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EVALUATING RA 9262 AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM ROLE ON FEMALE OFFENDERS: BASIS FOR STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

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ABSTRACT

The Philippine justice system struggles to meet the needs of female offenders, who face discrimination, health issues, and abuse, often while being separated from their children. To protect women and children, Republic Act 9262 (Anti-VAWC Law) was enacted, defining abuse as physical, sexual, psychological, or economic harm by current or former partners. It provides protection orders and imposes penalties like imprisonment, fines, and counseling, ensuring legal protection and support for victims. The study determined the level of its implementation and significant differences in the level of its implementation, level of its effectiveness and significant differences, significant relationship between the level of implementation and effectiveness, impact of the components of the criminal justice system on female offenders, significant differences in the impact of the components of the criminal justice system on female offenders, and the challenges encountered in its implementation. An explanatory sequential mixed methods research design was used. The study found that RA 9262 is perceived by police officers, barangay officials, and residents as fully implemented and highly effective in handling VAWC cases, particularly in terms of operational procedures, preventive programs, confidentiality safeguards, and enforcement of protection orders. However, significant differences in perceptions among respondent groups indicate uneven experiences in implementation and effectiveness. A moderate positive relationship between implementation and effectiveness suggests that stronger enforcement enhances the law's impact. Qualitative findings revealed persistent challenges, including victim non-cooperation and under reporting, low public awareness, institutional and coordination limitations, and gaps in capacity and legal knowledge.The findings indicate that RA 9262 is perceived as fully implemented and highly effective at the community level, demonstrating strong institutional commitment to protecting women and children. Nonetheless, differences in stakeholder perceptions reveal uneven experiences and awareness, underscoring the need for more coordinated implementation. A positive relationship between implementation and effectiveness highlights the importance of strengthening operational practices. While confidence in the criminal justice system is generally high, variations in perceptions of maintaining order point to the need for targeted interventions such as public education, capacity-building, and enhanced interagency coordination.

KEYWORDS: *Republic Act 9262; Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC); Implementation and Effectiveness; Criminal Justice System; Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods*

INTRODUCTION

The criminal justice system in the Philippines continues to face significant challenges in addressing the unique needs of female offenders, who are often subjected to discrimination, health risks, and heightened vulnerability to abuse. Correctional institutions remain largely male-centric, resulting in women being treated as a minority or "forgotten offenders." This structural imbalance contributes to inadequate policies and facilities for women, particularly in addressing mental health concerns, reproductive health needs, and trauma resulting from prior abuse. Female inmates are also exposed to sexual abuse by correctional staff and fellow prisoners and frequently suffer emotional distress from being separated from their children. While reforms have been introduced—such as the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology's establishment of Gender and Development (GAD) Corners and partnerships with non-government organizations, as well as reintegration programs by the Correctional Institution for Women—these efforts are constrained by limited data and persistent systemic gaps, despite the Philippines having one of the highest female incarceration rates worldwide.

The Philippine criminal justice system operates through interconnected pillars that include law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary, penology, and the community. Law enforcement agencies such as the Philippine National Police and the National Bureau of Investigation are responsible for arresting individuals who violate the law, while prosecutors determine whether cases proceed to court based on evidence and circumstances. The judiciary adjudicates cases, and correctional institutions manage detention and rehabilitation, supported by community involvement in crime prevention and reintegration. Within this framework, Republic Act 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against

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Women and Their Children Act of 2004 plays a critical role by recognizing violence against women and children as a public crime. The law defines violence broadly to include physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse and provides victims with legal remedies such as protection orders, as well as access to counseling, legal assistance, and temporary shelter through mandated government support services.

Despite these legal safeguards, gender-based discrimination persists across all stages of the criminal justice process, affecting women as victims, witnesses, accused persons, and inmates. As the global female prison population grows at a faster rate than that of men, the need for gender-responsive policies and interventions becomes more urgent. Barangay officials and law enforcers are mandated to respond promptly to cases of violence, ensure victim safety, enforce protection orders, and apprehend perpetrators when necessary, yet the effectiveness of these responsibilities varies in practice. In response to these concerns, the present study seeks to assess whether the Philippine criminal justice system adequately addresses the needs of the increasing number of female offenders and prisoners. It further examines the perceived level of implementation of RA 9262, evaluates the roles of key justice system actors, and explores strategies to reduce and prevent gender-based violence in accordance with national laws and international standards.

Internationally, justice for women involved in the criminal justice system remains largely inaccessible despite progress made through international, hybrid, and national courts. Many cases continue to go unpunished due to persistent barriers such as discrimination, stigma, underreporting, and survivors' lack of trust in law enforcement and judicial institutions, compounded by inconsistent commitment among justice actors (Khan, 2023). The United Nations General Assembly (2010) highlights that women face systemic disadvantages within justice systems that are predominantly designed for men, often resulting in harsher treatment for similar offenses, increased exposure to abuse and violence while in custody, and intensified social stigma during and after incarceration. These conditions also negatively affect families, particularly children left behind. In response, international recommendations emphasize diversion programs, gender-sensitive risk assessments, tailored rehabilitation, proper mental health care, and legal reforms promoting non-custodial sentencing to create a more humane and equitable justice system for women.

At the national level, the Philippines has enacted Republic Act No. 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC) Act of 2004 to address gender-based violence and protect women and children from abuse in intimate relationships. The law broadly defines violence to include physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, and economic abuse and classifies VAWC as a public crime, allowing the state to pursue cases even without the victim's direct complaint. RA 9262 provides legal remedies such as protection orders, imposes penalties on offenders, and mandates government agencies to deliver psychosocial services, counseling, legal assistance, and rehabilitation. It also underscores children's welfare and promotes prevention through public education and gender-sensitivity programs, reflecting the government's commitment to safeguarding women's rights and addressing domestic violence within the criminal justice framework.

Locally, this study situates its inquiry in Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City, where the criminal justice system is evolving through the adoption of technology and reform-oriented practices in 2024. Innovations such as artificial intelligence for predictive policing, blockchain for evidence integrity, virtual reality for law enforcement training, and evidence-based policing strategies are enhancing efficiency, transparency, and public trust. These developments align with broader reform trends including community-oriented policing, restorative justice, equity in sentencing, bail reform, and the reconsideration of punitive approaches to drug offenses. Collectively, these shifts signal a move toward a more rehabilitative, community-focused, and equitable justice system. Within this context, the study examines how these local and systemic developments contribute to addressing gender-based violence and improving justice outcomes for women, consistent with national laws and international standards.

Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

Gender equality is about creating a world where all individuals, regardless of gender, have equal access to resources, opportunities, and rights. It involves dismantling barriers that have traditionally kept people from realizing their full potential based on their gender. Gender equality isn't just about the equal distribution of material resources; it also involves equal recognition and respect for individuals' aspirations, behaviors, and needs.

Gender equality theories at the individual level focus on how personal attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors shape one's understanding and performance of gender roles. Central to this perspective is the process of socialization, through which individuals internalize gender norms learned from family, peers, media, and broader society from an early age. These internalized norms influence how people view themselves and others, often reinforcing traditional expectations of masculinity and femininity. Individual-level theories also emphasize agency and empowerment, highlighting the capacity of individuals to make independent choices and challenge restrictive gender roles, such as women entering male-dominated professions or men participating in care giving roles. Overall, this level underscores the importance of personal awareness and empowerment in enabling individuals to act according to their aspirations rather than socially imposed gender expectations.

At the interactional level, gender equality is examined through everyday social relationships and interactions within families, workplaces, schools, and other social environments. These theories emphasize how gender norms are enacted, negotiated, or

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resisted in interpersonal dynamics, particularly through power relations and negotiation. Power imbalances often shape how authority, decision-making, and voice are distributed between genders, especially in male-dominated spaces. Interactional theories also focus on social roles, analyzing how individuals "perform" gender in daily interactions and how these performances either reinforce or challenge traditional norms. By examining routine practices and social exchanges, this level highlights how gender inequality is maintained or disrupted through lived experiences and collective interactions.

At the macro level, gender equality is understood in relation to broader social, political, economic, and cultural structures. Macro-level theories examine structural inequality, emphasizing how laws, policies, labor systems, and institutions are gendered in ways that systematically advantage or disadvantage certain groups, such as through wage gaps or unequal access to parental leave. Feminist and postcolonial theories further analyze how power, privilege, and oppression are embedded in institutions and shaped by historical and colonial contexts, particularly affecting marginalized women. Additionally, theories on **gender and globalization** explore how global economic and political processes influence gender roles, sometimes exacerbating exploitation while also enabling transnational movements for equality. Together, macro-level theories underscore the need for systemic and institutional reforms to promote gender equity, recognizing that fairness requires addressing historical inequalities and providing differentiated support to ensure equal opportunities for all.

Republic Act No. 9262, also known as the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC) Act of 2004, serves as the primary legal basis for combating violence against women in the Philippines. Enacted on March 8, 2004, the law defines violence against women and their children to include physical, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse committed by individuals who have or had an intimate or familial relationship with the victim. It provides protective measures, legal remedies, and support services for victims, while also prescribing penalties for offenders. A proposed amendment seeks to expand the law's coverage by explicitly including psychological violence committed through the use of information and communication technology (ICT) devices.

The study adopts the Input–Process–Output (IPO) model as its conceptual framework to systematically examine the implementation of RA 9262 and the role of the criminal justice system. The input includes the respondents' demographic profile—such as age, sex, civil status, educational attainment, and length of service—along with relevant literature, components of the Criminal Justice System Theory, and the research survey instrument. The process involves assessing the perceptions of three groups of respondents regarding the impact of the criminal justice system on female offenders, particularly in maintaining social order, protecting citizens, and upholding laws. It also evaluates the extent of RA 9262 implementation in Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City, focusing on operational procedures in handling VAWC cases, efforts to eliminate violence, confidentiality, and enforcement of Barangay Protection Orders.

The output of the study is a proposed action plan aimed at minimizing or preventing violence against women. This action plan is intended to strengthen the implementation of RA 9262 at the barangay level and enhance the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in addressing VAWC cases, ultimately contributing to improved protection, support, and justice for women and their children.

Statement of the Problem

The main problem of this study is to evaluate the level of implementation, level of effectiveness of RA 9262, and the role of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City, as a basis for the development of a strategic action plan**.**

Specifically, it answered the following questions:

1. What is the perceived level of implementation of RA 9262 in terms of:
   1.1 operational procedures in handling VAWC cases;
   1.2 programs and measures for the prevention and reduction of violence against women and their children;
   1.3 confidentiality safeguards; and
   1.4 Enforcement and compliance with protection orders?
2. Are there significant differences in the perceived level of implementation of the R.A.? 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City, in terms of the identified variables according to the three groups of respondents?
3. What is the perceived level of effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of:
   3.1 operational procedures in handling VAWC cases;
   3.2 programs and measures for the prevention and reduction of violence against women and their children;
   3.3 confidentiality safeguards in case handling; and
   3.4 Enforcement and compliance with protection orders?
4. Are there significant differences in the perceived level of effectiveness of implementing R.A.? 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City, in terms of the identified variables according to the three groups of respondents?
5. Is there a significant relationship between the perceived level of implementation and the perceived level of effectiveness?
6. What is the perceived impact of the components of the criminal justice system on female offenders in terms of:
   6.1 upholding order in society;
   6.2 protecting citizens; and
   6.3 upholding laws in the community?
7. Are there significant differences in the perceived impact of the components of the criminal justice system on female

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offenders in terms of the identified variables according to the group of respondents?

8. What are the challenges encountered in the implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City?

9. What strategic action plan can be proposed to minimize or prevent violence against women at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City?

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This study employed an **explanatory sequential mixed methods research design**, in which quantitative data were collected and analyzed first, followed by qualitative data to explain and elaborate on the initial results, as described by Creswell and Plano Clark (2018). This design is particularly suitable when quantitative findings require deeper interpretation, especially in understanding significant differences, relationships, or unexpected outcomes (Creswell, 2014). In this study, the approach was considered appropriate because assessing the implementation, effectiveness, and impact of Republic Act No. 9262 requires both measurable indicators and contextual insights drawn from the experiences of stakeholders at the barangay level.

The **quantitative phase** addressed and focused on determining the perceived levels of implementation and effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of operational procedures in handling VAWC cases, preventive programs, confidentiality safeguards, and enforcement of protection orders. It also examined the perceived impact of the criminal justice system on female offenders, identified significant differences among respondent groups, and analyzed the relationship between implementation and effectiveness. Data were gathered using a structured survey questionnaire and analyzed through descriptive and inferential statistics, including measures of central tendency, analysis of variance, and correlation analysis. While this phase provided statistical patterns, it did not fully explain the underlying reasons for the findings.

To address this limitation, the **qualitative phase** was conducted after the quantitative analysis to explain and contextualize the results, primarily focusing on the challenges encountered in implementing RA 9262 in Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City. Participants were purposefully selected from the same population based on results that required further explanation, and data were collected through interviews or focus group discussions. Thematic analysis was used to identify recurring themes related to implementation gaps, enforcement issues, coordination challenges, confidentiality concerns, and service delivery limitations. Integration of quantitative and qualitative findings occurred during interpretation and discussion, strengthening the study's validity and informing the development of a strategic action plan aimed at improving RA 9262 implementation and reducing violence against women and their children.

Population and Locale of the Study

The population of the study is composed of the police officers, barangay officials, and residents at Novaliches Proper, Quezon City. Utilizing Slovin's formula, this study yielded a total of 390 respondents.

Table 1.
Respondents in the Study

Respondents	Population	Sampling	Percentage
Police officers	150	150	38.46%
Barangay officials	11	11	2.82%
Residents	15468	229	58.72%
Total	**15,629**	**390**	**100.00%**

Data Gathering Tools

The survey questionnaire is the main data-gathering instrument in the study. It was supplemented with interviews with selected informants to answer the challenges encountered in the implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City.

The validation process includes both content validation and face validation to ensure that the research tool covers all relevant aspects of the study topic comprehensively and assesses whether the survey questions appear effective in terms of relevance, clarity, and comprehensibility. The validation process includes both content validation and face validation to ensure that the research tool covers all relevant aspects of the study topic comprehensively and assesses whether the survey questions appear effective in terms of relevance, clarity, and comprehensibility.

As to the process of validation, this study undergoes the following process:

1. Initial Draft Creation: The initial draft of the survey and interview guide was developed based on the identified sources.

2. Expert Review: The draft instruments were provided to the three validators along with the objectives of the study.

3. Feedback Collection: Each expert reviewed the tools and provided feedback on the relevance, clarity, and comprehensiveness of the questions.

4. Revisions: Based on the feedback, necessary revisions were made to improve the questions and ensure they align with the study objectives.

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5. Pilot Testing: The revised tools were pilot-tested with a small group of participants similar to the study population. This helped to identify any remaining issues and make final adjustments.

6. Final Validation: The final version of the tools were reviewed again by the validators to confirm that all feedback has been appropriately addressed.

Reliability of the Instrument. To test the reliability of the instrument, it was administered to 20 respondents, who are not the actual participants of the study. The reliability of the research instrument was tested using Cronbach's alpha for the survey questions. This statistical test was chosen to measure the internal consistency of the survey items, ensuring that the questions reliably capture the constructs they are intended to measure. Analysts frequently use Cronbach's alpha when designing and testing a new survey or assessment instrument. This statistics helps evaluate the quality of the tool during the design phase before deploying it fully. It is a measure of reliability. The result of 0.78 ensured that the instrument was highly reliable.

By following this structured approach to tool development and validation, the study ensured that the data-gathering instruments are both reliable and valid, capable of effectively capturing the necessary information to address the research questions.

Data Gathering Procedures

The following are the steps undertaken by the researcher:

Preparation and Planning

1. Develop Instruments: Finalize the structured surveys based on the validation feedback.

2. Seek Approval: Obtain necessary approvals from institutional review boards (IRB) or ethics committees, as well as permissions from local authorities in Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City.

3. Recruit Participants: Sent a letter of request to conduct the study to identify and recruit participants from the different target groups (residents, Barangay Officials, and Police Officers) through the distribution of the survey questionnaire.

Pilot Testing

1. Conduct a pilot test with a small sample of participants who are not respondents in the study population to identify any issues with the instruments or procedures.

2. Revise the instruments based on the pilot test feedback.

Data Collection

Surveys: Distribute structured surveys to the participants through both online and paper-based formats to ensure wide reach and accessibility.

1. Online Surveys: Use an online survey platform (e.g., Google Forms) to distribute and collect responses.

2. Paper Surveys: Distribute paper surveys during community meetings, business visits, and through local organizations.

Treatment of Data

Data processing is the method of collecting raw data and translating it into usable information. It involves the collection, manipulation, modification, analysis, storage, and presentation of digital data. Data processing is usually performed in a step-by-step process enumerated as follows:

1. After the administration of the corrected instrument, retrieval of the questionnaires followed.

2. Data were tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted by the statistician.

3. Data were presented in the following manner: data presented in table form, narrative descriptions of data (textual presentation), interpretation of data, and utilization of the related studies to support the findings of the study.

To determine the perceived level of implementation of RA 9262 in terms of operational procedures in handling VAWC cases, programs and measures for the prevention and reduction of violence against women and their children, confidentiality safeguards, and enforcement and compliance with protection orders, the following are used:

4	3.26 – 4.00	Fully Implemented (FI)
3	2.51 – 3.25	Implemented (I)
2	1.76 – 2.50	Less Implemented (LI)
1	1.00 – 1.75	Not Implemented (NI)

To determine the perceived level of effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of operational procedures in handling VAWC cases; programs and measures for the prevention and reduction of violence against women and their children; confidentiality safeguards in case handling; and enforcement and compliance with protection orders, the following are used:

4	3.26 – 4.00	Very Effective (VE)
3	2.51 – 3.25	Effective (E)
2	1.76 – 2.50	Less Effective (LE)
1	1.00 – 1.75	Not Effective (NE)

To determine the perceived impact of the components of the Criminal Justice System on female offenders in terms of upholding order in society, protecting citizens; and upholding laws in the community, the following are used:

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4	3.26 – 4.00	Strongly Agree	(SA)
3	2.51 – 3.25	Agree	(A)
2	1.76 – 2.50	Disagree	(DA)
1	1.00 – 1.75	Strongly Disagree	(SDA)

Ethical Considerations

Prior to data collection, participants were informed that their involvement in the study was entirely voluntary. Informed consent was obtained through a consent form to ensure that respondents clearly understood the purpose, scope, and nature of the research. Participants were free to answer only the questions they were comfortable with and were informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time without any negative consequences. No form of coercion was used, and respondents were given the option to decline participation altogether.

Participants were also allowed to skip any question or discontinue the interview or focus group discussion as they wished. During interviews, they were given the freedom to use the language they were most comfortable with—Tagalog or English—to promote clarity and ease of expression. The researcher accommodated these preferences to facilitate open and meaningful communication.

Ethical considerations further included respect for professional and cultural sensitivity, with appropriate conduct and attire observed during data collection. Confidentiality and privacy were strictly upheld, as all information provided by participants was treated as confidential and used solely for academic purposes. Participants' identities were protected, and no personal or identifying information was disclosed in the presentation of the study's findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Perceived level of implementation of RA 9262 in Terms of Identified Variables Operational Procedures in Handling VAWC Cases. The data in Table 2 show that the perceived level of implementation of Republic Act 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004) in terms of operational procedures in handling VAWC cases is rated as fully implemented (FI) across all indicators. This suggests that the respondents—comprising police officers, barangay officials, and residents—generally agree that procedures relating to the handling of VAWC cases are being appropriately followed and enforced. The consistent median score of 4.00 indicates a strong alignment with the operational protocols required by law. This consistent positive assessment suggests broadly perceived compliance with legal and procedural frameworks outlined in RA 9262, such as timely referral, prevention measures, protection orders, and information dissemination.

Table 2.

Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Operational Procedures in Handling VAWC Cases

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Focus on the procedural and legal specifics involved in barangay summons and hearings.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
2. Resolve local concerns before they escalate to the judicial level.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
3. Highlight the importance of personal service to uphold fairness and due process.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
4. Ensure that arrests of suspected criminals follow due process.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
5. Continuous dialogue and reform among legal experts, lawmakers, and stakeholders to ensure mechanisms protecting women and children from violence are effective in practice, not just in theory.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
6. Justice should be accessible, prompt, and fair, aligning with the law's aim to protect society's most vulnerable individuals.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
7. Disseminate information to barangay residents on how to properly handle Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) cases.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
8. Conduct seminars and provide information on the impact of violence on both residents and enforcement officers.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
9. Pass a resolution to establish a counseling committee or offer training/seminars for family accountability.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
10. Educate barangay officials on RA 9262 through information dissemination.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
Overall Median	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**

FI - Fully Implemented; I- Implemented

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All groups perceive the operational procedures under RA 9262 as fully implemented, with minor reservations among residents on a few aspects. This reflects a generally effective implementation but also points to a need for continuous improvement, especially in bridging gaps in public perception and reinforcing community engagement in handling VAWC cases.

This perception of full implementation signals a strong alignment between legal mandates and community-level practices, highlighting the institutional presence of mechanisms designed to protect women and children from violence. The result may also reflect the impact of ongoing training programs, awareness campaigns, and inter-agency collaboration, which have likely contributed to procedural adherence and policy visibility among key implementers.

However, while these findings are encouraging, it is essential to interpret them with a degree of caution. The perceived effectiveness does not always equate to uniform experiences among victims, especially considering that other studies (e.g., Buenafe, 2021; Colot, 2024; PCW Monitoring Report, 2024) have identified persistent challenges such as underreporting, inconsistent enforcement in rural areas, and gaps in gender sensitivity training. Therefore, while the data indicates a high level of procedural compliance, further validation through qualitative feedback from survivors and civil society organizations is necessary to ensure that these perceived practices translate into equitable, timely, and accessible justice for all.

Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and their Children. Table 3 presents the perceived level of implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC), which is rated as "Fully Implemented" (FI) across all respondent groups, based on their overall median score of 4.00.

Despite some individual indicators being rated slightly lower (with medians of 3.00 or 3.50, interpreted as "Implemented"), the general consensus across all groups is that preventive programs and measures of RA 9262 are effectively in place.
The data show that the perceived level of implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and Their Children (VAWC) was rated as "Fully Implemented (FI)" by all respondent groups—police officers, barangay officials, and residents—with an overall median score of 4.00.

In corroboration, the PCW-IACVAWC Monitoring (2024) states that the Philippine Commission on Women, in collaboration with the Inter-Agency Council on VAWC, reported that many LGUs have institutionalized VAW Desks, allocated local budgets for GAD programs, and partnered with CSOs to promote anti-VAWC awareness. These actions align with what respondents perceived as indicators of full implementation.

Table 3.

Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and their Children

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Support and invest in organizations advocating for women's rights.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
2. Mobilizing women as catalysts for change has proven essential in combating violence.	3.00	I	3.00	I	3.00	I	3.00	I
3. Successful prevention hinges on training that fosters behavioral change.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
4. Religious and traditional leaders are key players in preventing violence, as they influence cultural norms and can either promote or obstruct progress.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
5. Engage young people as change-makers to improve the effectiveness of prevention programs.	3.00	I	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
6. Gender-based violence prevention initiatives must prioritize survivors, include them in the planning process, and address their specific needs.	3.00	I	3.00	I	4.00	FI	3.00	I
7. Comprehensive training and a shift in mindset are needed. Civil society organizations are crucial in driving these changes and linking communities to formal support systems.	3.00	I	3.00	I	4.00	FI	3.00	I
8. Survivor support services, such as shelters, hotlines, and counseling, must be recognized as essential services and readily available.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	3.00	I	4.00	FI
9. Reflect on personal behaviors and beliefs to identify biases that perpetuate rape culture.	4.00	FI	3.00	I	3.00	I	3.00	I
10. Contribute to local organizations that empower women, elevate their voices, assist survivors, and promote inclusivity across all gender identities and sexual orientations.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
Overall Median	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**

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Confidentiality Safeguards in Case Handling. The findings from Table 4 indicate that the implementation of confidentiality safeguards in the handling of cases under Republic Act No. 9262, also known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004," is perceived as fully implemented (FI) across all respondent groups—police officers, barangay officials, and residents—with an overall median of 4.00. This suggests a generally high level of adherence to confidentiality protocols among frontliners tasked with case management under the law.

Table 4.

Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Confidentiality Safeguards in Case Handling

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Establish rules that restrict access or impose limitations on the use of specific types of information.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
2. Maintaining confidentiality by not disclosing information.	3.00	I	3.00	3I	3.00	I	3.00	I
3. Often enforced through confidentiality policies and agreements.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
4. An individual's obligation to avoid sharing confidential information unless explicit permission is granted by the concerned party.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
5. Ensuring personal information is protected from unauthorized access.	3.00	I	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
6. Access is limited to authorized individuals only.	3.00	I	3.00	I	4.00	FI	3.00	I
7. Provides victims with a sense of security within the community and helps prevent various internal and external issues.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
8. Significant breaches of confidentiality can result in legal consequences, disciplinary measures, or even criminal charges.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	3.00	I	4.00	FI
9. Dispose of sensitive materials properly, such as shredding documents with cross-cut shredders or securely destroying outdated computer hardware.	4.00	FI	3.00	I	3.00	I	3.00	I
10. Use encryption for highly sensitive data and protect access with passwords to ensure restricted information is secure.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
Overall Median	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**

Enforcement and Compliance with Protection Orders. Table 5 indicates that all three groups—Police Officers, Barangay Officials, and Residents—rated the implementation of RA 9262 in terms of preventive programs and measures as "Fully Implemented" (Median = 4.00). On the surface, this reflects a positive perception of institutional compliance and program presence across sectors.

The overall median score of 4.00 may therefore give a misleading impression of comprehensive implementation, when in fact police Officers may be focusing on enforcement-related tasks and not deeply involved in community-based work, barangay Officials may recognize their role in awareness and referrals but feel less confident about survivor inclusion and cultural change initiatives, and residents, especially women at risk, may see the programs as less visible, less accessible, or less empowering than intended.

Ramiro et al. (2021) found that multi-sectoral programs are effective only when local leaders actively integrate women and youth voices, which often doesn't happen unless formalized.

Alampay and Ong (2020) argued that community perceptions often lag behind institutional reporting, especially when programs are implemented without strong community consultation.

Dizon (2020) emphasized that survivor-centered approaches and gender-transformative training remain underutilized in barangay and police-level implementation.

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Table 5.
Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Enforcement and Compliance with Protection Orders

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. A protection order, issued by the Punong Barangay or Barangay Kagawad, directs the offender to stop violent actions against family members, especially women and children, as per R.A. No. 9262.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
2. The order aims to protect the victim, reduce disruptions in their life, and empower them to regain independence.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
3. Law enforcement is tasked with implementing the protection order.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
4. The respondent is prohibited from committing or threatening violence, either personally or through others.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
5. The respondent is forbidden from harassing or communicating with the petitioner in any way.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
6. The respondent may be removed from the petitioner's residence, temporarily or permanently, depending on the circumstances.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
7. The respondent must maintain a court-specified distance from the petitioner, family members, and places they frequently visit.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
8. The petitioner may be granted access to personal belongings, with law enforcement ensuring their safe retrieval.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
9. Custody of children may be awarded to the petitioner, either temporarily or permanently.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
10. The respondent is required to provide financial support, with a portion of their income automatically remitted to the petitioner through their employer.	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI	4.00	FI
Overall Median	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**	**4.00**	**FI**

Significant Differences in the Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in Terms of the Identified Variables According to Group

The findings reveal statistically significant differences in how the three respondent groups (police officers, barangay officials, and residents) perceive the level of implementation of *R.A. 9262* across several key domains.

Each variable has a p-value < 0.05, which means that the differences in perceptions between groups are statistically significant. Therefore, there is no significant difference between and among the assessments of the three groups of respondents on the level of implementation of RA 9261 in terms of the above-cited variables.

Perceived level of effectiveness of RA 9262 in Terms of Identified Variables

This section presents the perceived level of effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of operational procedures in handling VAWC cases, programs and measures for the prevention and reduction of violence against women and their children, confidentiality safeguards in case handling, and enforcement and compliance with protection orders.

Operational Procedures in Handling VAWC Cases. The data presented in Table 6 reveals that all three respondent groups—police officers, barangay officials, and residents—perceived the operational procedures under R.A. 9262 as "Very Effective" (Overall Median = 4.00). Despite minor variations in a few indicators, the consistency of a median rating of 4.00 across all groups signals a strong collective belief in the procedural soundness of how the law is operationalized at the ground level.

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Table 6.
Perceived Level of Effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of Operational Procedures in Handling VAWC Cases

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Focus on the procedural and legal specifics involved in barangay summons and hearings.	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
2. Resolve local concerns before they escalate to the judicial level.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
3. Highlight the importance of personal service to uphold fairness and due process.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
4. Ensure that arrests of suspected criminals follow due process.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
5. Continuous dialogue and reform among legal experts, lawmakers, and stakeholders to ensure mechanisms protecting women and children from violence are effective in practice, not just in theory.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
6. Justice should be accessible, prompt, and fair, aligning with the law's aim to protect society's most vulnerable individuals.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
7. Disseminate information to barangay residents on how to properly handle Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) cases.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
8. Conduct seminars and provide information on the impact of violence on both residents and enforcement officers.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
9. Pass a resolution to establish a counseling committee or offer training/seminars for family accountability.	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
10. Educate barangay officials on RA 9262 through information dissemination.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
Overall Median	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**

Several previous studies have highlighted similar patterns. Ramiro et al. (2021) emphasized that procedural clarity is one of the strengths of RA 9262 implementation, particularly among institutional actors. However, they also cautioned that effectiveness measured by outputs (e.g., number of summonses issued) may not reflect the quality of outcomes (e.g., survivor satisfaction, safety).

DILG (2022) GAD Audit reported that LGUs and barangays are generally compliant with procedural mandates, such as holding barangay hearings and referring cases. However, implementation quality varies depending on local leadership, training access, and resource allocation.

Garcia and Melgar (2021) observed that while most barangays maintain a VAWC Desk and follow due process in referrals, public understanding and confidence in these procedures are often lacking—especially in lower-income or rural areas.

Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and Their Children. All three respondent groups—police officers, barangay officials, and residents—agreed that the programs and measures under R.A. 9262 aimed at the prevention and reduction of violence are generally "very effective." This broad consensus reflects a shared acknowledgment of both the intent and the design of these preventive efforts.

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Table 7.
Perceived Level of Effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of Programs and Measures for the Prevention and Reduction of Violence Against Women and their Children

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med		Med		Med	
1. Support and invest in organizations advocating for women's rights.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
2. Mobilizing women as catalysts for change has proven essential in combating violence.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
3. Successful prevention hinges on training that fosters behavioral change.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
4. Religious and traditional leaders are key players in preventing violence, as they influence cultural norms and can either promote or obstruct progress.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
5. Engage young people as change-makers to improve the effectiveness of prevention programs.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
6. Gender-based violence prevention initiatives must prioritize survivors, include them in the planning process, and address their specific needs.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
7. Comprehensive training and a shift in mindset are needed. Civil society organizations are crucial in driving these changes and linking communities to formal support systems.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
8. Survivor support services, such as shelters, hotlines, and counseling, must be recognized as essential services and readily available.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
9. Reflect on personal behaviors and beliefs to identify biases that perpetuate rape culture.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
10. Contribute to local organizations that empower women, elevate their voices, assist survivors, and promote inclusivity across all gender identities and sexual orientations.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
Overall Median	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**

In comparison with other research findings, Ramiro et al. (2021) emphasized that institutional actors often perceive programs as effective based on outputs, like the number of training sessions or campaigns.

However, residents—especially survivors—tend to evaluate success based on access, safety, and long-term change, which aligns with the residents' relatively lower ratings in Indicators 2, 8, and 9.

Garcia and Melgar (2021) noted a disconnection between formal programming and grassroots participation, particularly in smaller barangays. Many women are not active participants in program planning, reducing the ownership and cultural relevance of those programs.

DILG (2022) found inconsistency in the availability and quality of survivor support services across LGUs. This directly reflects the 3.00 rating by residents on the indicator about shelters and hotlines (Indicator 8).

Confidentiality Safeguards in Case Handling. The overall perception of the effectiveness of implementing confidentiality safeguards under RA 9262 is "Very Effective" across all three respondent groups as shown in Table 8: police officers, barangay officials, and residents.

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Table 8.
Perceived Level of Implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Confidentiality Safeguards in Case Handling

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Establish rules that restrict access or impose limitations on the use of specific types of information.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
2. Maintaining confidentiality by not disclosing information.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
3. Often enforced through confidentiality policies and agreements.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
4. An individual's obligation to avoid sharing confidential information unless explicit permission is granted by the concerned party.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
5. Ensuring personal information is protected from unauthorized access.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
6. Access is limited to authorized individuals only.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
7. Provides victims with a sense of security within the community and helps prevent various internal and external issues.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
8. Significant breaches of confidentiality can result in legal consequences, disciplinary measures, or even criminal charges.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
9. Dispose of sensitive materials properly, such as shredding documents with cross-cut shredders or securely destroying outdated computer hardware.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
10. Use encryption for highly sensitive data and protect access with passwords to ensure restricted information is secure.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE
Overall Median	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**

Garcia and Melgar (2021) noted a disconnection between formal programming and grassroots participation, particularly in smaller barangays. Many women are not active participants in program planning, reducing the ownership and cultural relevance of those programs.

DILG (2022) found inconsistency in the availability and quality of survivor support services across LGUs. This directly reflects the 3.00 rating by residents on the indicator about shelters and hotlines (Indicator 8).

PCW-IACVAWC (2024) emphasized the need for a mindset shift at the household and community level to truly reduce VAWC. The findings here echo that concern—especially with residents' lower confidence in changing rape culture and biases (Indicator 9).

Confidentiality Safeguards in Case Handling. The overall perception of the effectiveness of implementing confidentiality safeguards under RA 9262 is "Very Effective" across all three respondent groups, as shown in Table 9: police officers, barangay officials, and residents.

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Table 9.
Perceived Level of Effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of Enforcement and Compliance with Protection Orders

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. A protection order, issued by the Punong Barangay or Barangay Kagawad, directs the offender to stop violent actions against family members, especially women and children, as per R.A. No. 9262.	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
2. The order aims to protect the victim, reduce disruptions in their life, and empower them to regain independence.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
3. Law enforcement is tasked with implementing the protection order.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
4. The respondent is prohibited from committing or threatening violence, either personally or through others.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
5. The respondent is forbidden from harassing or communicating with the petitioner in any way.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
6. The respondent may be removed from the petitioner's residence, temporarily or permanently, depending on the circumstances.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
7. The respondent must maintain a court-specified distance from the petitioner, family members, and places they frequently visit.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
8. The petitioner may be granted access to personal belongings, with law enforcement ensuring their safe retrieval.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
9. Custody of children may be awarded to the petitioner, either temporarily or permanently.	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
10. The respondent is required to provide financial support, with a portion of their income automatically remitted to the petitioner through their employer.	4.00	VE	3.00	E	4.00	VE	4.00	VE
Overall Median	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**	**4.00**	**VE**

Significant Differences in the Perceived Level of Effectiveness of Implementing RA 9262 According to Group

The findings presented indicate that there are statistically significant differences in how different respondent groups perceive the level of implementation of R.A. 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act) across all four key variables.

Since all p-values are less than 0.05, the null hypothesis (Ho)—which states that there is no significant difference between the groups—is rejected for all variables. This implies meaningful differences in perception exist among different respondent groups (e.g., police, barangay officials, and residents).

Significant Relationship Between the Perceived Level of Implementation and the Perceived Level of Effectiveness

The statistical test results reveal a correlation coefficient of 0.6028 between the perceived level of implementation and the perceived level of effectiveness of RA 9262, with a p-value of .00001. Since the p-value is significantly less than the critical value of 0.05, the null hypothesis (Ho) is rejected, indicating that the relationship is statistically significant. The correlation value of 0.6028 denotes a moderate to strong positive correlation. This suggests that as the perceived implementation of RA 9262 improves, the perceived effectiveness of the law also increases, and vice versa. This implies that stakeholders' confidence in the law's impact is closely tied to how well they observe its procedures being implemented—particularly in areas such as enforcement of protection orders, case handling, confidentiality, and community support.

Perceived Impact of the Components of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders

Upholding Order in Society. Table 10 reveals a strong overall consensus among Police Officers, Barangay Officials, and Residents that the components of the Criminal Justice System significantly impact female offenders in terms of maintaining social order. The overall median rating of 4.00, interpreted as "Strongly Agree (SA)", reflects a unified belief that the institutions involved—particularly the police and community representatives—play a crucial role in ensuring justice and stability, especially as it pertains to female offenders.

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As shown in the table, all the ten indicators received median scores of 4.00, indicating a high level of agreement on the system's contribution to crime prevention, due process, conflict resolution, and restorative justice.

The results also emphasize the importance of equipping law enforcement and local officials with gender-sensitive training and communication skills to enhance their impact on vulnerable groups, including women in conflict with the law.

In comparison, the findings are consistent with the results of Buenaventura and Ramos (2021), who reported that local enforcement units and barangay justice mechanisms are viewed as central in crime deterrence, but still face challenges in restorative justice practices, especially for marginalized female offenders.

Similarly, Castillo and Dela Cruz (2020) found that while the police are generally perceived as reliable enforcers of law, their effectiveness in promoting healing, trust, and conflict transformation—especially among women offenders—is often hindered by a lack of training in trauma-informed approaches.

Moreover, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, 2019) emphasized that upholding social order requires integrating restorative and rehabilitative functions into criminal justice operations, particularly in community-based systems like those in the Philippines. This matches the lower scores from residents on dialogue and reconciliation-related indicators.

Table 10.

Perceived Impact of the Components of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders in terms of Upholding Order in Society

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Contribute to crime prevention.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
2. Authority to uphold laws, regulations, and norms essential for maintaining social order.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
3. Conduct impartial investigations into criminal incidents.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	SA	4.00	SA
4. Ensure arrests of suspected offenders are carried out with respect for due process.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
5. Facilitate conflict resolution.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	SA	4.00	SA
6. Work on establishing trust.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
7. Seek areas of mutual agreement.	3.00	A	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
8. Foster environments for forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	SA	4.00	SA
9. Enhance listening and communication abilities.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	SA	4.00	SA
10. Acquire methods for initiating productive dialogue.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	SA	4.00	SA
Overall Median	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**

Protecting Citizens. The findings present a mixed yet insightful perspective on how the Criminal Justice System (CJS) is perceived in terms of protecting human rights, especially for female offenders. The varying median responses indicate that while the system is generally seen in a positive light, perceptions differ significantly across key community stakeholders. The findings imply that institutional trust and awareness vary, whereas the barangay officials' relatively lower scores may reflect limited training, unclear mandates, or lack of direct involvement in human rights-oriented initiatives, compared to police and community members. This implies a need for capacity-building and clarification of roles.

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Table 11.

Perceived Impact of the Components of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders in terms of Protecting Citizens

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Overcome barriers to fully achieve human rights.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
2. Protect human rights by enforcing rules within communities or barangays.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
3. Establish minimum human rights standards for every barangay to strive for.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	3.00	A	3.00	A
4. Collect unbiased, verifiable data to evaluate if these standards are being met and track progress in human rights fulfillment.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
5. Collaborate on solutions to address issues identified through monitoring, ensuring human rights are respected and protected.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
6. Prevent torture by allowing access to detention facilities.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
7. Accountability plays a crucial role in preventing future human rights violations.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
8. Maintain civilian oversight of military and security forces.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
9. Ensure fairness, impartiality, and due process in legal proceedings.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	3.00	A	3.00	A
10. Promote systems for preventing, monitoring, and resolving social conflicts.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
Overall Median	**3.50**	**SA**	**3.00**	**A**	**4.00**	**SA**	**3.00**	**A**

In comparison with other findings, Lopez and Mercado (2021) found that law enforcement agencies in Metro Manila generally acknowledge their human rights responsibilities but noted inconsistent understanding among local government units.

Lopez and Delos Reyes (2021) emphasized that effective human rights enforcement depends on the combined efforts of national and local actors. Barangay-level gaps, as reflected in this study, highlight the "last mile" problem in rights protection.

De Chavez and Almonte (2020) emphasized that public trust in the justice system tends to be aspirational rather than experiential—echoed by the contrast between residents' optimism and barangay officials' reservations.

Moreover, Rodriguez and Santos (2020) found that residents' trust in law enforcement increases when community-based policing is emphasized, supporting the strong agreement from the resident group in this study.

Upholding Laws in the Community. The overall median rating of 4.00 (Strongly Agree) across police officers, barangay officials, and residents indicates a unified and strong perception that the criminal justice system (CJS) effectively upholds laws in the community, particularly in the context of female offenders. All stakeholder groups consistently affirm that the system plays a vital role in ensuring public safety, enforcing laws, and supporting coordinated law enforcement and justice efforts.

ISSN (Online): 2455-3662
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Volume: 12| Issue: 1| January2026|| Journal DOI: 10.36713/epra2013 || SJIF Impact Factor 2025: 8.691 || ISI Value: 1.188

Table 12.
Perceived Impact of the Components of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders in terms of Upholding Laws in the Community

Indicators	Police Officers		Brgy Officials		Residents		Overall	
	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI	Med	VI
1. Guarantee public safety.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
2. Enforce laws and maintain order within the community.	4.00	SA	3.00	A	3.00	A	3.50	SA
3. Take responsibility for crime prevention and investigation.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
4. Provide services such as traffic control, crime prevention, investigations, and public safety measures.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	3.00	A	4.00	SA
5. Participate in counterterrorism efforts and ensure peace and order during national emergencies.	3.00	A	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
6. Support the prosecution of crimes by offering forensic and laboratory services to aid investigations.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.00	A
7. Prevent smuggling and ensure proper customs duties and tax collection.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
8. Oversee the movement of goods at community borders, inspect shipments, and apprehend individuals involved in illegal trading.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
9. Actively combat illegal drug activities in the community.	3.00	A	3.00	A	4.00	SA	3.50	SA
10. Improve efficiency and impact through shared resources, information, and expertise among agencies.	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA	4.00	SA
Overall Median	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**	**4.00**	**SA**

The consistent responses reflect inter-institutional alignment, suggesting that policies on law enforcement are not only well understood but also implemented with visible effectiveness at different levels (national and barangay).

Comparing the findings with other research, Lopez and Delos Reyes (2021) assert that effective criminal justice responses require local implementation backed by national-level guidance, which is validated by the strong ratings across both barangay and police sectors in this study.

Significant Differences in the Perceived Impact of the Components of the Criminal Justice System on Female Offenders According to Group

Upholding Order in Society. The perception of how the CJS upholds order in society significantly differs across the three groups. With an F-value of 20.07506 and a p-value far below 0.05, the result indicates that police officers, barangay officials, and residents do not share the same level of confidence or belief in how the CJS maintains social order—pointing to varying understandings of or experiences with CJS operations.

Protecting Citizens. The p-value (0.084892) for this component is greater than 0.05, indicating no significant difference in how the groups perceive the CJS's role in protecting citizens. This may imply a general consensus across stakeholders that the justice system does provide a baseline level of protection.

Upholding Laws in the Community. Similarly, the component on upholding laws yielded a non-significant result ($p = 0.210809$), which suggests a shared perception among the three groups regarding the law enforcement and legal compliance functions of the system.

The findings imply perceptual gaps in social order enforcement, consensus in protection and law enforcement, and policy and training focus.

The significant difference in perceptions regarding the upholding of order may reflect varying levels of exposure, expectations, or

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Volume: 12| Issue: 1| January2026|| Journal DOI: 10.36713/epra2013 || SJIF Impact Factor 2025: 8.691 || ISI Value: 1.188

trust in how public order is maintained. Police officers may see themselves as primary agents of order, while residents may judge effectiveness based on their lived experiences, and barangay officials may base it on community-level dynamics.

The non-significant results in "protecting citizens" and "upholding laws" indicate a shared understanding or belief in these functions across the groups. This could reflect successful awareness campaigns, policy implementation, or community policing efforts that resonate across stakeholder groups.

Since perceptions differ only in social order, targeted interventions—such as joint barangay-police training, community dialogues, and feedback mechanisms—should be implemented to harmonize understanding of public order maintenance, especially in communities with high rates of female offending.

In comparison, Bernales and Ramirez (2020) found similar gaps between law enforcers and community stakeholders regarding perceptions of maintaining peace and order. They suggested that role visibility and media portrayal significantly affect how groups evaluate law enforcement effectiveness.

The Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City

The qualitative responses of eight police officers and five barangay officials reveal several challenges that hinder the effective implementation of Republic Act No. 9262, or the *Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act*, at the barangay level.

Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 According to the Police Officers. From these accounts, four key themes emerged: victim non-cooperation and retraction of complaints, low public awareness and community misconceptions, institutional limitations and interagency coordination issues, and gaps in law enforcement capacity and training.

Theme 1: Victim Non-Cooperation and Retraction of Complaints. Victim non-cooperation emerged as a major barrier to the effective implementation of RA 9262, particularly through the frequent retraction of complaints. Police officers consistently reported that victims withdraw cases due to fear of retaliation, shame, family pressure, and financial dependence on the abuser. Cultural expectations to preserve family unity and avoid public exposure further discourage victims from pursuing legal action. The absence of long-term support systems—such as shelters, psychosocial services, legal aid, and livelihood opportunities—often forces women to choose short-term security over legal justice. This pattern reflects not merely individual reluctance but a broader systemic failure to provide survivor-centered protection that enables sustained cooperation with law enforcement.

Theme 2: Low Public Awareness and Community Misconceptions. Low public awareness and persistent misconceptions about domestic violence significantly hinder RA 9262 enforcement at the community level. Many residents continue to view domestic abuse as a private family matter rather than a public crime, resulting in underreporting, delayed intervention, and community apathy. Cultural values such as *hiya*, *pakikisama*, and male dominance normalize abusive behavior and discourage victims from seeking help. Studies cited in the narrative confirm that many community members remain unaware that non-physical forms of abuse—such as psychological and economic violence—are punishable under the law. These misconceptions highlight the urgent need for sustained, culturally sensitive education campaigns to transform community attitudes and strengthen collective responsibility in addressing violence against women.

Theme 3: Institutional Limitations and Interagency Coordination Issues. Institutional weaknesses and poor interagency coordination further undermine the implementation of RA 9262. Police officers reported logistical constraints, including inadequate transportation, lack of safe shelters, and insufficient legal resources, which delay response and compromise victim protection. Coordination with barangay officials is often problematic, especially when perpetrators possess political or social influence, leading to informal settlements or inaction despite legal mandates. Fragmented collaboration among the PNP, barangay councils, DSWD, and legal institutions results in inconsistent enforcement, weak referral systems, and limited accountability. These challenges underscore the need for clear standard operating procedures, strengthened inter-agency partnerships, and safeguards against political interference.

Theme 4: Gaps in Law Enforcement Capability and Training. Gaps in law enforcement capacity and training were identified as critical operational challenges. Not all police personnel are adequately trained in RA 9262 procedures or gender-sensitive, trauma-informed approaches, resulting in procedural delays, improper case handling, and diminished victim trust. Delays in issuing and monitoring protection orders further weaken the law's protective mechanisms. Officers also noted that false or exaggerated reports, while relatively few, complicate investigations and affect public confidence in legitimate cases. These findings point to the need for continuous training, standardized guidelines, supervision, and adequate resource support to ensure that frontline responders are fully equipped to enforce RA 9262 effectively.

Overall Thematic Synthesis. Collectively, the four themes reveal that the implementation of RA 9262 in Barangay Novaliches Proper is shaped by interconnected individual, community, and institutional factors. Victim vulnerability, limited public awareness, institutional inefficiencies, and law enforcement capacity gaps converge to weaken the law's protective intent. Addressing these challenges requires a holistic,

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multi-sectoral approach that combines survivor-centered support services, community education, strengthened interagency coordination, and sustained capacity-building for law enforcers. Only through such integrated efforts can RA 9262 be effectively enforced and its goal of protecting and empowering women and their children be fully realized.

Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 According to the Barangay Officials

Based on the analysis of the barangay officials' statements, the following three emerging themes can be identified, each reflecting the recurring challenges in the implementation of RA 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act) at the barangay level: Victim Reluctance and Underreporting Due to Fear, Shame, and Economic Dependence; Institutional and Operational Limitations in Case Handling and Victim Support; and Gaps in Legal Knowledge and Public Awareness of RA 9262.

Theme 1: Victim Reluctance and Underreporting Due to Fear, Shame, and Economic Dependence. Victim reluctance and underreporting remain critical barriers to the effective implementation of Republic Act No. 9262 (Anti-VAWC Act of 2004). Barangay officials reported that many women hesitate to file or pursue complaints despite repeated abuse due to fear of retaliation, shame, family pressure, and economic dependence on the abuser. Statements from participants revealed that victims often forgive or withdraw complaints for the sake of their children or due to the lack of alternative sources of livelihood. Fear is further intensified when perpetrators have social, political, or familial influence, creating intimidation not only for victims but also for responding officials.

Shame and societal stigma, particularly in close-knit communities, discourage women from disclosing abuse, while traditional gender norms reinforce silence and endurance. Economic dependence plays a decisive role, as women prioritize family survival over legal action and personal safety. These conditions lead to underreporting, which distorts official data, limits the visibility of domestic violence cases, and weakens the basis for planning interventions and allocating resources. Moreover, the lack of follow-through may embolden perpetrators and compromise victim safety, while frontline responders face pressure to disregard or mishandle cases.

These findings are consistent with prior studies. Martinez (2020) and Dayaganon et al. (2019) found that financial insecurity and family considerations are primary reasons victims retract complaints. Similarly, the Philippine Commission on Women (2021) and UN Women (2018) emphasized that economic dependence and cultural norms are among the strongest deterrents to reporting abuse. The results highlight the urgent need for survivor-centered protection systems, including shelters, legal assistance, psychosocial support, and livelihood programs, to enable victims to seek justice without fear of economic or social repercussions.

Theme 2: Institutional and Operational Limitations in Case Handling and Victim Support. The second theme highlights the institutional and operational constraints faced by barangay officials in implementing RA 9262. Participants identified inadequate funding, lack of private and secure spaces, limited access to legal and psychosocial services, and delayed interagency responses as major obstacles to effective case handling. The absence of confidential interview rooms compromises victim privacy and discourages disclosure, while insufficient logistical and financial resources restrict follow-up actions and referrals.

Interagency coordination challenges further undermine responsiveness, as delays from social welfare offices or law enforcement agencies slow down interventions and weaken protection mechanisms. These limitations reveal a gap between the legal mandates of RA 9262 and the actual capacity of barangay-level institutions to carry out their responsibilities. As a result, victims may experience inconsistent or delayed services, leading to dissatisfaction, disengagement, or withdrawal of complaints.

The findings align with Panagsagan (2021), who reported the lack of women-friendly spaces in barangays, and with the UP Center for Women's and Gender Studies (2020), which noted insufficient budget allocation for VAW desks and interagency coordination. Similarly, Soriano and Ortega (2018) and UNFPA Philippines (2022) emphasized that weak coordination and the absence of survivor-centered systems compromise the quality of GBV response. Strengthening institutional capacity, improving infrastructure, and ensuring seamless interagency collaboration are therefore essential to improving RA 9262 implementation at the barangay level.

Theme 3: Gaps in Legal Knowledge and Public Awareness of RA 9262. The third theme underscores significant gaps in legal knowledge among barangay officials and limited public awareness of RA 9262, particularly regarding non-physical forms of abuse such as psychological, verbal, and economic violence. Although general awareness of the law exists, both implementers and community members often lack functional understanding of its specific provisions, including the issuance and enforcement of Protection Orders.

Barangay officials admitted that not all personnel have received adequate training on RA 9262 procedures, resulting in difficulties in case documentation, evidence assessment, and the proper handling of psychological or verbal abuse cases. Community members, on the other hand, frequently fail to recognize non-physical abuse as punishable, leading to delayed reporting or complete inaction. The lack of physical evidence further complicates enforcement, increasing the likelihood that cases are downplayed or misclassified.

These findings are consistent with national studies showing low legal literacy at the grassroots level. Garcia and Alampay (2020)

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and David et al. (2021) found uneven training among barangay officials, while PCW (2019) reported that only a small proportion of women could correctly identify all forms of violence covered under RA 9262. UN Women (2022) emphasized that strengthening legal literacy and rights awareness is crucial to empowering victims and improving reporting and enforcement.

Overall, these gaps result in underutilization of legal remedies, procedural lapses in Protection Orders, and missed opportunities for early intervention. Continuous training for barangay officials and sustained community education campaigns are therefore necessary to ensure that RA 9262 is properly understood, implemented, and maximized as a protective legal framework.

Conclusions

From the findings, the following are concluded:

The consistent perception of full implementation across all respondent groups indicates that the provisions of R.A. 9262 are largely in place and operational at the community level, particularly in Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City. This reflects institutional commitment to addressing violence against women and their children.

Despite the overall perception of successful implementation, the presence of significant differences suggests varying experiences and levels of awareness among stakeholders. This highlights the need for more synchronized and inclusive efforts in implementing RA 9262.

The high level of perceived effectiveness underscores the functional impact of RA 9262 in protecting women and children. It suggests that current practices and mechanisms are generally successful in achieving the law's intended outcomes.

These differences indicate that while RA 9262 may be effective overall, the experience of its implementation is not uniform. Different sectors may face unique barriers or have varying expectations that influence how effectiveness is perceived.

This relationship affirms that improved implementation is likely to result in greater effectiveness. It implies that strengthening the operational aspects of RA 9262 can enhance its protective impact on women and children.

This strong consensus reflects confidence in the justice system's role in safeguarding women's rights and maintaining societal order, reinforcing the legitimacy of criminal justice interventions under RA 9262.

While there is general agreement on the justice system's protective and legal functions, the perceived ability of the system to maintain order varies, possibly due to differing levels of exposure to enforcement practices or community conditions.

Both perspectives reveal systemic and social barriers that hinder the full realization of RA 9262's objectives. These insights point to the need for targeted interventions such as public education campaigns, capacity-building for responders, and strengthened interagency coordination to address identified challenges.

Recommendations

Based on the findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations are forwarded:

1. Strengthen interagency coordination and operational protocols by establishing a Barangay VAWC Coordinating Council involving police, barangay officials, social workers, and NGOs to ensure streamlined case handling, monitoring, and referral processes and creating standardized operating procedures (SOPs) for all frontliners to harmonize their response and understanding of the law.

2. Conduct regular capacity-building and gender-sensitivity training by implementing mandatory training on RA 9262, gender-based violence, trauma-informed care, and victim-sensitive approaches for police officers, barangay officials, and Lupon Tagapamayapa; and include refresher courses every year to update personnel on legal changes and best practices.

3. Intensify public information and advocacy campaigns by launching barangay-wide information drives through forums, leaflets, radio plugs, and social media to educate the public on the rights of women and children under RA 9262 and using local dialects and testimonials to ensure better understanding and relatability among residents.

4. Strengthen victim support systems by providing access to psychosocial services, temporary shelter, and livelihood support to empower victims and reduce dependence on abusers; and assign trained barangay VAWC desk officers or case managers to handle each case confidentially and provide continuous follow-up.

5. Improve enforcement and monitoring of protection orders by utilizing a barangay-level database to track issued Barangay Protection Orders (BPOs) and ensure timely follow-up and compliance checks and coordinating with the Philippine National Police Women and Children Protection Desk (PNP-WCPD) for high-risk cases requiring sustained protection.

6. Address institutional and logistical constraints by lobbying for increased budget allocation for VAWC desks and victim support activities and ensuring that each barangay has a designated private space for handling VAWC cases and interviews with victims.

7. Promote Research and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) by encouraging periodic evaluation of RA 9262 implementation at the local level through surveys, FGDs, and performance reviews and utilizing data to refine programs, identify best practices, and institutionalize improvements.

8. Strengthen community involvement and empowerment by engaging community leaders, youth, and civil society organizations in anti-VAWC advocacy and watch programs and forming VAWC support groups or peer networks where survivors and volunteers can share experiences, provide guidance, and encourage reporting.

9. Adoption of the proposed Strategic Action Plan: Implementation of RA 9262 and Strategic Action Plan:

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Addressing Challenges in RA 9262 Implementation at the Barangay Level.

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Research Instrument

Part 1: PERSONAL DATA

Please check if:

____ Police officer
____ Barangay official
____ Resident

PART II. Assessments on the Level of Implementation of R.A. 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City

Please check the level of implementation of RA 9262 in terms of Operational Procedure in Handling Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC cases), Elimination of Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children, Confidentiality, and Violation of a Barangay Protection Order, using the following descriptions:

4 Fully Implemented (FI)
3 Implemented (I)
2 Less Implemented (LI)
1 Not Implemented (NI)

A. Operational Procedure in Handling VAWC Cases

INDICATORS	4 FI	3 I	2 LI	1 NI
1. Focus on the procedural and legal specifics involved in barangay summons and hearings.				
2. Resolve local concerns before they escalate to the judicial level.				
3. Highlight the importance of personal service to uphold fairness and due process.				
4. Ensure that arrests of suspected criminals follow due process.				
5. Continuous dialogue and reform among legal experts, lawmakers, and stakeholders to ensure mechanisms protecting women and children from violence are effective in practice, not just in theory.				
6. Justice should be accessible, prompt, and fair, aligning with the law's aim to protect society's most vulnerable individuals.				
7. Disseminate information to barangay residents on how to properly handle Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) cases.				
8. Conduct seminars and provide information on the impact of violence on both residents and enforcement officers.				
9. Pass a resolution to establish a counseling committee or offer training/ seminars for family accountability.				
10. Educate barangay officials on RA 9262 through information dissemination.				

B. Elimination of Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC)

INDICATORS	4 FI	3 I	2 LI	1 NI
1. Support and invest in organizations advocating for women's rights.				
2. Mobilizing women as catalysts for change has proven essential in combating violence.				
3. Successful prevention hinges on training that fosters behavioral change.				
4. Religious and traditional leaders are key players in preventing violence, as they influence cultural norms and can either promote or obstruct progress.				
5. Engage young people as change-makers to improve the effectiveness of prevention programs.				
6. Gender-based violence prevention initiatives must prioritize survivors, include them in the planning process, and address their specific needs.				
7. Comprehensive training and a shift in mindset are needed. Civil society organizations are crucial in driving these changes and linking communities to formal support systems.				
8. Survivor support services, such as shelters, hotlines, and counseling, must be recognized as essential services and readily available.				
9. Reflect on personal behaviors and beliefs to identify biases that perpetuate rape culture.				
10. Contribute to local organizations that empower women, elevate their voices, assist survivors, and promote inclusivity across all gender identities and sexual orientations.				

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C. Confidentiality

INDICATORS	4 FI	3 I	2 LI	1 NI
1. Establish rules that restrict access or impose limitations on the use of specific types of information.				
2. Maintaining confidentiality by not disclosing information.				
3. Often enforced through confidentiality policies and agreements.				
4. An individual's obligation to avoid sharing confidential information unless explicit permission is granted by the concerned party.				
5. Ensuring personal information is protected from unauthorized access.				
6. Access is limited to authorized individuals only.				
7. Provides victims with a sense of security within the community and helps prevent various internal and external issues.				
8. Significant breaches of confidentiality can result in legal consequences, disciplinary measures, or even criminal charges.				
9. Dispose of sensitive materials properly, such as shredding documents with cross-cut shredders or securely destroying outdated computer hardware.				
10. Use encryption for highly sensitive data and protect access with passwords to ensure restricted information is secure.				

D. Violation of a Barangay Protection Order

INDICATORS	4 FI	3 I	2 LI	1 NI
1. A protection order, issued by the Punong Barangay or Barangay Kagawad, directs the offender to stop violent actions against family members, especially women and children, as per R.A. No. 9262.				
2. The order aims to protect the victim, reduce disruptions in their life, and empower them to regain independence.				
3. Law enforcement is tasked with implementing the protection order.				
4. The respondent is prohibited from committing or threatening violence, either personally or through others.				
5. The respondent is forbidden from harassing or communicating with the petitioner in any way.				
6. The respondent may be removed from the petitioner's residence, temporarily or permanently, depending on the circumstances.				
7. The respondent must maintain a court-specified distance from the petitioner, family members, and places they frequently visit.				
8. The petitioner may be granted access to personal belongings, with law enforcement ensuring their safe retrieval.				
9. Custody of children may be awarded to the petitioner, either temporarily or permanently.				
10. The respondent is required to provide financial support, with a portion of their income automatically remitted to the petitioner through their employer.				

PART III. Assessments on the Level of Effectiveness of R.A. 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City

Please check the level of effectiveness of RA 9262 in terms of Operational Procedure in Handling Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC cases), Elimination of Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children, Confidentiality, and Violation of a Barangay Protection Order, using the following descriptions:

4 Very Effective (VE)
3 Effective (E)
2 Less Effective (LE)
1 Not Effective (NE)

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A. Operational Procedure in Handling VAWC Cases

INDICATORS	4 VE	3 E	2 LE	1 NE
1. Focus on the procedural and legal specifics involved in barangay summons and hearings.				
2. Resolve local concerns before they escalate to the judicial level.				
3. Highlight the importance of personal service to uphold fairness and due process.				
4. Ensure that arrests of suspected criminals follow due process.				
5. Continuous dialogue and reform among legal experts, lawmakers, and stakeholders to ensure mechanisms protecting women and children from violence are effective in practice, not just in theory.				
6. Justice should be accessible, prompt, and fair, aligning with the law's aim to protect society's most vulnerable individuals.				
7. Disseminate information to barangay residents on how to properly handle Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) cases.				
8. Conduct seminars and provide information on the impact of violence on both residents and enforcement officers.				
9. Pass a resolution to establish a counseling committee or offer training/seminars for family accountability.				
10. Educate barangay officials on RA 9262 through information dissemination.				

B. Elimination of Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children (VAWC)

INDICATORS	4 VE	3 E	2 LE	1 NE
1. Support and invest in organizations advocating for women's rights.				
2. Mobilizing women as catalysts for change has proven essential in combating violence.				
3. Successful prevention hinges on training that fosters behavioral change.				
4. Religious and traditional leaders are key players in preventing violence, as they influence cultural norms and can either promote or obstruct progress.				
5. Engage young people as change-makers to improve the effectiveness of prevention programs.				
6. Gender-based violence prevention initiatives must prioritize survivors, include them in the planning process, and address their specific needs.				
7. Comprehensive training and a shift in mindset are needed. Civil society organizations are crucial in driving these changes and linking communities to formal support systems.				
8. Survivor support services, such as shelters, hotlines, and counseling, must be recognized as essential services and readily available.				
9. Reflect on personal behaviors and beliefs to identify biases that perpetuate rape culture.				
10. Contribute to local organizations that empower women, elevate their voices, assist survivors, and promote inclusivity across all gender identities and sexual orientations.				

C. Confidentiality

INDICATORS	4 VE	3 E	2 LE	1 NE
1. Establish rules that restrict access or impose limitations on the use of specific types of information.				
2. Maintaining confidentiality by not disclosing information.				
3. Often enforced through confidentiality policies and agreements.				
4. An individual's obligation to avoid sharing confidential information unless explicit permission is granted by the concerned party.				
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8. Significant breaches of confidentiality can result in legal consequences, disciplinary measures, or even criminal charges.				
9. Dispose of sensitive materials properly, such as shredding documents with cross-cut shredders or securely destroying outdated computer hardware.				
10. Use encryption for highly sensitive data and protect access with passwords to ensure restricted information is secure.				

D. Violation of a Barangay Protection Order

INDICATORS	4 VE	3 E	2 LE	1 NE
1. A protection order, issued by the Punong Barangay or Barangay Kagawad, directs the offender to stop violent actions against family members, especially women and children, as per R.A. No. 9262.				
2. The order aims to protect the victim, reduce disruptions in their life, and empower them to regain independence.				
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5. The respondent is forbidden from harassing or communicating with the petitioner in any way.				
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8. The petitioner may be granted access to personal belongings, with law enforcement ensuring their safe retrieval.				
9. Custody of children may be awarded to the petitioner, either temporarily or permanently.				
10. The respondent is required to provide financial support, with a portion of their income automatically remitted to the petitioner through their employer.				

Part IV. Assessment of the perceived impact of the components of the Criminal Justice System on female offenders

Please check your agreement on the factors that affect the components of the Criminal Justice System on female offenders in terms of upholding order in society, protecting citizens, and upholding laws in the community, using the following descriptions:

4 Strongly Agree (SA)
3 Agree (A)
2 Disagree (D)
1 Strongly Disagree (SD)

A. Upholding Order in Society by Law Enforcers

INDICATORS	4 SA	3 A	2 D	1 SD
1. Contribute to crime prevention.				
2. Authority to uphold laws, regulations, and norms essential for maintaining social order.				
3. Conduct impartial investigations into criminal incidents.				
4. Ensure arrests of suspected offenders are carried out with respect for due process.				
5. Facilitate conflict resolution.				
6. Work on establishing trust.				
7. Seek areas of mutual agreement.				
8. Foster environments for forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation.				
9. Enhance listening and communication abilities.				
10. Acquire methods for initiating productive dialogue.				

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B. Protecting Citizens by Law Enforcers

INDICATORS	4 SA	3 A	2 D	1 SD
1. Overcome barriers to fully achieve human rights.				
2. Protect human rights by enforcing rules within communities or barangays.				
3. Establish minimum human rights standards for every barangay to strive for.				
4. Collect unbiased, verifiable data to evaluate if these standards are being met and track progress in human rights fulfillment.				
5. Collaborate on solutions to address issues identified through monitoring, ensuring human rights are respected and protected.				
6. Prevent torture by allowing access to detention facilities.				
7. Accountability plays a crucial role in preventing future human rights violations.				
8. Maintain civilian oversight of military and security forces.				
9. Ensure fairness, impartiality, and due process in legal proceedings.				
10. Promote systems for preventing, monitoring, and resolving social conflicts.				

C. Upholding Laws in the Community by Law Enforcers

INDICATORS	4 SA	3 A	2 D	1 SD
1. Guarantee public safety.				
2. Enforce laws and maintain order within the community.				
3. Take responsibility for crime prevention and investigation.				
4. Provide services such as traffic control, crime prevention, investigations, and public safety measures.				
5. Participate in counterterrorism efforts and ensure peace and order during national emergencies.				
6. Support the prosecution of crimes by offering forensic and laboratory services to aid investigations.				
7. Prevent smuggling and ensure proper customs duties and tax collection.				
8. Oversee the movement of goods at community borders, inspect shipments, and apprehend individuals involved in illegal trading.				
9. Actively combat illegal drug activities in the community.				
10. Improve efficiency and impact through shared resources, information, and expertise among agencies.				

PART V. Challenges Encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City

1. As police officers, what are the challenges encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City?

2. As barangay officials, what are the challenges encountered in the Implementation of RA 9262 at Barangay Novaliches Proper, Quezon City?