



Press Release
National Parliament
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National Parliament approves resolution on preventative measures in cases of infanticide and the neglect of babies and children

JSMP applauds these recommendations and requests for entities to implement these recommendations

JSMP applauds the initiative and good will of the National Parliament, because on Wednesday 28 October 2020, through an extraordinary plenary meeting, it approved draft Resolution No. 59/V(3a) on recommendations* to the Government to adopt preventative measures in cases on infanticide and the neglect of babies and children.

“JSMP applauds the initiative of the national parliament to approve this resolution to call attention to all entities, including the Government, judicial institutions, parents, families and churches, to take preventative measures that can reduce the rise of cases involving infanticide and the neglect of babies and children, through the measures recommended in this resolution,” said the Executive Director of JSMP, Ms. Ana Paula Marçal.

JSMP also wholeheartedly applauds the Vice-President of the National Parliament, Ms. Maria Angelina Lopes Sarmento, who used JSMP data in the plenary as a reference point for members of the national parliament to approve this resolution.

There were 271 cases of family neglect (2015-2020), 21 cases of infanticide (2018-2020) and 34 cases of incest (2018-2020).

To date many JSMP reports have made recommendations for the Public Prosecution Service and the courts to consider and apply sentences aimed at protecting women. This means that in such cases not only women should be charged, but rather it is necessary to investigate other perpetrators linked to such cases. In addition, JSMP also recommends for the State to establish conditions for women who have unplanned pregnancies, because they are also victims of the irresponsible actions of men.

* These recommendations are published in the State Gazette, <http://www.mj.gov.tl/jornal/> under the heading of Resolutions of the National Parliament

The crime of infanticide is a serious crime; therefore it is necessary to have appropriate mechanisms to prevent the crime of infanticide and save the lives of babies during childbirth or after childbirth. This protection requires the collaboration of all entities, namely the Government, Society, and especially the family, to prevent such crimes.

There are many cases of child neglect, and both the criminal law and the civil law allow for mothers or fathers to be held responsible for neglecting their children.

This draft resolution was approved with 38 votes in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, from a total of 38 MPs who were present.

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