



LISTENING TO YOUNG CARE LEAVERS: 'DO'S AND 'DON'T'S

YOU MUST NOT

FUND EXPLOITATION

Donors should not fund institutions – instead they should direct their money towards programmes that keep families together.

CAUSE HARM

Children must not be harmed or exploited in institutions, or in any care placement. There should also be no prejudice or bigotry directed towards them.

BE UNREGULATED

Institutions and care settings should not be run without proper documentation.

PREVENT REUNIFICATION

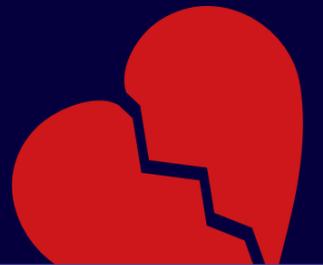
Children should not stay in institutions for a long period of time. Family reunification must be a priority.

GENERALISE

Do not generalise children - each child has a different background and unique needs. Instead, address the issues of placement in an institution on a case by case basis.

VOLUNTEER IN INSTITUTIONS

Young volunteers must not be allowed to work in institutions.



GOOD TO KNOW

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

The life of every child in the institution matters, regardless of their background.

CHILD PARTICIPATION

Every child has the right to participate in decision-making processes which impact their life. Young people have an important role to play in care reform. They should be well informed and play a crucial role in the process.

BEST INTERESTS

The best interests of the child must be the most important thing in any care system.

TAILORED CARE

Help must be culturally and linguistically tailored.

EDUCATION

There should be more education and outreach on care reform for professionals, families, and the general public.



YOU MUST

SUPPORT FAMILIES

There must be better support for poor families in order to prevent separation. For example, there must be more employment opportunities for these families.

SUPPORT REUNITED FAMILIES

When children are reunited with their families, it's important that they are still supported in some way to prevent any further harm or abuse.

SUPPORT CARE LEAVERS

There should be better support for care leavers and children preparing to transition out of care. Care givers should also be included in this support.

CHECK

Donors must ensure that there are monitoring systems in place to ensure that their money is being used safely and correctly.

EDUCATE

Information is power. We must educate children in institutions, schools, religious institutions and the community at large on child trafficking and exploitation.

RESEARCH

Donors should do their research before donating or giving gifts to an institution or child.

TRAIN

Every professional working within care reform should be trained and informed about the impacts of adverse childhood experiences and have a trauma-informed approach to their work.

