

Right To Participate

Children In Research

Children have a very unique way of looking at the world. There are so many ideas that children have that are not being heard due to the way we do research currently. Children should become a part of any studies that directly involve things that will have an impact on their life. A child's voice is just as important as the voice of the adults in their lives and the voice of the researcher. If the study is about how to improve something in that child's life, the child should have a say in that, too.

FUNCTION. FAMILY. FITNESS. FUN. FRIENDS. FUTURE

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO GIVE YOUR OPINION AND FOR ADULTS TO LISTEN AND TAKE IT SERIOUSLY

UN Convention on Rights of the Child - Child Friendly version - Article 13



ROLES

- **Researcher:** Extra time and resources to ensure a child's safety during the research process, respect child's voice, communication should match child's abilities
- **Child:** Talk about what's important to you and make your voice heard, talk about what matters to you, etc.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR KIDS TO PARTICIPATE?

- Having your voice heard
- Make changes in your community,
- Participate in the community.
- Adults don't always understand what works best for you - you also need to have your opinion heard.

WHAT ELSE IS IMPORTANT?

Kids tend to be more willing to talk to adults in a study if there is another adult in the room that they trust. It is important that kids know that an adult that they know and trust can always be there through the entire process. Equally important is that a child knows that they have the right to say that they no longer feel comfortable participating or answering the questions being asked.

