


WHAT IS AN « IDEAL » LAWYER?

LEAFLET FOR MINORS WHO ARE SUSPECTED, ACCUSED OR CONVICTED OF AN OFFENCE.





**You have to be questioned by the police for something you may have done.
You have to meet a judge for the same reason.
In all these situations, having a good lawyer by your side is very important!**

As a child or a youngster involved in legal proceedings you may ask yourself:

«What can I expect from a/my lawyer?»

«What is the role of my lawyer?»

«If I were to imagine my lawyer, what would he/she be like?»

Groups of young people from France, Hungary and Romania helped us to answer these questions. It is from their testimonies that we have been able to write this short document.



WHAT IS A **LAWYER**?

A **lawyer** is a person who can help you understand the legal rules applicable to your situation. You have the right to have a lawyer who will assist and represent you during your journey.

WHAT IS THE **ROLE OF THE CHILD'S LAWYER**?

- Know the **LAW**, and the **RIGHTS OF MINORS**.
- Act as a **SPOKESPERSON** and translate all my words into legal jargon for the judge, the police or other professionals.
- **RESPRESENT** your interest in front of the other professionals; the police officer, the judge, the prosecutor, or other adults.
- **DEFEND YOUR RIGHTS** at all stages of the procedure, at the police station, in court, in the center, if you are placed, etc.
- Make sure you can **PARTICIPATE** (if I want to) at all stages of the procedure.
- Be **AVAILABLE** and **PRESENT** for you when needed – (at all examinations, interrogations, hearings or other actions from beginning until the end and meet you before each one).
- Explain to you – in an adapted manner - the **ROLE OF ALL PROFESSIONALS** you will meet during this journey.
- Prepare with you **THE LINE OF DEFENCE** to make sure that he/she has the available time and facilities to prepare it - so that the **MOST APPROPRIATE MEASURE** is applied according to the circumstances of your situation.

THE IDEAL LAWYER IS SOMEONE...



I can **TRUST**. He/she will not lie to me and **doesn't judge me** for what I am, say, do or did!



SAFETY and **PROTECTION**. My lawyer keeps persevering and is on my side, at all times and **will never betray me**.



TRUSTWORTHY. He/She faithfully **passes on my word and my story** to others.



FRIENDLY, EMPATHY. Who is **kind** and **HUMAN**. He/She also **shares his/her own flaws** and **looks me in the eyes** when we speak. My lawyer has a friendly expression and smiles.



He/She **shows me respect**, treats me as an **equal** and acts as a **PARTNER**.





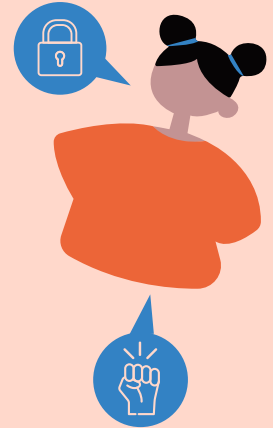
He/She gives me **sound ADVICE** and **INFORMATION**.



My lawyer **listens** to me carefully, takes initiative to **understand me** (even when I am silent) and remains **PATIENT**.



My lawyer **keeps my secrets** and is **NOT INFLUENCED** by the other adults, and shares **my voice and opinions** to the police, judge, prosecutor, etc.



ATTENTION. My lawyer takes my questions and problems seriously. He/She links me to other services when necessary, and represents me when possible.

My lawyer **explains me** my rights in a way I can understand them and **prepares me** for what to expect and is **PRESENT** at every stage of my **journey**.





Contact details:

You can find and contact a **LAWYER** through this phone number and/or website:



Terre des hommes
Helping children worldwide.



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