

JUVENILES AND THEIR POSITION IN THE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

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ABSTRACT

The issue of juveniles as a special category of participants in deviant illegal activities in the capacity of witnesses and victims, was followed by a great complexity and sensitivity, thus, it is more than necessary to put special emphasis on the proper flow of juvenile justice procedure, and both repressive and preventive measures that should be undertaken and the approach of authorities that conduct the proceedings involving juveniles and the manner in which they should be treated before and after proceedings with the aim of re-educating and reintegrating them in the society. Prevention of criminality amongst juveniles requires efforts from the entire society (family and community). The wellbeing of young persons from the early childhood should be the focus of every prevention programme. There should be community oriented programs and services for prevention of juvenile criminality. Considering the very important and necessary role of all stakeholders implementing juvenile justice procedures in judiciary it is more than necessary for these professionals to have deep knowledge in relation to rights of juveniles, international instruments which provide for these rights and their implementation in practice.

Keywords: Juvenile justice, international instruments, law, reintegration-re-education.