



## **SYSTEMS PLUS COLLEGE FOUNDATION**

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**For Immediate Release: (PR#2015-02) Tuesday, June 9, 2015**

### **U.S. International Social Work Must Embrace Forsaken Amerasians as '*Cause Célèbre*' ICBTS Institute Conference at Harvard University Medical School Urged**

**BOSTON, Massachusetts, USA** - Abandoned and disowned Filipino Amerasians, of which there are an estimated 250,000 + first and second generation alive today in the Philippines, should be adopted by the International U.S. Social Work profession as a special "*cause célèbre*." That was the trust of a joint research paper presented here today at the ICBTS Institute International Social Sciences and Education Research Conference - 2015 conducted at Harvard Medical School, 25 Shattuck St., Boston, Massachusetts. As it did in the past for noble albeit highly stigmatized causes, the National Association of Social Work (NASW), along with the Council on Social Work Education, are well suited candidates to spearhead the crusade. "The social work profession and the NASW empathized with and are long-time promoters of oppressed and valiant causes including women's suffrage and equity, civil rights, the feminine perspective, children's rights, elder and geriatric care, battered women, STD/HIV/AIDS public education and more recently the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) human rights phenomenon."

The advocacy paper contended, "the time is transparently at hand for a new genre of social workers to emerge to champion the cause of forgotten military Amerasian blood progeny in the Philippines. In the transformative tradition of those who earlier created new options and opportunities for those who were disenfranchised, international social workers have the potential to revitalize and support the empowerment of individuals by developing or engaging networks to support healthy human development, mental health treatment services, and community support for economic development. On its face it would appear that the U.S. social work profession, both from a generalist and clinical social work perspective, would be ideally if not uniquely configured to deal with the socioeconomic and psychosocial crisis experienced by military Filipino Amerasians today." International social workers are also well suited to work with Filipino Amerasians because of their extensive experience dealing with refugee, immigrant and displaced person populations whose social problems are related to Amerasians.

The joint Philippine Amerasian Research Center (PARC) and Amerasian Research Network, Limited (ARN, Ltd.) paper was presented by Dr. P.C. "Pete" Kutschera, PARC Director and ARN, Ltd. Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Marie A. Caputi, PhD, Contributing Faculty from Walden University, Minneapolis, MN and Phil M. Kutschera, MSW, LMSW, a clinical mental health therapist practicing at Samaritan Hospital, Troy, New York and an ARN, Ltd. Research Officer. The paper will be posted shortly on the ARN, Ltd. home page URL link: <http://www.amerasianresearch.org/causecelebre>.

**# 2015-02**