

ARTICLE 15 — FAMILY AND PERSONAL STATUS

“Laws relating to family rights and duties, or to the status, condition and legal capacity of persons are binding upon citizens of the Philippines, even though living abroad.”

Simple:

Filipino citizens remain subject to Philippine laws about their **family and personal status**, even when they live abroad.

Remember:

FILIPINO → FAMILY/PERSONAL STATUS → EVEN ABROAD

ARTICLE 16 — PROPERTY

“Real property as well as personal property is subject to the law of the country where it is situated.”

“However, intestate and testamentary successions, both with respect to the order of succession and to the amount of successional rights and to the intrinsic validity of testamentary provisions, shall be regulated by the national law of the person whose succession is under consideration, whatever may be the nature of the property and regardless of the country wherein said property may be found.”

Simple:

Property generally follows the law of **where the property is located**.

But succession follows the applicable **national law of the person whose succession is involved**.

Remember:

PROPERTY → WHERE IT IS

SUCCESSION → NATIONAL LAW

ARTICLE 17 — FORM OF ACTS

“The forms and solemnities of contracts, wills, and other public instruments shall be governed by the laws of the country in which they are executed.”

“When the acts referred to in this article are executed before the diplomatic or consular officials of the Republic of the Philippines in a foreign country, the solemnities established by Philippine laws shall be observed in their execution.”

“Prohibitive laws concerning persons, their acts or property, and laws which have for their object public order, public policy and good customs shall not be rendered ineffective by laws or judgments promulgated, or by determinations or conventions agreed upon in a foreign country.”

 **Simple:**

The **form** of a contract, will, or public document generally follows the law of the place where it was made.

But Philippine diplomatic/consular officials abroad follow **Philippine formalities**.

And foreign law cannot defeat Philippine **prohibitive laws, public order, public policy, or good customs**.

 **Remember:**

FORM → PLACE

PHILIPPINE CONSUL → PHILIPPINE LAW

ARTICLE 18 — SPECIAL LAWS

“In matters which are governed by the Code of Commerce and special laws, their deficiency shall be supplied by the provisions of this Code.”

 **Simple:**

If a special law does not completely answer the issue, the **Civil Code fills the gap**.

 **Remember:**

SPECIAL LAW → GAP → CIVIL CODE

ARTICLE 19 — HUMAN RELATIONS

“Every person must, in the exercise of his rights and in the performance of his duties, act with justice, give everyone his due, and observe honesty and good faith.”

 **VERY IMPORTANT**

Remember:

JUSTICE → DUE → HONESTY → GOOD FAITH

 Simple:

When using your rights or performing your duties, **act fairly and honestly**.

ARTICLE 20 — DAMAGE CONTRARY TO LAW

“Every person who, contrary to law, willfully or negligently causes damage to another, shall indemnify the latter for the same.”

 Simple:

If you **break the law** and intentionally or negligently cause damage, you must **pay/compensate** the person harmed.

 Remember:

LAW + DAMAGE → INDEMNIFY

ARTICLE 21 — DAMAGE CONTRARY TO MORALS

“Any person who willfully causes loss or injury to another in a manner that is contrary to morals, good customs or public policy shall compensate the latter for the damage.”

 Simple:

Even if the act isn't specifically prohibited by law, you can be liable if you **intentionally hurt someone** in a way that goes against morals, good customs, or public policy.

 Remember:

MORALS + WILLFUL DAMAGE → COMPENSATE

ARTICLE 22 — UNJUST ENRICHMENT

“Every person who through an act of performance by another, or any other means, acquires or comes into possession of something at the expense of the latter without just or legal ground, shall return the same to him.”

 Simple:

If you get something **at another person's expense without a legal reason**, you must **return it**.

 Remember:

NO LEGAL GROUND → GOT BENEFIT → RETURN

ARTICLE 23 — BENEFIT FROM DAMAGE

“Even when an act or event causing damage to another's property was not due to the fault or negligence of the defendant, the latter shall be liable for indemnity if through the act or event he was benefited.”

🧠 Simple:

Even if you weren't at fault, you may have to pay if you **benefited from the event that caused the damage**.

🧠 Remember:

NO FAULT + BENEFIT → INDEMNITY

ARTICLE 24 — PROTECTION OF DISADVANTAGED PERSONS

“In all contractual, property or other relations, when one of the parties is at a disadvantage on account of his moral dependence, ignorance, indigence, mental weakness, tender age or other handicap, the courts must be vigilant for his protection.”

🧠 Simple:

If one person is **weak or disadvantaged**, the courts must protect that person.

Remember the reasons:

M I I M T H

- Moral dependence
- Ignorance
- Indigence
- Mental weakness
- Tender age
- Handicap

🧠 KEYWORD:

DISADVANTAGED → COURT PROTECTS

ARTICLE 25 — THOUGHTLESS EXTRAVAGANCE

“Thoughtless extravagance in expenses for pleasure or display during a period of acute public want or emergency may be stopped by order of the courts at the instance of any government or private charitable institution.”

 **Simple:**

During a serious public emergency, courts can stop **wasteful spending for pleasure or showing off** when requested by a government or private charitable institution.

 **Remember:**

EMERGENCY → EXTRAVAGANCE → COURT CAN STOP

ARTICLE 26 — DIGNITY, PERSONALITY, PRIVACY

“Every person shall respect the dignity, personality, privacy and peace of mind of his neighbors and other persons.”

“The following and similar acts, though they may not constitute a criminal offense, shall produce a cause of action for damages, prevention and other relief:”

- (1)** Prying into the privacy of another's residence;
- (2)** Meddling with or disturbing the private life or family relations of another;
- (3)** Intriguing to cause another to be alienated from his friends;
- (4)** Vexing or humiliating another on account of his religious beliefs, lowly station in life, place of birth, physical defect, or other personal condition.

 **MOST IMPORTANT MEMORY:**

D-P-P-P

Dignity
Personality
Privacy
Peace of mind

Then remember:

HOME → FAMILY → FRIENDS → HUMILIATION

- 1. **Home** — don't pry into privacy.
- 2. **Family** — don't meddle with private/family life.
- 3. **Friends** — don't cause someone to lose friends.
- 4. **Humiliation** — don't vex/humiliate someone because of personal circumstances.

