

## **Violence Against Children in SWEDEN**

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### **Relevant extracts from an NGO alternative report presented to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**

**CRC Session 38, 10 - 28 January 2005**

Swedish NGO Network for Children's Rights - English

[www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.38/Sweden\\_ngo\\_report\\_NC.doc](http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.38/Sweden_ngo_report_NC.doc)

[...]

All parents are not equally good parents. Some do not want to, or are for different reasons not capable to give their child the care and support needed. This can result in neglect, exploitation, and physical and psychological abuse.

[...]

The long process for handling asylum issues of unaccompanied minors is a problem. Therefore, children should be granted temporary resident permit until the age of 18 or until the parents have been traced. All children have the right to school, care and leisure according to article 28, 29 and 31. A person without resident permit is not granted these rights, only the right to health care and medical care.

[...]

In the hearing reports of 2000 and 2002 the young ones had commented on and shown concern over foul and crude language, crude words and insulting comments at school.

[...]

The young persons at the hearing of 2002 are worried over that abuse to death of a child resulted in lower punishment in the court than if a death abuse of a grown-up by an adult. The Network is of the opinion that child abuse to death should be equally punished.. This issue was brought up in the media, as a result of a very exposed child abuse case.

[...]

Children in the Hearing in 2002 asked the Government when discrimination of children with disabilities will come to an end. Quote from 2003: *"I train karate and was at a karate competition and won, but was disqualified because I am deaf so I couldn't receive the prize. My trainer said the rules aren't the same for hearing children and deaf children. In Italy deaf people compete with hearing people and I think the same should be possible in Sweden."*

*"I want to ask a question about the upper secondary school. As you certainly know a deaf pupil or one suffering from a hearing impairment has to go 350 km from Stockholm to go to the upper secondary school, although there are many who don't want to. I live in Stockholm and don't want to travel so far. We deaf should get the same opportunity to choose upper secondary school as others. There is an upper secondary school in a suburb of Stockholm, but if you don't want to go there, you have to leave your family, your siblings and all friends and come home once or twice a month. Why are there no similar schools in Stockholm?"*

*"I have a question regarding sports in school. As I am disabled I won't get any degrees in sports at all." The most important thing for me in my daily life and on my leisure time is to be able to get out and do things, like being here. I am disabled having a liver disease. Right now I feel good, but when I feel bad I have extreme difficulties in taking me anywhere as I have no right for transportation service. And I am not the only one, many I have talked to are in the same situation. It is extremely tough, so I would just know if there is anyone working with this."*

[...]

Public health standard declines and the numbers of ill-health cases increase in society. This affects the children, which becomes clear from the questions asked during the hearings. Among other questions, they ask what measures the Government is planning to prevent ill-health and stress in school. *"There*

*is so much bullying In Sweden and bullying often leads to suicide. How do you work to prevent these kinds of problems?"*  
[...]