



## *Razor's Edge*

By  
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### *Sex Bill Stirs A Hornets' Nest*

**NEW YORK, July 25, (PinoyGlobal)-** I would like to begin on a subject quite unrelated to the riveting issue I intend to discuss with you shortly. Hence, with the indulgence of our devoted and respected readers, may I start on a sad note of conveying my heartfelt condolence to Manuel "Manny" Mercader, my brother, and his children Maria Carla and Atty. Manuel A. Mercader, on the passing of his wife Gladys Celeste Mercader last Sunday.

Gladys was a piano virtuoso who was with the American Balley all her professional life and that was quite a bit going with the dance troop practically around the world a hundred times over. Her classic records are now treasured possessions.

Gladys was a graduate of Asumption and went to Sto. Tomas University for her advance course in music. She took postgraduate at Mannes School of Music in New York. To say that she was great is an understatement.

I can very well empathize with Manoling because only 8 months ago my sweet Inday Liuva left me totally devastated. The vivid memories we

shared together with our children, mangles my heart to this day. I believe the searing pain within of her journey to the *Great Beyond* will continue 'till I catch up with her in the not too distant future. What consoles me during these agonizing moments is the thought that Inday Liuva is now with God in Heaven together with Gladys, my parents, sisters and brothers.

Once more, condolence Manoling and to your children.

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### *Hornets' Nest*

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Isn't it pathetic that some Filipino lawmakers are still laboring on the quandary of believing or not that there is such a thing as Church vote? Well there is, dumb dodos!

The dilemma of our politicians, stems from the avoidance of calling the Church votes Catholic votes out of fear, perhaps, of antagonizing other religious denominations and sects that are catalogued by their colors to gain political clout. It is also partly the fault of Catholic constituents who take things for granted by voting without emphasizing that they are voting as Catholics for a candidate, while other religious

followers stand solid behind their church in manifesting their votes. Additionally, the election results hardly indicate the percentage of Catholic voters who elect a winning candidate, especially a president.

There are those who openly defy the Church on moral issues while others are full of trepidation on questions where the Church stamps its foot. This ambivalence freeze insecure solons from taking sides on the controversial issue of population explosion.

The raging uproar in the country today where the Church is asserting its turf on moral values is the offshoot of the controversial bill proposed by Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman on “Reproductive health”, which countenances abortion and other measures that stymie population growth – a stand that daringly defies vehement Church opposition. Confronting the Church is a no-no for politicians in a country that is 85% Catholic: the act alone tantamount to political hara kiri, no ifs about it.

King Henry VIII dared the Holy See because he choked the people to support him. But look what happened to that perverted bastard wife murderer, he died in the most excruciating manner with syphilis. Less than having his barbaric temper and power, no one will survive politically fighting the Church in our country. Perhaps if you have the solid support of the Iglesia votes, maybe you could surmount the odds, otherwise your political aspiration is kaput, fini, adieu, goodbye, sayonara!

This poignant reality was encountered by then Sen. Juan Flavio Velasco who admitted landing only on the 6<sup>th</sup> place in the 1995 elections instead of topping in the polls as consensus predicted given his phenomenal

popularity at the time because he antagonized the Church. On a sober note he said that what foiled his expectation of topping the senatorial list was because earlier as secretary of health he campaigned on the catchy propaganda of “No-nonsense campaign on responsible parenthood, safe-sex practices and use of contraceptive devices.” He felt the consequence of his bold proposals during the campaign when he perceived the insidious but subtle undermining of the Church that culminated in scooping chunks of his votes away from him, as Catholics constituents toed the Church line.

Ex-congresswoman Imee Marcos herself had a similar experience in which the fallout of the Church ire avalanced on her proposed bill “granting equal rights and privileges to homosexuals and expanding the reproductive rights of women.” After that it was downhill consigned to the archives.

Fidel Ramos, whose presidency was lackluster as it was characterized with junketing and corruption galore, has the chutzpa of lampooning Pres. Arroyo on the controversial population explosion issue. He should be the last person to make an opinion on the subject when during his incumbency as president he did nothing not only on the problem of population growth but on a myriad other fundamental matters, which he as president was called upon to decide. What a sham, nay a fraud of a man to question Ms Arroyo who with all her faults at least she is Christian and follows the morals of the Church.

It is this monumental hypocrisy of politicians like Fidel Ramos that erodes my respect for public officials. In plain language, Fidel is the reason for my cynical view and repugnance to his kind in and out of the government. Particularly because he is corrupt and most if not all public officials elected and or

**appointed are enmeshed in corruption and scandals now and before.**

**I have a stacked answer to questions about who are crooks. My answer is the rhetorical question: Show me a senator, congressman, governor, mayor and even a president in the Philippines and I will show you a crook. The reason is quite obvious unless one plays deaf, mute, dumb and blind, because to get elected you need hundreds of millions and for president billions.**

**Now where in thunders did get their humongous war chest for campaign expenses? From kickbacks for anomalous contracts, overpricing of projects, Customs, BIR and tong money from other bureaus? tell me. If you can argue with unmitigated cogency that they earned that money from their genius, which mammal is nonexistent in the Philippines, where then did they get their campaign funds?**

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