#### 1: Philippines' Duterte Promises to Kill His Own Son If Drug Rumors True

Feb 02, · A version of this article appears in print on, on Page A5 of the New York edition with the headline: Philippine Police Resume War on Drugs, Killing Dozens in Two Months.

He was elected in a landslide victory on an election platform that was largely focused on the end of criminality in the country which he claimed was rooted in the proliferation of the drug trade. During his election campaign, he promised more of the same except on a much wider national scale. Whether these people are guilty or innocent will never be known, as they were never given the benfit of defending their innocence in a court of law. Putting aside the whole question of human rights for a possible future article, I felt a desire to share my humble opinions, for the little they would influence the events as they are currently unfolding. I started using the most common drug of all, alcohol, at an early age. It immediately gave me something by removing my inhibitions, shyness and insecurity. It made me feel great and help me feel like I belonged. Everybody seemed to be doing it and the more you had, did and shared, the more people wanted to party with you. Celebrities were doing it and upbeat songs were making it sound exciting. To be absolutely clear, I NEVER started drinking or doing drugs to become an addict or alcoholic and had NO clue that one day my use would turn into a nightmare. None of us addicts or alcoholics ever do. I lied, cheated and stole, and traumatized any person I came into contact with. My binges lasted weeks at a time, and when I finally came out of my blackouts, only because I could not get any more, I was usually in jail, hospital, detox, or simply lying somewhere in a ditch by the side of the road. I lost everything including family, friends, business, but worst of all I lost all self pride and hope. After several days or sometimes weeks, I was usually able to clean myself up, put my life back in some semblance of order but then the pain of the nightmares would fade and I would pick up that first drink or drug again, though knowing full well that I was doomed to repeat the same hell all over again one more time. That, I have come to learn, is the definition of insanity. I have no doubt in mind today that my drinking and drug us was just that. So is addiction simply a weakness of moral character? Once a person with that gene uses enough of an addictive substance or behavior such as gambling, a certain switch is flicked in that gene and whenever that person uses a drug, their brain produces enormous amounts of a chemical that cause such an immense craving for more. That craving is so intense very few people can resist it. Once an addict or alcoholic, always an addict or alcoholic. The disease however can be treated and that treatment in itself is simple lol not necessarily easy though. Alcohol may take years while something like Methamphetamine shabu, cocaine or opiates may take only days, weeks or months. Can an addict or alcoholic ever stop using and live a normal, happy and productive life? The answer to that, and I am living proof is, yes. However an addict very rarely recovers unless it is he himself that wants to recover and is willing to do all the very hard work it takes to recover. Family, friends, doctors, government, police, courts or society in general have had little success forcing addicts to recover. The recovery starts from within if and only if the addict himself is willing. Only once an addict is willing can he start the long, hard and painful process of recovery. Only then can outside forces be of help. Recovery from addiction is basically broken down into two distinct components. The physical side means total abstinence from drugs and the psychological side is dealing with the reasons an addict picks up that first drink or drug. An addict who does not understand and deal with the reasons for picking up, almost always pick up again and then the physical component of the disease kicks in. I pulled many people into that hell and terrorized them. Though I believe i am a good person, I did despicable things to boith myself and others. In the full throes of my addiction nightmare, there were many times I prayed to die. I never had the courage to end my own life, but almost on a daily basis I wished and prayed for some one to do it for me. I hazily remember my last night drinking, standing in the middle of a downtown Ottawa street, facing off against a dozens cops, daring them to put a bullet in my head to save myself and everyone around me from one more minute of misery. Instead of killing me, those cops saved me. Those cops were real heroes in my mind, and they took a chance on some one who had run out of of all rights to ask for another chance. They allowed me to live. The chance they took on me could have been wasted though had it not been for the help that was available to me once I finally came to that stage that I was willing to accept the help. I

was fortunate to be in Canada, where there were the resources in place to give me the help I needed and wanted. I went through treatment and never once was I coddled. They made it clear that they were not there as a shoulder to cry on. I had a disease and if I wanted to get better, it was me and only me who was responsible for doing the work to achieve it. It was made very clear to me that once off drugs and alcohol, it was my choice to be a recovering alcoholic and drug addict, or go back to the pain and misery I had been rescued from. I chose a better life. As I said earlier, there is NO CURE for addiction only a respite from its effects, and thast respite continues through constant hard work. Today though I wake up drug and alcohol free. I experience joy in my life, and I think I bring some small amount of joy to others. I am a productive member of society who loves myself and others and who is surrounded by people who love me. It is difficult to watch. It brings back many ugly memories of the nightmares I experienced and I vividly recall those times when I myself wished for death to free me from my hell. It was a time when I believed I deserved to die, and it was a time that I could never envision the life I live today. Once I am able to clear my mind of those ugly images of my own nightmare, and start thinking about the most recent dead addicts lying in blood on the street, I wonder if they had been given the same chance that I was given, would they have gone on to live a life similar to the one I now have? Probably not, but I feel I would be wasting the wonderful gift I have been given if I did not say this one last closing thing. To any of you who are there ready to pull the trigger on a despicable drug addict, or any of you out there egging them on thinking it is the only way, think of me and the life I have because some heroes gave me the chance to live and change. Knowing addiction as intimately as I do, I know that if you chose to to give a chance instead of taking a life, in most cases your compassion will not be rewarded. Most addicts will squander the chance you give them. But,, if you save only one life that ends up like mine, you will forever be be a hero! Which one do you want to be? Some references which might be helpful when thinking about the Philippines war on drugs.

### 2: Los Angeles Times - We are currently unavailable in your region

Philippines' 'War on Drugs' Since taking office on June 30, , Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has carried out a "war on drugs" that has led to the deaths of over 12,

He has said he personally killed suspected criminals as a city mayor. He has told detained drug suspects: Such provocations are inevitably followed by supporters insisting that he is exaggerating or joking. The campaign has left 4, people dead even on official statistics, and 12, dead according to human rights groups, almost all from the urban poor. In the first year alone, 54 children were killed. Though campaigners say the pace of killing has slowed, it also seems to have shifted away from the capital, Manila â€" and so away from attention. Yet Filipinos knew what they were getting when they voted for Mr Duterte in He has systematically dismantled the checks and balances that might have constrained him, or at least prompted some voters to think again. Senator Leila de Lima, who dared to open an investigation into the killings, was smeared and seized on highly dubious drugs charges. She is still in custody. This week another critic, Antonio Trillanes, was arrested after an amnesty granted to him was revoked. Government threats, restrictions and an army of trolls have muted the media, despite the courage of individuals. Civil society, too, is suffering. This makes external pressure all the more crucial. Mr Duterte has given two fingers to critics. When the US halted the sale of assault rifles, Russia stepped in. The admiration of Donald Trump has increased his ability to play the US and China off against each other. And though China and the Philippines have their own disputes â€" notably over the South China Sea â€" Japan has cosied up whenever it senses the Manila-Beijing relationship might be cooling. But the international criminal court has opened a preliminary examination of the killings. There is growing support among members of the UN human rights council for an investigation. Mr Duterte has reacted with defiance and threats. Yet those around him may not be as bullish as they contemplate their future. International pressure could yet have an impact. It must be exerted.

### 3: IN NUMBERS: The Philippines' 'war on drugs'

The "Philippine Drug War", or "War on Drugs", refers to the drug policy of the Philippine government under President Rodrigo Duterte, who assumed office on June 30,

The death toll is high but nobody seems to know the real numbers â€" not even the police, as a DW research shows. She faces the daunting responsibility of taking care of her two grandchildren while being jobless at the same time. On October 4, , two armed men in masks went inside the Fernandez home and pointed a gun at Wesley. They made him kneel as Andres tried to help. They responded by shooting at Andres first before killing Wesley. Kenneth was killed in a police undercover operation after allegedly fighting back on February 2, His family and neighbors claim the police forced them to leave their homes and get out of sight, and thereafter heard the gunshots. Marcelo was killed in a police operation inside their home on July 22, Her father was rounded up and taken by the police. His lifeless body was later found "salvaged" along a roadside. Prior to their death, the couple were taken from their house in Navotas by 10 men who introduced themselves as police. During their burial, she was stoic. The days after she had laid them to rest were different. Raffy Lerma Manila, Ana P. Santos Manila, Rodion Ebbighausen Orly Fernandez shuffled on the wooden bench and took his mobile phone out of his pocket. He squinted at its black and white screen and muttered, "No calls. The last call Fernandez got was around 9pm. July 2, it started. We would collect five to seven bodies starting around 2pm all the way until early morning. It has been almost two years since Rodrigo Duterte won the presidency and launched "Oplan Tokhang" Operation Knock and Plead to make good on his campaign promise to aggressively crackdown on illegal drugs. Do not be like me. And it kept Eusebio Funeral Homes very busy. Only two months ago, police killed 13 drug suspects and arrested some others in a hour-long drug raid in Bulacan, a province some 81 kilometers away from Manila. It was followed by another police raid in the same region with 13 people killed in April. With the media no longer called on to witness police operations or alerted to a crime scene, and limited access to police reports, the police now stand as the main and only source of information on the drug war. This magnifies the basic question that remains unanswered: How many have died in this drug war and why is there a lack of reliable data on the number of deaths? Human rights advocates and the families of those killed continue their quest for justice and are still demanding answers. Ronald dela Rosa, then PNP chief and long-time friend and ally of Duterte, trumpeted the success of the drug war and called critics "ingrates. That PR problem began with the death of a South Korean businessman who was kidnapped in October and later found to have been killed in police headquarters. In August the following year, CCTV footage showed year-old Kian delos Santos being led away to an alley by plainclothes policemen before he was killed. Media trying to document the killings Initially, the media acted as the main repository of numbers on the drug war. As of its last update, Rappler reported a total of 7, people killed in WarOnDrugs from July 1, until July 31, â€" in a combination of police operations and deaths under investigations or those killed by unknown masked assailants. Rappler confirmed that the report was based on statistics forwarded to the police beat reporters via Viber. It was never used before the drug war started," stressed Mendoza. Real Numbers campaign The government slammed the numbers as "fake news" and in May , the Presidential Communications Operations Office PCOO launched the Real Numbers campaign to correct "misleading numbers from human rights organizations and the media. To each his own Human rights groups, the media and the police all seem to have their own tally of how many have died in a combination of police operations and vigilante killings related to the drug campaign. They have been difficult because of the "climate of fear" among families of victims and their communities. Solicitor General Jose Calida, a Duterte ally, had earlier refused to hand over the documents saying that they "contain sensitive information that have national security implications. The president is our boss," Bulalacao said. Drilling down the numbers In an attempt to find out what we really know about the number of people getting killed in the Philippines, DW probed the available police statistics on homicide and murder by checking the Bantay Krimen website and vetting official numbers with the PNP Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management DIDM. This was the first try to establish a reliable baseline to be able to make statements about violent deaths and,

particularly, the drug war in the country. A complainant goes to the police station to report an incident and file a blotter report. An officer will input the details of the blotter reports in an e-blotter database. Bantay Krimen maps the information from the e-blotter reports and breaks them down by area and crime classification. The result was surprising: The region Southeast Asia has an average murder rate of 2. Bantay Krimen before the update of April 10, When presented with these numbers, Santillian emphasized that Bantay Krimen, although a data repository, is not used as an official source. The DIDM numbers match the numbers from the statistical yearbook of the Philippines more or less for the period from to, but it deviates massively from the numbers of Bantay Krimen. During the meeting with DW, Castillo and his staff could not initially explain why the numbers from their internal data management systems and Bantay Krimen did not match, even though they draw from the same source: Comparing figures from PNP and Bantay Krimen per region Later, they came back to DW to explain that the numbers in Bantay Krimen are bloated because these included attempted and frustrated homicides. Castillo said that the PNP is working on ways to improve its data collection and standardize classification protocols. Our numbers are based on empirical data and are complete and truthful. It is correct most of the time, though some discrepancies may arise. The same applies for the timeframe. The statistics are usually not based on an annual timeframe which makes it hard to compare data and to identify trends. The data made available by the Philippines is confusing on two levels: They lack accuracy in terms of facts and context. Secondly, arbitrarily changing classifications for unexplained deaths as pointed out by Rappler and PCIJ and different time frames which they are measured make it difficult to compare the numbers and establish trends or inferences. Even as the government tries to present its RealNumbersPH campaign as true and accurate, this DW research shows that loose PNP internal data management protocols distort data processing and compilation. The very source of numbers is flawed. With vetting and cross checking of data hampered by restricted access to police reports and crime scenes where witnesses and family members may be interviewed, the police are now in a position to be the singular source of information on the drug war. The most basic question still remains unanswered:

#### 4: Philippines' War on Drugs - CNN

View CNN's latest coverage on the war on drugs in the Philippines.

Extrajudicial killings and forced disappearances in the Philippines Rodrigo Duterte won the Philippine presidential election promising to kill tens of thousands of criminals, and urging people to kill drug addicts. However, according to the Philippine Dangerous Drugs Board, the government drug policy-making body, 1. He said he would order police to adopt a shoot-to-kill policy, and would offer them a bounty for dead suspects. Duterte claimed that Dayan was her collector for drug money, who had also himself been using drugs. But I am not required to prove it in court. My job is to protect public interest. Agnes Callamard, the UN Special Rapporteur on summary executions, stated that Duterte had given a "license to kill" to his citizens by encouraging them to kill. Presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella later clarified that the Philippines was not leaving the UN. Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea said that the declaration "does not specify the imposition of curfews", and would remain in force indefinitely. That was the basis. She was replaced by Senator Richard Gordon, a supporter of Duterte. He said that he had witnessed Duterte killing a government agent, and he had heard Duterte giving orders to carry out executions, including ordering the bombing of mosques as retaliation for an attack on a cathedral. She denies the allegations. For as long as I am the president, nobody but nobody â€" no military man or policeman will go to prison because they performed their duties. If [drug suspects] pull out a gun, kill them. Now there are three million drug addicts. The officer said that he had personally been involved in killing 87 suspects, and described how the corpses had their heads wrapped in masking tape with a cardboard placard labelling them as a drug offender so that the killing would not be investigated, or they were dumped at the roadside "salvage" victims. According to police, the group were heavily armed and opened fire on police, who found sachets of methamphetamine at the scene. No police were injured. A police spokesman said they had not been informed. He pointed out that a search warrant is not required to search a jail cell. They [drug users] will multiply. When harvest time comes, there will be more of them who will die. Then I will include you among them because you let them multiply. They also stated that police reports of killings are "remarkably similar", involving a "buy-bust" operation in which the suspect panics and shoots at the officers, who return fire, killing the suspect, and report finding a packet of white powder and a. The figures pose a powerful challenge to the official narrative that the Philippines police are only killing drug suspects in self-defense. These statistics and other evidence amassed by Reuters point in the other direction: Amnesty International investigation[edit] On January 31, , Amnesty International published a report of their investigation of 59 drug-related killings in 20 cities and towns, "If you are poor you are killed": He said that some police also receive a payment from the funeral home they send the corpses to. Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella responded to the report, saying that Senate committee investigations proved that there had been no state-sponsored extrajudicial killings. He asked, "Is that the only thing you [de Lima] can produce? The report of Amnesty? We implemented the personal orders of Mayor Duterte to us. According to police provincial chief Jaysen De Guzman, authorities recovered grenades, ammunition and illegal drugs in the raid. Police say they killed him in self-defense, and retrieved a gun and two packets of methamphetamine. Along with the deaths of Kian delos Santos, the deaths of the two teenagers also triggered public outrage and condemnation. Duterte insisted that the child was killed by drug suspects, not by his police force. He stated that he has only used his mouth to tell drug users that they will be killed. He stated that "Roque stated that he will change public perception by reducing the impact of the statements by which Duterte advocates extra-judicial killings in his war on drugs. Human Rights Watch denied the allegation, calling it "shockingly dangerous and shameful". Assassination of Antonio Halili The controversial Tanauan, Batangas mayor Antonio Halili was assassinated by an unknown sniper during a flag-raising ceremony on July 2, , becoming the 11th local government official to be killed in the Drug War. Neri Colmenares, a lawyer acting for the group, said that "Duterte is personally liable for ordering state police to undertake mass killings". Duterte threatened to arrest the ICC prosecutor Bensouda.

### 5: Philippines: Rodrigo Duterte's Drug War Photos

May 22, · Bangladesh launches deadly 'Philippine-style' war on drugs. At least nine suspected traffickers were killed on Monday alone.

Pinterest Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte talks to reporters after a news conference at the presidential palace in Manila in March The DDS, he alleged, regularly took direct orders from mayor Duterte about who to kill and how to dispose of the bodies. Eight years later, he says, he became one of the youngest members of the DDS. He is the kind of person who remembers details â€" when asked how long he has been a policeman he answered precisely: Instead, he says, he helped to drag the corpses and throw them into a common grave at the Maa gravel quarry. Later, as the years went by, he would also come to kill the suspects. You had to, he says, to be accepted into the DDS fraternity. Even as the international community looks on in horror at the thousands of killings, Duterte remains immensely popular at home â€" at least according to the polls. With his litany of brazen comments, insults of global leaders and even rape jokes, the Philippine leader has fashioned himself into an uncouth straight-talker railing against the political establishment. So when Filipinos voted for Duterte, they did so in spite of his purported ties to orchestrated murder, something even he has apparently admitted. Last December, Duterte told a group of businessmen: I was really looking for a confrontation so that I could kill. Does he mean it, for example, when he talks about introducing martial law? He will act on instinct. But the Duterte government has vehemently and repeatedly denied claims of police death squads, both in Davao and in the current war on drugs. Is impeachment a possibility? With his ties to the military, Trillanes is coordinating the protection of Lascanas, and says he is facilitating at least four other supposed DDS members to come forward in the coming months. He subsequently won a senate seat in while incarcerated. He says he is on a mission to have Duterte impeached. It was an ally of Trillanes who filed an impeachment complaint in the Philippine House of Representatives last month. The House, now in recess, will reconvene on 2 May. To kill criminals is one thing, but knowing that Duterte killed, or ordered to be killed a four-year-old child and a pregnant woman, is an entirely different matter. That changes the narrative. It would require at least votes in the house and two-thirds in the senate. But he argues that the internal dynamics of the seat senate belie perceptions, pointing to the case of former president Joseph Estrada, also deeply popular and ultimately impeached over allegations of corruption in That includes both the senate and the house. Back in his safe house, Lascanas says he is under no illusions about what is going on. The killings are continuing, albeit at a much slower pace â€" 69 people were killed in police operations in March, compared with high hundreds in the early months of the crackdown. Lascanas knows he is the most wanted man in the country now for what he has claimed. Me, I am very much ready, I have done what I wanted As his minders try to wind up the interview, Lascanas is not quite finished, there is something else he needs to say: He tries to deny it to himself â€" that is he is not mortal, like me, or like the victims of extrajudicial killings. He assumes he has the divine dominion of God, but he forgot that he is mortal too.

#### 6: Philippine Drug War - Wikipedia

Asia Investigating Duterte's drug war in Philippines â€" facts and fiction. It has been two years since Duterte became president of the Philippines and unleashed a brutal war on drugs.

Dealers and addicts are being shot by police or slain by unidentified gunmen in mysterious, gangland-style murders taking place at night. Their bodies dumped on highways in the rain, curled in pools of blood in the slums. Some were found tied up, with masking tape plastered across their faces. The funeral parlors will be packed. Some graphic images of injury or death follow. Here, policemen check the gun recovered from one of two unidentified drug suspects after they were shot dead by police for reportedly trying to evade a checkpoint in Quezon city, September 6, And a weary electorate, exasperated by decades of crime and corruption, agreed. Something had to be done. After Duterte was sworn into office June 30, he directed police to launch a massive new anti-drug operation nationwide. A sign on the cardboard found near the body reads: Maria Aurora Moynihan, the daughter of a British Baron, became one of the highest profile victims since Duterte took office in June. A gun is left in a pool of blood at the scene where a man identified to be on a drug watch-list was killed in a shooting involving police in Parola slum in Manila, early October 11, There is no shortage of theories about who the vigilantes are: People look at the body of a tricycle driver, who police officials claimed was an alleged drug user, shot dead by unidentified gunmen in Manila on September 24, Duterte extended his campaign while the International human rights advocates condemned the killings as out of control. Human rights groups have called on the government to end the nightly drug raids and investigate extrajudicial killings. In return, President Duterte has lashed out at critics and threatened to withdraw from the United Nations. Many superstitious Filipinos believe that putting a chick on a coffin of a person slain due to an attack or conflict will help hasten the attainment of justice while placing food on the casket help them attain a smooth journey in the afterlife. Most have been released after acknowledging their crimes, giving up the names of others involved in the narcotics trade, and pledging never to use again. Human Rights Watch says the grim wave of extrajudicial killing was directed by active duty police and former officers. Only a handful of perpetrators were convicted. The wave of violence created by the war on drugs has left people fearful to be out at night. In November, the U. Manuel and two other men were killed by police during a buy-bust operation.

#### 7: Deaths of children in Philippines war on drugs rising, says Unicef

The Philippine National Police Reenters the War on Drugs Duterte manages to convince the people to re-accept the PNP in the country's war on drugs, despite past abuses. By Lau Seng Yap for The.

#### 8: Philippines' â€~War on Drugs' | Human Rights Watch

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs has led to thousands of extrajudicial killings, raising human rights concerns, says expert John Gershman in this interview.

#### 9: Philippines War on Drugs: Duterte Targets Fake Medicines

The overlords of the Philippine drug trade, he claims, are all in China â€" the ultimate destination, allegedly, of the grubby funds that furtively change hands on street corners across the land.

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