NACC

THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL FOR CHILDREN IN DEPENDENCY CASES

**The fundamental rights of abused and neglected children are at stake in child welfare proceedings. Children have the basic human rights to be free from abuse and neglect, to be reunited with their families, and to have a permanent home. Children who are at risk of being removed from their parents' custody and who are not represented by counsel are at a disadvantage in exercising their rights to be heard, to receive services, and to have a permanent home. Children who are represented by counsel are more likely to have their voices heard, receive services, and achieve permanency