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concerned with children
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their rights properly.

All children have
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not be separated from
n good. For example,
ing a child. Children
re the right to stay in
his might hurt the child.

Article 10

Families who live in different countries
should be allowed to move between those countries so that
parents and children can stay in contact, or get back
together as a family.

Article 11

Governments should take steps to stop
children being taken out of their own country illegally.

Article 12

Children have the right to
say what they think
should happen, when
adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have
their opinions taken into account.



Article 13

Children have the right to get and to
share information, as long as the information is not
damaging to them or to others.

Article 14

Children have the
right to think and believe what they
want, and to practise their religion,
as long as they are not stopping
other people from enjoying their
rights. Parents should guide their
children on these matters.



Article 15

Children have
the right to meet together and
to join groups and
organisations, as long as this
does not stop other people from
enjoying their rights.



Article 16

Children have a right to privacy. The
law should protect them from attacks against their way
of life, their good name, their families and their homes.

Article 17

Children have the right
to reliable information from the
mass media. Television, radio,
and newspapers should provide
information that children can
understand, and should not promote materials that
could harm children.

Article 18

Both parents share responsibility for
bringing up their children, and should always consider
what is best for each child. Governments should help
parents by providing services to support them, especially
if both parents work.

Article 19

Governments should ensure that
children are properly cared for, and protect them from
violence, abuse and neglect by their parents, or anyone
else who looks after them.

Article 20

Children who cannot be looked after by
their own family must be looked after
properly, by people who respect their
religion, culture and language.



Article 21

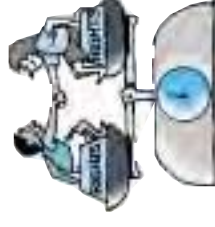
When children are adopted the first
concern must be what is best for them. The same rules
should apply whether the children are adopted in the
country where they were born, or if they are taken to live
in another country.

Article 22

Children who come into a country as
refugees should have the same rights as children born in
that country.

Article 23

Children who have
any kind of disability should have
special care and support, so that they
can lead full and independent lives.



Article 24

Child
health care, to clean we
environment, so that the
stay healthy. Rich coun
should help poorer coun
achieve this.

Article 25

Child
local authority, rather th
situation reviewed regu

Article 26

The (bracketed)
money for the children



Article 28

All cl
a right to a primary €
free. Wealthy countri
countries achieve the
respect children's hu
should be encourag
education they are c

Article 29

Educ
personality and talents
children to respect the
cultures.

Article 30

Child
the language and cust
are shared by the majo

Article 31

All of
relax and play, and to j

should protect us, or might harm

should provide ways to use drugs.

should protect

should make sure you are old.

are protected from any discrimination.

Article 37

Children who break the law should not be treated cruelly. They should not be put in prison with adults and should be able to keep in contact with their families.

should not allow children



accused of breaking the law. Sentences for children should be serious offences.

Article 41

If the laws of a particular country protect children better than the articles of the Convention, then those laws should stay.



Article 42

The Government should make the Convention known to parents and children.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child has 54 articles in all. Articles 43-54 are about how adults and governments should work together to make sure all children get all their rights.

Whose responsibility?

Children's rights are a special case because many of the rights laid down in the Convention on the Rights of the Child have to be provided by adults or the state.

However, the Convention also refers to the responsibilities of children, in particular to respect the rights of others, especially their parents (Article 29).

Here are some suggestions of the responsibilities that could accompany rights...

If every child, regardless of their sex, ethnic origin, social status, language, age, nationality or religion has these rights, then they also have a responsibility to respect each other in a humane way.



If children have a right to be protected from conflict, cruelty, exploitation and neglect, then they also have a responsibility not to bully or harm each other.

If children have a right to a clean environment, then they also have a responsibility to do what they can to look after their environment.

If children have a right to be educated, then they have the obligation to learn as much as their capabilities allow and, where possible, share their knowledge and experience with others.

If all children have a right to a full life, then they should also lend help so the needy, the disadvantaged, and the victims of discrimination also enjoy this right.

If children have a right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, then they also have the obligation to respect other's thoughts or religious principles.



You can probably think of many more.

Derived from a Universal Declaration of Human Responsibilities, by an organisation called World Goodwill, composed of ex-heads of state.

This leaflet comes from the United Nations on the Rights of the Child

Cartoons by Brick

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A convention is an agreed rule that is the same law. The United Kingdom and Northern Ireland agreed on the Rights of the Child. That means our government has a duty to make sure every child has all the rights that are in the Convention. Two of them are 'reservative'