



**THE CHARTER  
OF CHILDREN'S  
RIGHTS**

**WITHIN THEIR  
PARENTS' SEPARATION**

**REMOVE ME  
AND TAKE ME WITH YOU**



**AGA**

*Autorità garante  
per l'infanzia  
e l'adolescenza*

# THE CHARTER OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

WITHIN THEIR  
PARENTS' SEPARATION



# AGIA

Autorità garante  
per l'infanzia  
e l'adolescenza



CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
CONTINUE TO LOVE THEIR PARENTS  
AND TO BE LOVED BY BOTH OF THEM  
AND TO KEEP THEIR AFFECTIONS



CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
CONTINUE TO BE CHILDREN  
AND TO LIVE THEIR YEARS



CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT THAT  
CHOICES THAT CONCERN  
THEM BE SHARED BY BOTH PARENTS



CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT  
NOT TO BE INVOLVED IN CONFLICTS  
BETWEEN PARENTS



**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
BE INFORMED AND HELPED  
TO UNDERSTAND  
THE SEPARATION OF THEIR PARENTS**



**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
BE HEARD AND TO EXPRESS  
THEIR FEELINGS**



**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT  
NOT TO BE PUT UNDER PRESSURE  
FROM PARENTS AND RELATIVES**



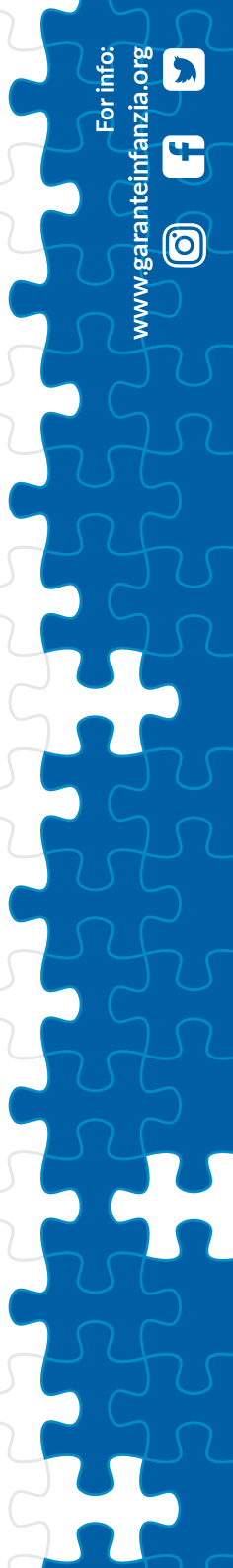
**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
HAVE THEIR TIMES RESPECTED**



**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
BE PRESERVED  
FROM ECONOMIC ISSUES**



**CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
RECEIVE EXPLANATIONS  
ON DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEM**





**The Italian Independent Authority for Children and Adolescents**  
Via di Villa Ruffo, 6 - 00196 Roma  
[www.garanteinfanzia.org](http://www.garanteinfanzia.org)





## 1

### ***Children have the right to continue to love their parents and to be loved by both of them and to keep their affections***

Children have the right to be free to continue to love both parents; they have the right to show their love without fear of hurting or offending one or the other. Children have the right to keep their affections intact, to remain united to their siblings, to maintain the relationship with their grandparents, to continue to maintain a personal relationship with the relatives of both parents' families and the friends.

Love is not measured by time but by care and attention.

## 2

### ***Children have the right to continue to be children and to live their years***

Children have the right to lightheartedness and lightness; they have the right not to be overwhelmed by adults' suffering. Children have the right not to be treated as adults, not to become their parents' confidants nor friends, and not to have to support or console them. Children have the right to feel protected and reassured, comforted and supported by their parents in addressing the changes in separation.



3

***Children have the right to be informed and helped to understand the separation of their parents***

Children have the right not to be involved in the separation decision and to be informed by both parents, in a manner which is appropriate to their age and degree of maturity, without being charged with responsibility or faults, without being made aware of information that could negatively affect the relationship with one or both parents. They have the right not to suffer the separation like a lightning, nor to be flooded with their parents' uncertainties and emotions. They have the right to be accompanied by their parents to understand and live the transition to a new family stage.

4

***Children have the right to be heard and to express their feelings***

Children have the right to be heard, first of all by parents, together, within the family. Children have the right to be able to speak, feeling welcomed and respected, without being judged. Children have the right to be angry, sad, to feel bad, to be afraid and to have uncertainties, without being told that "everything is fine". Even in the more peaceful separation, children can experience such feelings and have the right to express them.



5

***Children have the right not to be put under pressure  
from parents and relatives***

Children have the right not to be manipulated nor to be messengers of communications and explicit or implicit requests addressed to the other parent. Children have the right not to be induced to lie nor to be involved in lies.

6

***Children have the right that choices that concern  
them be shared by both parents***

Children have the right that the most important choices on residence, education, instruction and health continue to be taken by both parents and by mutual agreement, while respecting the continuity of their habits. Children have the right that any changes take into account their emotional and relational needs.



7

***Children have the right not to be involved in conflicts between parents***

Children have the right not to witness and suffer the conflicts between parents, not to be forced to take sides of one or the other, not to have to choose between them. Children have the right not to be forced to side with one or the other parent and with their families.

8

***Children have the right to have their times respected***

Children need time to process separation, to understand the new situation, to adapt to live in the different family balance. Children need time to get used to changes, to accept new siblings, new partners and their families. They have the right to be reassured about the fear of losing the affection of one or both parents, or being overshadowed by their parents' new ties.





9

***Children have the right to be preserved  
from economic issues***

Children have the right not to be involved in economic decisions and that both parents contribute adequately to their needs. Children have the right not to feel the weight of economic hardship of the new family balance, and not to be subjected to unjustified changes in family standard and lifestyle, not to live forms of economic violence from one parent.

10

***Children have the right to receive explanations  
on decisions that affect them***

Children have the right to be heard, but decisions must be taken by the parents or, in case of disagreement, by the judge. Children have the right to receive explanations about the decisions taken, particularly when they differ from their demands and expressed wishes. The child has the right to receive non-conflicting explanations from the parents.

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