



**Statement from the National Center for Learning Disabilities on the Administration's Practice of Separating Undocumented Children from their Parents**

WASHINGTON -- On behalf of the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD), which protects and advocates for the rights of children with learning disabilities and attention disorders, we write to express our outrage regarding the Administration's inhumane and immoral practice of separating undocumented children from their parents. All children with disabilities, regardless of immigration status, are guaranteed rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Our government and educational agencies have a duty to identify and serve children, regardless of their legal status, but instead, the current practice has separated children from their families and is infringing upon their rights.

NCLD works to create a society in which every individual possesses the academic, social, and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, at work, and in life. Traumatic and stressful experiences in the life of a child -- such as being separated from their families in detention centers -- can alter their development, leading to lifelong challenges that impact their learning, social and emotional skills, and behavior. NCLD believes that no children should be demeaned, or have their wonder diminished.

As the Administration and Congress work to put an end to this harmful practice, they must respect the civil and human rights of all children.

###

**For more information, please contact:**

Robert Stephens  
Senior Manager, Federal Relations  
(202) 637-8409  
rstephens@ncld.org

**About the National Center for Learning Disabilities**

The mission of the National Center for Learning Disabilities is to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues—by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools and advocating for equal rights and opportunities. We're working to create a society in which every individual possesses the academic, social and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, at work and in life. For more information, visit [ncld.org](http://ncld.org).