

ORGANIC LAW FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CHILD AND THE ADOLESCENT

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REASON

THE CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

DECREES

the following,

ORGANIC LAW FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CHILD AND THE ADOLESCENT

Article 1

Purpose

The purpose of this Law is to ensure for all children and adolescents found within the national territory the full and effective exercise and enjoyment of their rights and guarantees, through the comprehensive protection that the State, society and the family should provide them with from the moment of their conception.

Article 2

Definition of 'child' and 'adolescent.'

'Child' is understood to refer to all persons under the age of twelve. 'Adolescent' is understood to refer to all persons between the ages of twelve and eighteen.

If there are any uncertainties as to whether a person is a child or an adolescent, he shall be presumed to be a child, until proven otherwise. If there are any uncertainties as to whether a person is an adolescent or over the age of eighteen, he shall be presumed to be an adolescent, until proven otherwise.

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Article 75

Information and images prohibited in media addressed to children and adolescents. Printed and audiovisual materials, books, magazines, videos, illustrations, photographs, reading materials and serials addressed to children and adolescents may not contain information and images that promote or incite violence, or the use of weapons, tobacco or alcoholic substances, narcotics or psychotropics.

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Article 79

Prohibitions for the protection of rights to information and a wholesome environment.

The following things are prohibited:

- a) to admit children and adolescents to shows or venues for showing films, videos, television, multimedia or other similar shows, as well as to public or private places where messages and productions are shown when the latter have been classified as not suitable for their age;
- b) to sell or facilitate access in any way to children and adolescents, or to publicly exhibit by any existing or as yet uncreated multimedia, books, magazines, programs and audiovisual messages, information or data in networks that are pornographic, present justifications for violence or crime, promote or incite the use of tobacco, alcoholic substances, narcotics or psychotropics; or that constitute an assault against their personal wellbeing or mental or moral health;
- c) to disseminate by any information or communications medium during programming addressed to children and adolescents or to any audience, programs, messages, advertising, publicity or promotions of any kind, that promote terror in children and adolescents, that constitute an assault on human co-existence or nationality, or that incite the deformation of language, disrespect for human dignity, indiscipline, hatred, discrimination or racism;
- d) to encourage or permit the participation of children and adolescents in public or private spectacles, theatrical and artistic works, films, videos, television, radio and multimedia programs, or in their rehearsals, that are contrary to good customs and can impair their health, wellbeing or life;
- e) to use children and adolescents in commercial messages where immoral conduct, bad customs and false values are celebrated, information is manipulated for purposes contrary to respect for human dignity or the use or acquisition of products harmful to health or those considered unnecessary or luxurious are promoted or incited.
- f) to accommodate a child or adolescent unaccompanied by his parents or representatives or without the written authorization of the latter or a competent authority in a hotel, boarding house, motel or similar establishments.

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Article 92

Prevention

It is prohibited to sell or in any way facilitate access for children and adolescents to the following things:

- a) tobacco;
- b) narcotic and psychotropic substances, including inhalants;
- c) alcoholic substances;
- d) weapons, munitions and explosives;
- e) fireworks and the like;
- f) information or images inappropriate to their age.

Sole Paragraph: It is prohibited for children and adolescents to go into:

- a) bars and similar places.
- c) casinos, gaming houses and places where there is betting.