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# Church has last word in the Philippines

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[http://www.philippinesprivatetours.com/images/Quiapo\\_church.jpg](http://www.philippinesprivatetours.com/images/Quiapo_church.jpg)

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By William Sparrow

BANGKOK - The Philippines' Department of Education (DepEd) is aggressively trying to push through a sex education plan for high school students, despite the protests and lobbying of the Catholic Church, which seeks to muzzle educators from presenting what it considers to be "immoral" information.

The Catholic Church's centuries-old doctrine, created by a bunch of celibate priests, on sex only for procreation leaves many people ignorant about sexual health. This is the sad reality.

Taking away people's right to protect themselves, and their right to education and to responsibly manage their sex lives is certainly taking away some of their humanity.

The Catholic church views condom use as promoting adultery and pre-marital sex, and church leaders believe that sex is meant solely for procreation, In this context, using of condoms - even for HIV/AIDS prevention - becomes an immoral, sinful act.

The government's bending to the policies of the church is a key force that is setting back reproductive and sexual health in the country," said Rhodora Roy-Raterta, executive director of the Family Planning Organization of the Philippines, at a 2005 conference.

In 2005, Arroyo told the UN General Assembly to "respect the deep Catholicism of the Filipino people" and said that natural family planning is more effective than artificial means like condoms. Her statements prompted outrage from activists and non-governmental organizations.

the roman catholic church endorses "only natural family planning"  
that is the rythm method which does not fit in or not suited to all women

in my POV- the Roman Catholic Church is one causative factor  
for the Philippines' population explosion!  
:angry:

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