQS Building, MacArthur Highway, Brgy, Tarlac City

Tel.# (045) 800 1982

**Philippine National Police (PNP)**

Tarlac Provincial Police Office

National Highway, Camp Macabulos,

Tarlac City, 2300 Tarlac

Tel. No.: (045) 982 1972

**Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)**

Tarlac Home for Women

Provincial Hospital Compound, San Vicente, Tarlac City

Tel. No.: (045) 491-17-69 or Cellphone No.: 0908 864 4257

**DOJ— Public Attorney's Office (DOJ-PAO)**

**Tarlac City District Office**

Tarlac Regional Trial Court, Romulo Boulevard,

Tarlac City, Tarlac

Sources:

1. Republic Act 7877 or the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995

2. Republic Act 11313 or the Safe Spaces Act

3. The implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act N. 11313 or "An Act Defining Gender-Based Sexual Harassment in Streets, Public Places, Online, Workplace, and Educational or Training Institutions, Providing protective measures and prescribing penalties therefore", otherwise known as the "Safe Spaces Act"



For more information, please contact the  
**TSU—GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

Romulo Blvd. San Vicente, Tarlac City

Email: [tsucgad@gmail.com](mailto:tsucgad@gmail.com); [tsu\\_gad@tsu.edu.ph](mailto:tsu_gad@tsu.edu.ph)

Hotline: 606-8196

Printed and distributed by:

**TARLAC STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Gender and Development  
Office



**Republic Act 11313 or known as  
SAFE SPACES ACT (BAWAL  
BASTOS LAW)**



# “BAWAL BASTOS” LAW

## Republic Act 11313 or the Safe Spaces Act

In April 2019, the R.A. 11313— Safe Spaces Act or “Bawal Bastos” Law defines and penalizes gender-based sexual harassment in streets, public spaces, online workplaces, and educational or training institutions.



The Safe Spaces Act is also intended to expand the scope of the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995 or Republic Act No. 7877.

## GENDER-BASED STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES SEXUAL HARASSMENT



The crimes of gender-based streets and public spaces sexual harassment are committed through any unwanted and uninvited sexual actions or remarks against any person regardless of the motive for committing such action or remarks.



## GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN RESTAURANTS AND CAFES, BARS AND CLUBS, RESORTS AND WATER PARKS, HOTELS AND CASINOS, CINEMAS, MALLS, BUILDINGS AND OTHER-PRIVATELY-OWNED PLACES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Restaurants, bars, cinemas, malls, buildings and other privately-owned places open to the public shall adopt a zero-tolerance policy against gender-based streets and public spaces sexual harassment. These establishments are obliged to provide assistance to victims of gender-based sexual harassment by coordinating with local police authorities immediately after gender-based sexual harassment is reported, making CCTV footage available when ordered by the court, and providing a safe gender-sensitive environment to encourage victims to report gender-based sexual harassment at the first instance.

## GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES



In addition to the penalties in this Act, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) may cancel the license of perpetrators found to have committed acts constituting sexual harassment in public utility vehicles, and the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) may suspend or revoke the franchise of transportation operators who commit gender-based streets and public spaces sexual harassment acts. Gender-based sexual harassment in public utility vehicles (PUVs) where the perpetrator is the driver of the vehicle shall also constitute a breach of contract of carriage, for the purpose of creating a presumption of negligence on the part of the owner or operator of the vehicle in the selection and supervision of employees and rendering the owner or operator solidarily liable for the offenses of the employee.



## GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES COMMITTED BY MINORS

In case the offense is committed by a minor, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall take necessary disciplinary measures as provided for under Republic Act No. 9344, otherwise known as the “Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006”.

## GENDER-BASED ONLINE SEXUAL HARASSMENT



Gender-based online sexual harassment includes acts that use information and communications technology in terrorizing and intimidating victims through physical, psychological, and emotional threats, unwanted sexual misogynistic, transphobic, homophobic and sexist remarks and comments online whether publicly or through direct and private messages, invasion of victim’s privacy through cyberstalking and incessant messaging, uploading and sharing without the consent of the victim, any form of media that contains photos, voice, or video with sexual content, any unauthorized recording and sharing of any of the victim’s photos, videos, or any information online, impersonating identities of victims online or posting lies about victims to harm their reputation, or filing false abuse reports to online platforms to silence victims.



## GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

The crime of gender-based sexual harassment in the workplace includes the following:

1. An act or series of acts involving any unwelcome sexual advances, requests or demand for sexual favors or any act of sexual nature, whether done verbally, physically or through the use of technology such as text messaging or electronic mail or through any other forms of information and communication systems, that has or could have a detrimental effect on the conditions of an individual’s employment or education, job performance or opportunities;
2. A conduct of sexual nature and other conduct based on sex affecting the dignity of a person, which is unwelcome, unreasonable, and offensive to the recipient, whether done verbally, physically or through the use of technology such as text messaging or electronic mail or through any other forms of information and communication systems;
3. A conduct that is unwelcome and pervasive and creates an intimidating, hostile or humiliating environment for the recipient: Provided, That the crime of gender-based sexual harassment may also be committed between peers and those committed to a superior officer by a subordinate, or to a teacher by a student, or to a trainer by a trainee; and
4. Information and communication system refers to a system for generating, sending, receiving, storing or otherwise processing electronic data messages or electronic documents and includes the computer system or other similar devices by or in which data are recorded or stored and any procedure related to the recording or storage of electronic data messages or electronic documents.

## GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS



All schools, whether public or private, shall designate an officer-in-charge to receive complaints regarding violations of this Act, and shall ensure that the victims are provided with a gender-sensitive environment that is both respectful to the victims’ needs and conducive to truth-telling. Every school must adopt and publish grievance procedures to facilitate the filing of complaints by students and faculty members. Even if an individual does not want to file a complaint or does not request that the school take any action on behalf of a student or faculty member and school authorities have knowledge or reasonably know about a possible or impending act of gender-based sexual harassment or sexual violence, the school should promptly investigate to determine the veracity of such information or knowledge and the circumstances under which the act of gender-based sexual harassment or sexual violence were committed, and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation.