

PURPOSE OF THE JUVENILE ACT

1. to preserve the unity of the family whenever possible and provide for the care, protection, safety and wholesome mental and physical development of children coming within its provisions of this chapter
2. to remove from children committing delinquent acts the consequences of criminal behavior, and to substitute therefore a program of supervision, care and rehabilitation consistent with the protection of the public interest.
3. to achieve the foregoing purposes in a family environment whenever possible, separating the child from parents only when necessary for his/her welfare or in the interests of public safety; and
4. to provide means through which the provisions of this chapter are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured a fair hearing and their constitutional and other legal rights recognized and enforced.

RIGHTS

The child has a right to be represented by a lawyer at the Intake Interview.

The purpose of the intake interview is to begin the process of deciding how this case is to be handled.