

Briefing Paper

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTITIONERS RESPECTING THE VOICE AND RIGHTS OF CHILDREN DURING A PARENTAL SEPARATION

Aim-The following information is aimed at providing practitioners with practical and useful information regarding children's rights during parental separation. 'Every child has the right to survival, protection and education' savethechildren.org.uk (google,oct2018)

Article 2

The Convention applies to everyone whatever their race, religion, abilities, whatever they think or say and whatever type of family they come from. Non discrimination meaning that all children have the same right to develop to their full potential no matter the situation or the time. Childrensrights.ie(google,oct2018)

Article 5

Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of families to direct and guide their children so that, as they grow, they learn to use their rights properly. This covers the support a young child or young person receives from their family, parents or carers. Children and young people should be able to make their own decisions about what these changes might be. Cypcs.org.uk(google,oct2018)

Article 10

Families who live in different countries should be able to move between those countries so that parents and children can stay in contact or get back together as a family when ever they please. The rights to which all children and young people under age of 18 are entitled to are set out internationally in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC was drawn up in 1989 and to ensure that universal rights of children are upheld throughout the world. It sets out these fundamental rights in 41 articles, which can be viewed in the [policy section](#) of this

website.info@childreninwales.org.uk(2014)I have the right to see my family if they live in another country.

Article 10 of the UNCRC says children and young people should be able to stay in contact with and visit their parents – even if they live in different countries – and that they should be able to live with their parents if possible. It also talks about the ways in which countries should make this happen.

In particular, it says that:

- children and young people should be able to enter countries to see one or both of their parents, either permanently or as a visitor
- children and young people should be able to enter and leave countries in order to see a parent, and a parent should be able to enter and leave a country in order to see them
- children and young people should always be able to enter and leave their own country.www.cypcs.org.uk (bing, 2018)

Article 18

Both parents share responsibility for bring up their children, and should always consider what is best for each of their children, Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work. The UNCRC is also the most widely ratified human rights treaty in the world – it's even been accepted by non-state entities, such as the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), a rebel movement in South Sudan. All UN member states except for [the United States](#) have ratified the Convention. The Convention came into force in the UK in 1992.

Referencing list

savethechildren.org.uk (google,oct2018)

Childrensrights.ie(google,oct2018)

Cypcs.org.uk(google,oct2018)

info@childreninwales.org.uk

.cypcs.org.uk (bing, 2018)