

CHILD ABDUCTION

It occurs when:



The father or mother, who has only visitation rights, takes the minor to live in another place or country "WITHOUT" the consent of the father or mother who has custody



The non-custodial parent who has visitation rights and he / she does not comply by keeping the minor for more than the allotted time

Who can be held responsible?



The non-custodial parent who has visitation rights recognized by a court order



Other blood relatives such as grandparents or siblings

What should I do?



If you are in Mexico and your children are in the United States

Go to the ministry of foreign affairs (Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores) with the following documentation:

- Photo(s) of the minor(s)
- Photo(s) of who "kidnapped" the minor(s)
- Info to help locate the offender
- Marriage certificate, if the ceremony was officially recognized, and if the offender is one of the parents
- Minor's birth certificate (in English and Spanish)
- If there was a court ruling, attach a copy of the legal document (in English and Spanish)
- Written declaration by the plaintiff describing the facts



If you are in the United States:

- The Office of Children's Affairs can assist you in returning your children to their country of habitual residence

* Learn more about the **Minor Affairs Office**



If you are abroad or in a country that is part of the Hague convention:

- Go to the designated Central Authority in that country

* Know the list of central authorities **here**