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**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
FOR RESPONSIBLE VOTING (PPC-RV)**

ORGANIZING GUIDELINES IN THE PARISH COMMUNITY

**A COMMUNITY'S FAITH RESPONSE TO THE CALL FOR
CLEAN, PEACEFUL, AND MEANINGFUL ELECTIONS**

Prepared for PPC-RV by



SIMBAHANG UNGKOD NG BAYAN
Loyola House of Studies
Loyola Heights, Quezon City

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For more information contact:

PPC-RV National Office
Pius XII Center, 1175 United Nations Ave., Manila
Tel. Nos. 573806 to 09 (local 29)
Direct lines: 587557 and 502771

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BOTO KO, DANGAL KO, IPAGTATANGGOL KO.

INTRODUCTION: PPC-RV & THE 1992 ELECTIONS

OUTLINE

(The full text follows this outline.)

- A. PCP II as PPC-RV's inspiration.
 - B. PPC-RV as a living out by the laity of the Church's mission.
 - C. PPC-RV as a faith response.
 - D. The work for clean, peaceful, and meaningful elections is for us, the poor and the future generations.
 - E. What is best is action from below, from the community, to carry out the work effectively, and to transform our leaders.
- 1. Why are the coming elections important?**
- A. Elections are an important aspect of a democracy -- our democracy which was hard earned and in need of strengthening..
 - B. Quality involvement of an informed electorate is needed, so that the coming elections will be meaningful.

2. Why the emphasis on meaningful elections?

- A. Clean and peaceful elections refer to the conduct of the elections. These are necessary conditions.
- B. Must also be meaningful, and the common good is the basis of meaningful elections.
- C. Choices are to be made according to issues and platforms, and thus to go beyond the politics of personalities and patronage. (A vision of the common good guides the formulation of platforms.)

3. Why should I get involved?

- A. Not to get involved is to betray our people's hopes and aspirations and the coming generations.
- B. To attain a strong democracy, the common good, a nation rebuilt and a society transformed, one's personal commitment to make meaningful one's and others' choices in the elections is needed.

4. What does my own Christian faith say about this involvement?

- A. The three (3) pastoral letters of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) on the elections urge the faithful to be actively involved.
- B. The Church's non-partisan involvement:
 - i. form an informed electorate
 - ii. establish conditions that will allow free choice
 - iii. organize to safeguard the ballot
- C. Involvement as a faith response guided by Gospel values and rooted in the mission of the Church.

5. How can I get involved?

- A. Organize a PPC-RV unit in your area/parish.

6. How can the PPC-RV make the elections meaningful?

- A. Raising the awareness of the community regarding the elections as a means to nation-building and social transformation.
- B. Raising the awareness to the level of issues and platforms.
- C. Awareness leads to sound choices.
- D. The community, the PPC-RV unit, can help in raising the awareness and in making sound choices.
- E. Prevent the use of the 3G's.
- F. Transform the candidates.

7. What is the role of community members in PPC-RV if they are already active in non-partisan voters' education programs or partisan groups?

- A. If non-partisan, can help formulate the PPC-RV unit's education program.
- B. If non-partisan, can help network with other groups.
- C. If partisan, not totally exclude from PPC-RV activities, since he/she is still a member of the community.
- D. HOWEVER, caution must be taken to make sure that the PPC-RV unit is not used for partisan ends.

8. Assuming we organize our parish community into a PPC-RV unit, will this really make an impact on the national level?

- A. Having clean, peaceful and meaningful elections in your area is already an achievement in itself.
- B. Linking up all the PPC-RV units will create greater impact. Therefore, networking or linking up is very important for impact -- in union there is strength.
- C. Solidarity even after the elections.

FULL TEXT

The Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (PCP II) states that **"in the Philippines today, given the general perception that politics has become an obstacle to integral development, the urgent necessity is for the lay faithful to participate more actively, with singular competence and integrity, in political affairs."** From this inspiration, the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPC-RV) was born. The PPC-RV, in a certain sense, was conceived during the PCP II sessions.

In faith, we believe that a council, such as PCP II, is a special movement of the Spirit in the life of the Church, giving renewed life to the community of the faithful. This renewed life is the spirit behind the PPC-RV, with the laity rediscovering its role in the Church's mission in our country.

Many have asked: Is the Church meddling in politics? To this PPC-RV has this to say, using the words of the late Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, **"The mission of the Church is to enter the history of a people and to transform that history into into salvation history."** (Refer also to number 4 below.)

PPC-RV is a living out by the laity of the Church's mission. We are coming to a pivotal point in our nation's history, with the coming elections serving as an opportunity to bring our people back to the road of recovery -- nation building and social transformation that, hopefully, will bring integral development to our society. PPC-RV therefore, involves itself in the work for clean, peaceful, and meaningful as a sharing in the Church's mission and as a faith response. It is this moment in the history of our people that PPC-RV enters and hopes to transform.

We cannot over estimate the value of the coming elections. Various groups all over the country have, in fact, taken on the responsibility of working for clean, peaceful, and meaningful elections. But more than the many groups working for this end, the involvement of the entire Filipino people is needed -- **and we, the faithful, are called to make a faith response.** For in the end, it is we and the future generations who will be affected by the choices made in the 1992 elections. Ultimately, we are voting not only for our sake, but also for the sake of our children and especially of our countrymen who are suffering from poverty.

The most effective action comes from below, when the people will organize themselves into communities -- at the parish or barangay level -- and push for lawful elections by guarding the sanctity of their ballots through pollwatching, canvass watching, and by discouraging the use of guns, goons, and gold. But more importantly, the community can raise the elections to a meaningful level by making the community aware of the relevant issues affecting the nation and then demanding that the candidates campaign based on issues and platforms.

We hope that communities will accept this challenge to work for a change in the leadership. Our leaders' authority lies in us, the people. If we can insist that our leaders address the relevant problems afflicting our nation, then we can transform our government into one that is genuinely pro-constitution, pro- people, pro-poor and pro-God -- a government that follows the rule of law, respects the dignity of each and every citizen, works for total development that will benefit the less privileged, and encourages, by the example it sets, the living out of one's faith, whether Christian or non-Christian.

Together, through our participation in the coming elections, we can build and transform our nation. **It is a participation which is not just an involvement among other involvements, but one that comes from the depths of our faith.** BOTO KO, DANGAL KO, IPAGTATANGGOL KO.

1. WHY ARE THE COMING ELECTIONS IMPORTANT?

Only through the electoral process can the great majority of our people participate in decision-making. The coming elections are crucial in the continuing process of strengthening our democracy and its institutions, a process begun many years back, culminating in 1986 when we earned a new lease on democratic life. Disappointments in the post-EDSA period and recent political developments threaten the very democracy that we so painstakingly fought for: a devastated economy, a people reeling from the effects of disasters (both natural and manmade), the ever-widening gap between the rich and poor, the return of pre- EDSA politicians. The more we delay addressing these problems, the greater the suffering of our people and the danger to our democracy.

Hence, the need -- more than ever -- for good leaders who will work for the common good, for nation-building and social transformation. But leaders are only as good as their followers: leaders who are genuinely pro-country, pro-democracy, pro-people, pro-poor and pro-God must be put into office by a citizenry which is pro-country, pro-democracy, pro-people, pro-poor and pro-God. This is the quality of involvement that we, the people, the electorate, are called to. This is the call to make the elections meaningful.

2. WHY THE EMPHASIS ON MEANINGFUL ELECTIONS?

Clean and peaceful elections refer to the conduct of the elections -- i.e., that they proceed according to the law and that there is no cheating, black propaganda, violence/coercion, corruption, etc. These are all desirable conditions necessary for free choice. Meaningful elections refer more to the quality of the choice and, consequently, to the quality of the results of the elections.

As mentioned earlier, elections allow the majority to take part in decision-making, and people should be free and well-informed to make sound choices, having in mind

the common good of the whole society. Therefore, truly meaningful elections are not achieved by the mere prevention of anomalies, but by the making of choices based on issues affecting society and, more importantly, on platforms which are integrated plans meant not only to address the said issues, but also to guide the nation according to a vision of the common good.

Meaningful elections constitute a big change from the usual politics of personalities and patronage which has marked previous elections. Elections that do not rise above personalities and patronage, without consideration of how issues are to be addressed and what platforms are to be used as bases of government, cannot be expected to be a realistic means towards nation building and social transformation. The country needs leaders with a clear and realistic vision of national development. Hence, we must choose them according to a critical and thorough appraisal of their program of government.

3. WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED?

To do otherwise is to betray our own dreams and aspirations for freedom and democracy. To remain indifferent is to betray future generations of Filipinos who will suffer most from the effects of our present problems. Our involvement must necessarily go beyond the bounds of personal needs and relationships. I must work with others for the common good of the entire nation. This is an imperative of our faith.

Do we really want a strong democracy where people become true partners in decision-making? Do we want to take part in decisions, in choices so that these are truly made for the common good? Do we really desire to build our nation, to transform our society for ourselves, and especially for those who are to come?

To attain all these requires a personal commitment to work, so that the coming elections will allow the greater majority to participate in the decision-making in society. It is this personal commitment that will make a difference in the coming elections -- a commitment to make meaningful not only your choice, but also the choices of others, choices which will contribute to nation building and social transformation.

4. WHAT DOES MY OWN CHRISTIAN FAITH SAY ABOUT THIS INVOLVEMENT?

The bishops, since their July 1991 pastoral letter, have constantly encouraged the faithful to get involved in the coming elections. In November, they came out with a second pastoral letter, setting general guidelines for choosing a candidate. The last CBCP meeting came out with a third pastoral letter which spells out more specific directions for the faithful to take with regard to the elections. All these are signs that we, as a community of the faithful, must get involved.

However, our involvement as Church must be non-partisan -- **helping form an informed electorate, working to establish conditions that will allow the exercise of free choice, and organizing to guard the ballot.** Furthermore, such an involvement in the socio-political sphere must be seen as a faith response; a faith response guided by Gospel values and rooted in the mission of the Church.

Guided by Gospel values, we will work primarily for the common good that will most especially benefit the less privileged in our society. We will use means that heal and unite, so that we, as a community, may work together for the common good. Nevertheless, we will also stand up against evil plots and actions with firm resolve, tempered only by charity and the offer of reconciliation.

Faithful to the mission of the Church, we call to mind the words of the late Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador: **The mission of the Church is to enter the history of a people and to transform this history into salvation history.** This clearly tells us that we do have to get involved in the events in our society. And are not the coming national and local elections one of the most crucial events in the recent history of our people? We, as Church, will get involved not to make history, but to transform it into salvation history -- **grounded in truth, guided by justice, realized in freedom, perfected in love -- a place where human dignity is respected, and peace, the fruit of justice, prevails.**

5. HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you are convinced that it is important to get involved, you can organize a PPC-RV UNIT in your area.

6. HOW CAN THE PPC-RV MAKE THE ELECTIONS MEANINGFUL?

One of the central elements in a PPC-RV program is a voters' education program. The heart of such a program is raising the awareness of the community regarding the value of the elections as a means to nation-building and social transformation, and the importance of dealing with relevant issues and concrete platforms. But the work goes beyond awareness.

The awareness must lead to a sound choice. The community and its members must learn more about, and discuss, issues and platforms. So when candidates come and campaign in an area, the people can encourage or politely demand that candidates focus on issues and platforms. This way, hopefully, the results of the elections will be based on well-informed choices.

It is also important to initiate activities to prevent the use of violence, intimidation, and corruption -- the 3G's: guns, goons, and gold. Safeguarding the sanctity of the ballot through pollwatching, canvass-watching, and other support activities remains a necessity.

If candidates see our collective determination and effort to make the coming elections clean, peaceful, and meaningful, chances are they will respond to what we are hoping and working for. It is even possible that candidates themselves may become convinced and work for the same ideal.

7. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE PPC-RV UNIT IF THEY ARE ALREADY ACTIVE IN NON-PARTISAN VOTERS' EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR PARTISAN GROUPS?

Those already active in groups with non-partisan voters' education programs can play an important role in formulating and implementing PPC-RV's own education program, since they will most likely already have some experience in this. They will also be helpful in networking and establishing links.

Regarding those already active in partisan groups, like political parties or groups advocating a cause or issue and endorsing a candidate who supports their cause or issue, they can still be members of your PPC-RV unit by the very fact that they are members of your community. We assume that even partisan individuals and/or groups desire clean, peaceful and meaningful elections.

However, it must be made clear that the PPC-RV is non-partisan. In other words, the PPC-RV unit must not be used by partisan members of your community to the advantage of their respective candidates. PPC-RV aims to influence choices, as already described above, but this does not mean endorsing a specific candidate or party.

8. ASSUMING WE ORGANIZE OUR COMMUNITY INTO A PPC-RV UNIT, WILL THIS REALLY MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL?

The mere fact that one community conducts clean, peaceful, and meaningful elections is an achievement in itself. However, we are also working for the creation of PPC-RV units all over the country. We are particularly concerned about reaching depressed areas in urban centers and the rural areas where a great majority of our fellow Filipinos live.

Furthermore, we also hope that networking or linkages can be formed among all the PPC-RV units. This will be most helpful in carrying out common activities on higher levels, even on the national level, and thus create greater impact. This will also help encourage people to work with greater conviction, knowing that others are also working with them to attain the same goals.

In the final analysis, the impact will be long term if we succeed in creating numerous PPC-RV units and in networking or linking them. The solidarity created will not only influence the elections, but, hopefully, even the life of the nation after the elections. What greater impact can we aspire for than this -- majority of our people,

ordinary people, ordinary communities truly taking part in the decision-making process and thus influencing the course of our nation's future.

PART I: ORGANIZING IN THE PARISH

The following are suggested steps for organizing a PPC-RV unit in your parish. If there are other steps or structures which you feel are more helpful in your particular situation, please feel free to change or adapt the following suggested steps.

STEP 1 : The PPC-RV unit may be organized in the parishes of a diocese with the approval of the local ordinary (bishop).

STEP 2 : The Parish Pastoral Council, with the concurrence of the parish priest, may initiate the formation of a PPC- RV unit in the parish. The PPC-RV Diocesan Coordinating Council may also initiate the formation of a PPC-RV unit in a parish or parishes. In a parish where the pastoral council has not yet been organized, any organization/group recognized in the parish can act as conveyor with the concurrence of the parish priest.

STEP 3 : Invite other parish organizations/groups/sectors to join the PPC-RV unit.

STEP 4 : Form a coordinating team composed of representatives from the different organizations/groups/sectors involved in the parish's voters' education program. Suggested minimum number of members is ten (10).

STEP 5 : The coordinating team, with the concurrence of the parish priest, designates the PPC-RV coordinator and assistant coordinator from among its members. Ideally, the Parish Pastoral Council President acts as the PPC- RV coordinator except when this is not possible for some grave reason (e.g. he has direct/active partisan ties/involvement in the coming elections). A youth coordinator is also to be appointed to the coordinating team.

STEP 6 : The coordinating team chooses leaders for the following teams:

- a. Education and Linkages
- b. Special Events and Liturgical Services
- c. Ways and Means
- d. Monitoring & Election Day Preparations
- e. Publicity and Mobilization

Ideally, team leaders should be members of the coordinating team. However, they may also be chosen from non-members, but such team leaders automatically become members of the coordinating team.

General Functions of each Team:

A. EDUCATION AND LINKAGES

1. Schedule and prepare for workshops, fora, symposia, talks
2. Prepare education materials
3. Coordinate with other groups doing voter's ed for programs, resource personnel, education materials

B. SPECIAL EVENTS AND LITURGICAL SERVICES

1. Organize special events for the parish or specific parish groups designed to meet the local PPC-RV objectives (e.g., prayer rallies, masses, concerts)

C. WAYS AND MEANS

1. Financing for PPC-RV activities
2. Monitoring PPC-RV funds

D. MONITORING AND ELECTION DAY PREPARATIONS

1. Monitor conduct of campaign in your locality and regularly report to the coordinating team.
2. Organize groups for pollwatching, canvass-watching, and to guard against the use of the 3G's.
3. Coordinate with COMELEC, NAMFREL, etc.
4. Monitor parish pollwatching activities of PPC-RV and other groups in your area.

E. PUBLICITY AND MOBILIZATION

1. Promote parish activities, make posters, produce newsletter.
2. Publicize activities to parish and to others (e.g. TV, radio, newspapers).
3. Promote local PPC-RV, make T-shirts, pins, etc.
4. Recruit members to the various PPC-RV teams. (This though is the job of all members of the PPC- RV. NOTE THAT EACH OF THE TEN (10) MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATING TEAM ARE TO RECRUIT AT LEAST TEN (10) OTHER MEMBERS. THIS MEANS A MINIMUM OF ONE HUNDRED (100) RECRUITS. THESE RECRUITS, IN TURN, WILL GET TEN (10) NEW RECRUITS EACH. MINIMUM TARGET PER PPC-RV UNIT IS ONE THOUSAND (1,000) MEMBERS.)
5. Mobilize people to join special events, etc.

Note: The PPC-RV teams correspond to the WESTY committees of the parish.

PART II: PLANNING

STEP 7 : After the team leaders form their respective teams, they start gathering data, making an inventory of resources and needs in their respective areas of concern and responsibility.

STEP 8 : The coordinating team meets to hear and to discuss reports of all team leaders, and comes up with an over-all plan for the parish's voters' education program.

STEP 9: Coming up with the over-all plan for the PPC-RV unit -- SOME HELPFUL CONSIDERATIONS:

- A. Make a clear and realistic inventory of the parish's resources and needs. Include a listing of the number of voters and precincts in your parish.
- B. Always be conscious of maintaining your PPC-RV unit's non-partisan stance, both in your actual work and image projection. Keep in mind that PPC-RV must create an impact on the community as a vehicle for change, for renewal, and that its life and efficacy extend beyond the 1992 elections -- hence, PPC-RV has to be highly visible and at all times credible.
- C. Due to lack of time, with barely two and an half months before the elections, and due to "competition" for the voters' attention, with various political parties also campaigning, pay particular attention to:
 - i. Tapping groups and persons who will readily support and commit to your PPC-RV unit;
 - ii. Identifying areas or groups in most need of voter's education (i.e., areas or groups which are most probable victims of guns, goons and gold, and/or of politics of personalities and patronage).
- D. Your primary area of responsibility is your parish, although initiating the formation of PPC-RV units in other parishes, supporting other PPC-RV units, and initiating inter-parish activities are highly encouraged.

E. Make sure to set the following:

- i. Over-all objectives of your voter's education program based on:
 - (1) PPC-RV objectives as defined in the PPC-RV brochure
 - (2) your parish's needs
 - (3) your parish's resources
- ii. Activities which will help attain over-all objectives of your PPC-RV unit.
- iii. Specific objectives and corresponding activities for each committee based on the over-all objectives and activities.
- iv. Assignments: Each activity has a person and/or group in-charge, and tasks are specific.
- v. Schedule: With the May 11 election day as focus, activities are spread out well, with specific deadlines in the preparations.
- vi. Criteria or points for evaluating each activity.

Some sample activities a PPC-RV unit can conduct:

A. EDUCATION AND LINKAGES

1. Voters' Ed Workshops
2. Fora/Symposia (involving candidates for local positions) -- guidelines to organize these will be available before the start of the campaign period for the local elections
3. School Activities (see CEAP, PPC-RV, SLB booklet)

B. SPECIAL EVENTS

1. Masses
2. Prayer Rallies
3. Candle/Prayer Vigils
4. Living Rosary
5. Novenas
6. Fasting
7. Rallies
8. Contests (see CEAP, PPC-RV, SLB booklet)

C. WAYS & MEANS

1. Fund raising cake sale, concerts, plays, movies
2. Direct solicitation

D. MONITORING & ELECTION DAY

1. Poll/canvass watching recruitment and training
2. Forming support groups for poll/canvass watch -- e.g., food brigade, transportation, communications, legal aid, etc.
3. Forming a **monitoring mechanism** together with the COMELEC, PNP, AFP, other organizations and even the political parties. Such a mechanism will check on the conduct of the campaign, making sure there are no violations of the law -- paying particular attention to the use of the 3G's. **Separate guidelines will be issued about this monitoring mechanism once an agreement has been officially reached with the COMELEC and other agencies and/or groups concerned.** Take note though, that your PPC-RV unit should begin monitoring even before this monitoring **mechanism** is formalized with other groups. Be sure to do the proper documentation of incidents. Proper documentation is necessary, so that appropriate legal action may be taken.
4. Get candidates, COMELEC, AFP, PNP, other groups, and the citizenry to sign the covenant for clean, peaceful and meaningful elections (refer to appendix on the covenant). This can be done during a special rally organized for this purpose.
5. Updating your coordinating team of developments.

E. PUBLICITY & MOBILIZATION

1. Special parish newsletter for voters' education activities
2. Promotional activities to highlight PPC-RV unit's projects to parishioners/diocese
3. Publicize PPC-RV unit's activities in local radio stations and newspapers
4. T-shirts, posters, ads, jingles for Diocese

For more activities, please refer to **ACTION PLAN (Strategies)** under **THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR RESPONSIBLE VOTING (PPC-RV)** in the appendices.

PART III: NETWORKING

The following are suggested steps for networking. Again, these are suggestions, and if you feel there are more effective steps, please feel free to change or adapt. **What is important is for us to communicate to help maximize our nationwide efforts.**

STEP 10:The PPC-RV parish unit, once formed, links up with the PPC-RV Diocesan Coordinating Council. (The local bishop either designates the Diocesan Council of the Laity President or appoints another as the PPC-RV Diocesan Coordinator.)

STEP 11:The Diocesan Coordinating Council provides the PPC-RV national office a list of the PPC-RV units in its diocese, together with their plans, the schedule of activities, and a copy of any of the materials they will produce.

STEP 12:The PPC-RV national office will assist each unit in whatever way it can. Therefore, the clearer and more specific plans are, the better the national office can provide assistance. Each unit will be given complimentary copies of all printed PPC-RV materials.

STEP 13:Link-up specifically with religious communities, schools, and civic organizations in your area (see appendix for possible activities).

STEP 14:If there are other groups in your parish which are interested in working for clean, peaceful, and meaningful elections, it would be best to support and encourage.

If such groups are Catholic groups, then they can easily be included in the PPC-RV structure; if they are civic groups, they also can be part of the PPC-RV structure, if they so desire.

STEP 15:If there are other groups, particularly civic groups and other non-Catholic Church groups, which cannot easily be integrated into the PPC-RV structure, but are very willing to have a non-partisan voters' education program, the PPC-RV unit, without sacrificing its identity, must make an effort to establish not only links with such groups, but also some system of coordination and cooperation in areas where such are workable.

Please inform the national office of whatever changes, additions or adaptations you have made, so that these may be shared with other groups which might find them useful.

APPENDICES

SAMPLE TABLE

| | OBJECTIVES | EDUCATION | SPEC. PROJ/LIT. | PUBLIC. | MONITORING & ELECTION DAY |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Generate awareness & Christian involvement in the '92 elections | - workshops, fora, symposia, ed materials | - homilies | - spec. news letters, posters, t-shirts | - check areas/groups which have to be reached |
| 2. | Inject Christian motivation | " | - prayer session - recollection | " | |
| 3. | Organizing for anomaly prevention | - instructional talk, ed material - link with grps. COMELEC, NAMFREL, civic groups | | " | - monitor conduct of campaign, organize pollwatching and canvass-watching |

CRITERIA/POINTS FOR EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

A. ATTENDANCE

1. Quantitatively: Was the turn out or number of people who attended the activity consistent with your expectations?
2. Qualitatively: Were all sectors represented: youth, poor, etc.?

B. PARTICIPATION

1. Was there active participation or passive attendance?
2. Were people interested?
3. Did the activity meet the people "where they were at", i.e., discussed/touched relevant issues (for them)

C. RESULTS

1. Given positive feedback?
2. Desired results attained? e.g., people now want to get involved, or can now talk about issues people are now aware of the elections' importance, community feels positive, etc.
3. additional results

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR RESPONSIBLE VOTING (PPC-RV)

NATIONAL COVENANT AND STRUCTURE

A. NATURE

The PPC-RV is a non-partisan national association established for and committed to the education and formation of parishioners in the responsible exercise of the right to vote, based on and inspired by the principles of the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic church, motivated by love of God and country, and geared towards the promotion of true democracy, good government and the common welfare of the people.

B. OBJECTIVES

- 1) To initiate program of activities on the diocesan, inter-diocesan and inter-parish level aimed at generating awareness of, and Christian involvement in the 1992 election;
- 2) To inject and inculcate the necessary Christian motivation for voting wisely and responsibly, to provide fora for this and to produce the corresponding or appropriate educational materials;
- 3) To organize, network, coordinate and/or support groups engaged in the prevention of election anomalies so as to ensure that the free and correct expression of the people's will may be realized.

C. GROUPS TO BE GIVEN PRIORITY

- 1) Youth voters for they consist more than 50% of the voting population;
- 2) Grassroots for they are most vulnerable to foul and unscrupulous election practices; and the
- 3) New voters.

D. ACTION PLAN (Strategies)

- 1) Invite speakers and resource persons to discuss:
 - * the different aspects of the electoral process
 - * ways and means to prevent cheating on or before election day

-
- * Church's guidelines on the conduct of elections and selection of candidates
 - * morality of responsible voting
 - * other topics related to voters' education
- 2) Organize/sponsor rallies/meetings for all candidates, with media coverage where possible, to help in candidates' platform analysis and thus also help raise the level of the voters' political judgement:
 - 3) Organize seminars, training workshops and other gatherings to show educational films, distribute collateral materials, discuss election issues and the like:
 - 4) Receive, distribute, and display printed materials such as posters, brochures, leaflets, primers, manuals, catechisms, etc., and to integrate such materials in the formation ministry of the parish:
 - 5) Produce, reproduce chosen materials or defray cost of production, printing, reproduction of such materials and to circulate them to as many people as possible:
 - 6) Organize task forces to support/supplement the COMELEC's accredited citizens' arms especially in the recruitment of pollwatchers on election day:
 - 7) Encourage prayers and fasting for a clean, peaceful, and meaningful elections (e.g., special prayer said in every Mass, before the final blessing):
 - 8) Launch any of the above mentioned activities or a combination thereof, on the inter-diocesan and/or inter- parish level or in conjunction with other groups with similar aims.

E. NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

The National Federation of PPCRV to be known as PPCRV-National (as distinguished from Archdiocesan or Diocesan units which will be called "PPCRV-Manila" or "PPCRV-Vigan", as the case may be) will coordinate and network the functions, duties and programs of the various archdiocesan and diocesan PPCRVs.

There shall be a NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL (NCC) composed of at least one representative or coordinator from each archdiocesan or diocesan PPCRV. Aside from the diocesan representatives or coordinators, the NCC shall have the following officers: National Chairperson, National Vice- Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson for Luzon, Vice Chairperson for Visayas, Vice Chairperson for Mindanao, National Secretary, National Treasurer, Youth Coordinator, consultants and such

other officers as may be deemed necessary. From the hierarchy, there shall be the following: National Honorary Chairpersons and Spiritual Advisers.

Unless otherwise changed, the officers of PPC-RV-National are:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Honorary Chairpersons: | His Eminence Jaime Cardinal L. Sin His Eminence Ricardo Cardinal J. Vidal |
| National Chairperson: | Mrs. Henrietta T. de Villa |
| National Vice Chairperson: | Atty Artemio V. Panganiban |
| Vice Chairperson, Luzon: | Mrs. Rosario D.Silva |
| Vice Chairman, Visayas: | Dr. Rose P. Alfafara |
| Vice Chairman, Mindanao: | Atty Arsenio L. Gonzales, Jr. |
| National Secretary: | Ms. Imelda Sarmiento |
| National Treasurer: | Mr. Ernesto Escaler |
| Consultants: | Dr. Jose V. Abueva Mr. Antonio de los Reyes Msgr. Bayani G. Valenzuela Bro. Carmelo A. Caluag, S.J. |
| Spiritual Advisers: | His Excellency Bishop Carmelo Morelos His Excellency Archbishop Leonardo Legaspi His Excellency Archbishop Orlando Quevedo His Excellency Bishop Teodoro Bacani His Excellency Bishop Angel Lagdameo |

F. ARCHDIOCESAN/DIOCESAN ORGANIZATION

1. Each Archdiocesan or Diocesan PPCRV shall have an Archdiocesan (or diocesan) Coordinating Team (ACT/DCT) composed of the local ordinary as Honorary Chairman and the following to be chosen by the local ordinary in consultation with the local Council of the Laity: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, District/Parish Coordinators, Youth Coordinators, Organizations Coordinator and Spiritual Adviser(s).

Functions of ACT or DCT:

- * to serve as coordinating body and clearing house in the implementation of the objectives of the association;
- * to produce, procure and distribute educational materials to the districts;
- * to raise funds to support the voters education program;
- * to call an archdiocesan general assembly, composed of 3 representatives from each parish, as the need arises.

2. DISTRICT COORDINATING TEAM

**DISTRICT COORDINATOR
SECRETARY
TREASURER**

ADVISER: District Bishop

**MEMBERS: Vicarial Coordinators
Youth Vicarial Coordinators**

FUNCTIONS:

- * To coordinate, supervise, monitor activities within the district:**
- * to directly supervise the youth organization of the district, its activities and mandate:**
- * to liaise between the Archdiocesan/Diocesan Coordinating Team and the Vicar-Parochial Teams.**

3. VICARIAL LEVEL

**VICARIAL COORDINATOR
SECRETARY
TREASURER**

ADVISER: Vicar Forane

**MEMBERS: Parish Coordinators
Youth Parish Coordinator**

4. PARISH LEVEL

**PARISH COORDINATOR
SECRETARY
TREASURER**

ADVISER: Parish Priest

**MEMBERS: Members of the Parish Pastoral Council
Youth Members of the Parish Pastoral Council
Concerned Citizens**

Function: the implementation of those activities deemed in the pursuance of the objectives of program.

Note: Organization in all levels may include heads of various teams which the coordinating team may deem necessary to form; refer to STEP 6 above for examples of such teams.

PANALANGIN PARA SA PAGBOTO

Ama, Ikaw ang Panginoon ng aming buhay at kasaysayan.
Sa pamamagitan ng aming pagboto, ipinagkaloob Mo sa amin
Ang kakayahang pumili ng mga ninanais Mong mamuno sa amin.

Sandali na lamang bago namin muling gamitin
ang aming banal na karapatang bumoto.
Ipagkaloob Mo ang biyaya upang pumili kami nang mabuti
ng mga taong makapagkakatiwalaan
sa tungkuling maglingkod sa aming bayan.
Marapatin Mong pumili kami ng mga taong
may kabutihan, katapatan, at kakayahang maglingkod,
hindi para sa sarili kundi para sa kapwa.
Marapatin Mong pumili kami ng mga taong nagmamahal sa mahihirap
at nagtataguyod sa kapakanan ng lahat
at maaaring gumabay sa amin tungo sa pagkakaisa
at pag-unlad ng aming bayan.

Ipagkaloob Mo sa amin ang tapang at lakas upang mapagwagian
ang mga gumagamit ng baril, banta at bayaran sa halalan.
Marapatin Mong maging tapat kami at hindi magbenta ng aming boto.
Pag-isahin Mo kami upang sama-sama kaming magwagi sa kasamaan.
Hadlangan Mo ang lahat ng may masasamang balak sa halalan.
Ipakita Mo ang iyong kapangyarihan
at huwag silang pahintulatang magwagi.

Tulutan Mong maging mapayapa at maayos ang darating na halalan.
Nawa'y magpakita rin ito na kami nga ay mararangal na taong
naninindigan para sa katarungan at katotohanan.

Kaisa ni Maria, hinihiling namin ang mga ito
sa pamamagitan ni Kristong aming Panginoon. AMEN.



BOTO KO, DANGAL KO, IPAGLALABAN KO!