

A Play with Words: B.P. Blg. 880 and the Calibrated Preemptive Response Policy

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SUBJECT(S): CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

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Bayan, et al. v. Eduardo Ermita, et al. is a recent case where the Supreme Court was able to discuss the right to freedom of speech, expression, and the press. The Comment highlights the important points relating to the right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances, raised and discussed in the case. It also explores the implications of the Executive Department's Calibrated Preemptive Response (CPR) Policy, which was ultimately the controversy catalyst in the preceding incidents to the case, and the implications of its holding in relation to Freedom Parks.

Bayan examines the application of the guidelines in B.P. 880 to the said case. The Comment concludes that there is no pressing need to coin another set of guidelines as it would only breed confusion among the people and among the law enforcers. That any stray from the procedure outlined in B.P. 880 could be detrimental to the right and exercise of the constitutionally guaranteed right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances.