

For immediate release

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Canada Still Resisting Rights for Children

Ottawa, ON - The Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights released a comprehensive report today with respect to the rights of children. *Children: The Silenced Citizens* clearly indicates how Canada's "compliance is ... inadequate". The gap between "rhetoric and reality" has left Canadian children vulnerable, with no representation at the federal government level to work on their behalf.

The recommendations put forth in *Children: The Silenced Citizens* are wide-ranging and focus on the numerous issues surrounding children's rights in Canada, including corporal punishment, bullying, sexual exploitation, child protection, youth justice, adoption, poverty and health. There are also detailed recommendations focusing on Aboriginal children and their specific needs in Canada. All of these issues are very important to CWLC.

The Senate Committee again called for a Children's Commissioner, a recommendation the Child Welfare League of Canada has repeatedly supported. CWLC also continues to incorporate the full implementation of the United Nations' *Convention on the Rights of the Child* into its Strategic Plan.

The Child Welfare League of Canada will be using the report to bolster its advocacy efforts to ensure child and youth serving organizations, and governments at all levels, fully implement the recommendations outlined in *Children: The Silenced Citizens*.

The full report is available for download on the Parliament of Canada's website, at http://www.parl.gc.ca/39/1/parlbus/commbus/senate/com-e/huma-e/rep-e/rep10apr07-e.htm#_Toc164844428.

CWLC is a membership based national organization dedicated to promoting the well-being and protection of vulnerable young people (0-18 years). CWLC plays a significant role in promoting best practices among those in the field of child welfare, children's mental health and youth justice.

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