

1. (To Legal Aid) The Legal Aid submission (Submission 18, Pg 3) mentions persuasive arguments from the United States to the effect that children's legal rights can be disregarded if the public are prevented from knowing or commenting about cases involving children. Could you elaborate?

**This was raised in the Legal Aid submission to cover what some of the arguments have been in favour of the public knowing what happens in court. In the United States publicity has historically been seen as a way of protecting people who might otherwise be punished unjustly. This should not be confused with naming juveniles. Whilst the Children's Court in NSW is a closed court, the media is rarely usually excluded. The media is free to report on what goes on in the Children's Court as long as the child is not named.**