

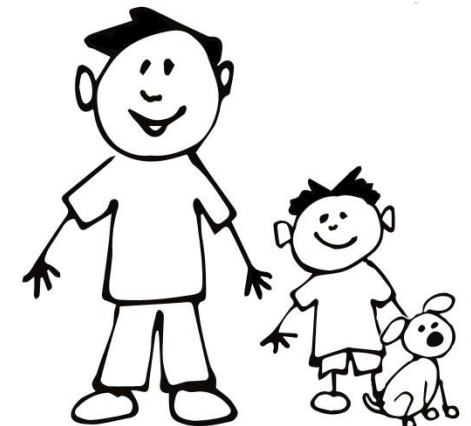
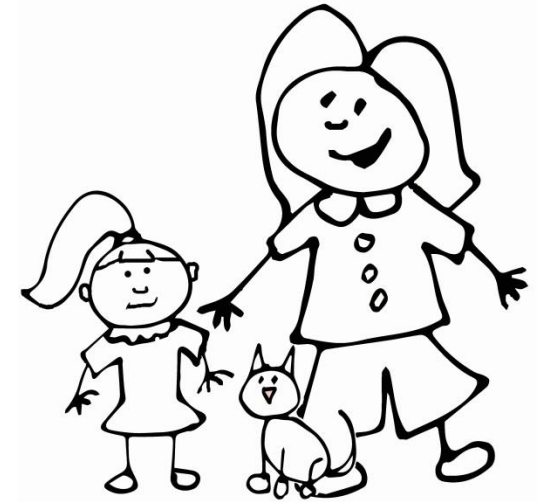


A Child's Fundamental Rights:

A Document for Parents Living Apart

AS A CHILD WITH PARENTS LIVING APART, I HAVE THE RIGHT ...

- to love both my parents with joy and be proud that both love me.
- to joyfully love *all* the people who are important to me.
- to never face rejection by a parent.
- to be safe, to be respected, and to be cared for in every way.
- to always have my developmental needs and challenges taken into account.
- to be protected from hearing unnecessary and hurtful details about an adult conflict.
- to have parents who are flexible about different rules and respect all safe parenting styles.
- to have parents who check in with each other on these rules when consistency is crucial.
- to have my needs and interests come first when decisions about my schedule are made.
- to be disciplined wisely, calmly, and compassionately.
- to be free from any blame for the break-up.
- to never be asked to take a side in an adult argument.
- to have parents who do what they can to stay emotionally healthy, and who will see to my emotional health.
- to talk about things openly without fear of punishment or guilt; to keep my feelings private if I choose to.
- to see my parents as good role models for how to be respectful of others, even when there's a disagreement.
- to not be asked to report on what is happening in one parent's life to the other parent.
- to have parents who talk to one another without asking me to act as messenger.
- to just be a child without being responsible for the well-being of an adult.
- to have parents who will work at making the best of a very difficult situation.**



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