

## Random Drug Testing of Students as a Reasonable Search and the Application of the Special Needs Doctrine in the Philippines

*Ferdinance V. Menguito*

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With the enactment of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 as a tool to effectively eradicate the drug problem, enforcers are given more teeth in detecting, combating, and eliminating the rampant scourge of drugs.

This Note examines the right to privacy under Philippine Constitutional Law and the concomitant government interest in eliminating the drug problem, particularly among the youth. The Note extensively tackles the nature of the drug test as a search vis-à-vis the constitutional provision against intrusions on the privacy of a person. In concluding the Note, the Author proposes that the drug-testing program for students, as another valid exception to the general rule requiring a warrant and the existence of probable cause for a valid search warrant, should be upheld as constitutional. In the context of the drug problem in the Philippines today, there can be no doubt that there is a special need to exempt drug testing from the traditional requirements of a warrant or probable cause.