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An Appeal to Government –

To Examine the Root of the Social Unrest and Respond to the Calls of the Society

A safe and stable environment is crucial to the growth and development of children and adolescents. The current escalating conflicts that beset our city have continued unabated and are threatening to spiral out of control. Not only are children and adolescents overwhelmed by fear and panic, they are often caught up in incidents and suffer gravely bodily harm from tear gases and other violent acts with subsequent psychological scars in the long term. The harm to our younger is not acceptable to any civil society and cannot be tolerated.

The current situation is analogous to the needs or voices of a child expressed to the parents being met with suppression by authoritarian means. Stifling or responding to dissent by force only breeds rebellion and strong reactions, whether it is in the family or in society, and would only serve to break them down. Against Child Abuse hereby sincerely urges the Government to make every possible effort to defuse the tension and resolve the conflicts and differences by peaceful means. Unless this is done speedily and effectively, more innocent citizens, especially children, adolescents and elderly people, will be seriously harmed and eventually the whole of Hong Kong would suffer irrevocable damage

Once again Against Child Abuse urges the Government to:

1. Respect the rights of the arrested young persons and to act in full compliance with the law.
2. Respond to the voices of the community and engage in a direct dialogue with different sectors with a view to resolving differences in a rational, peaceful and honest manner as soon as possible.
3. Set up an independent Commission of Inquiry as soon as possible to investigate the root causes of the social unrest, to propose appropriate measures to manage such unrest and to prevent recurrence of similar conflicts in future.

Against Child Abuse
29 July 2019

