



June 10, 2020

The Editor
The Manila Times Publishing Corporation
2/F Sitio Grande Building
409 A. Soriano Avenue Intramuros, Manila

Reference: **Do The NTC and ISPs Enable Online Sexual Exploitation of Children?**

Dear Editor,

We write in response to the abovementioned article written by Fr. Shay Cullen, published in the Manila Times on May 29, 2020. We specifically note the allegations made in the article as follows, *"These companies (ISPs) are violating Philippine law by not blocking child pornography and allowing live streaming of child sexual abuse."*

We wish to clarify that since the passage of Republic Act 9775 took effect in 2009, we have been actively supporting government efforts to combat online child pornography. As a matter of fact, Globe was able to block a total of 2,521 sites that have been identified by law enforcement agencies or endorsed by the National Telecommunications Commission for blocking.

In the past, Globe would do manual blocking of sites but this process proved to be quite tedious. Hence in 2017, we invested in a DNS software filtering system that costs USD 2.7 million to support our "PlayItRight" campaign targeting illegal/pirated content and online child pornography.

Among others, RA 9775 requires, "all ISPs shall install available technology, program or software to ensure that access to or transmittal of any form of child pornography will be blocked or filtered." By investing and installing the DNS software system, Globe is fully compliant with the law.

We wish to clarify further that the installation of the filter software does not guarantee the total absence of child pornography on the internet. The obvious reason is that like any illegal activity, the purveyors of these activities simply build alternate websites, URLs, or dynamic IP addresses that they change as fast as ISPs block them. Even worse, these illicit activities use various popular social media platforms that are readily accessible and shareable to others, but impossible to block.

Child pornography is a reprehensible crime that should rightfully be curtailed by the government because of the evils it brings about. Globe for its part will do all it can within the ambit of the law to help protect our children from falling victims to this crime.

Sincerely,

Yoly C. Crisanto
Senior Vice President
Corporate Communications
Globe Telecom, Inc.