



RIGHTS OF A CHILD IN CONTACT WITH POLICE



(Child-Friendly Procedures Must Be Followed)



Do's

- Child Welfare Officers/Police Officers dealing with children must have a thorough knowledge of the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and the Rules, 2016.
- A child in conflict with law shall be produced before the Juvenile Justice Board in accordance with Section 10(1).
- Police officers dealing with children in conflict with law must be fully aware of the composition and contact details (names, addresses, and phone numbers) of the Juvenile Justice Board and the Child Welfare Committee.
- A child in conflict with law shall ordinarily be released on bail as per Section 12 of the Act.
- The parents/guardians of the child and the Probation Officer must be informed without any delay, in terms of Section 13 of the Act.
- If custody of the child is necessary, the child shall be kept in an observation home or a place of safety and not in a police lockup or a jail, in accordance with Section 10(1) and Rule 54(8).
- Where a child in conflict with law is apprehended, the child must be produced before the Juvenile Justice Board within 24 hours, as per Section 10(1) read with Rule 9(1).
- A police officer interacting with a child shall be in plain clothes to ensure a child-friendly approach.
- Police officers dealing with children shall provide appropriate assistance, including medical care, the services of an interpreter or special educator, or any other support required by the child, in accordance with Rule 8(3)(iv) of the JJ Rules.
- Any child in need of care and protection, including a child whose identity is not established, shall be produced before the Child Welfare Committee under Section 31 of the Act.
- Any found or abandoned child shall be produced before the Child Welfare Committee in accordance with Section 31.
- A girl child shall be accompanied by a woman police officer and a child-friendly environment must be ensured at all times.

DLSA

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✗ Dont's

- There shall be no negligence in the implementation of the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Rules, 2016.
- No FIR shall be registered against a child, except where a heinous offence is alleged to have been committed by the child, or where such offence is alleged to have been committed jointly with adults in accordance with Rule 8(1).
- A child in conflict with law shall not be placed in police lockup or a jail as per Section 10(1) of the Act read with Rules 8(3)(i) and 54(8).
- A child shall not be handcuffed, chained, or otherwise fettered, and no coercion or force shall be used in compliance with Rule 8(3)(ii).
- A child shall not be compelled to confess his guilt as per Rule 8(3)(v).
- No interaction with the child shall create an impression of custodial interrogation in accordance with Rule 8(3)(v).
- A child shall not be asked to sign any statement as per Rule 8(3)(vi).
- Adversarial or accusatory language shall not be used in any process involving a child in terms of Section 3(viii).
- While apprehending or interacting with a child, the police officer shall not be in uniform as per Rule 8(4).
- The identity of a child shall not be disclosed to the media in compliance with Section 74 of the Act.
- Investigation of cases involving children shall not be unnecessarily delayed and must be conducted expeditiously.
- A child in conflict with law shall not be produced before a Metropolitan Magistrate in accordance with Section 8(1) of the Act.
- A child in need of care and protection shall not be produced before a Metropolitan Magistrate and must be produced before the Child Welfare Committee.

“Every child deserves dignity, protection, and a child-friendly justice system.”

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