

Global Outrage Stirs Community

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Global outrage in response to HARRY SMITH'S Aug 9 CNN coverage "UNICEF: Million Kids in Prison" has united both Filipinos and non-Filipinos throughout the world to address the issue of Children in Prison.

In response to this global outrage, NANAY started circulating a petition to Save Philippine Children in Prison that elicited more than 6,000 signatures in less than 3 weeks, with worldwide initiatives now in place to push the Philippine government into action.

Proponents of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) are now pressuring President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who will be presiding the UN Security Council Summit in New York on Sept 14-16, to address failure of the Philippines to abide by UN Initiatives and UNICEF-sponsored Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). New York based Philippine Forum and community advocates will be joined by other national leaders in a public demonstration against the President.

CNN coverage of the UN Summit, with particular attention to the President's initiatives to address the human rights issues, particularly of Philippine children in prison, will catch international attention, and may help force this issue at the United Nations Security Council Summit.