

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY IN PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MINORS**

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the role and importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors. The family, as the smallest but most important unit of society, plays an invaluable role in the formation of the child's personality, the development of his legal and moral values. The article covers the legal foundations of the protection of children's rights based on the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Rights of the Child", the "Family Code" and the UN "Convention on the Rights of the Child". At the end of the study, practical proposals are made to improve the system of protecting children's rights, increase the legal literacy of parents and study international experience.

**Keywords:** minors, children's rights, family, protection system, Family Code, UN Convention, Children's Ombudsman, upbringing, legal culture, social protection.

The most sacred and invaluable place in the life of every person is the family. The family, as the smallest but most important unit of society, plays an invaluable role in the formation of a person, in the development of his spiritual and moral qualities, in preparing him for life. It is in the family that a person's attitude towards rights and duties, beliefs, and a sense of respect for social values are formed. Therefore, the family plays a decisive role in protecting the rights of minors.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the issue of protecting children's rights is one of the priority areas of state policy. In this regard, national legislation has been harmonized with international standards, and comprehensive legal mechanisms have been introduced based on the Law "On the Rights of the Child", the "Family Code" and the UN "Convention on the Rights of the Child". These documents guarantee children's rights to life, education, healthy development, free expression and non-discrimination.

Nevertheless, in the current era of globalization and information flows, the minds of minors are influenced by various harmful ideas, violence, indifference and wrong values. As a result of family conflicts, economic difficulties, parental neglect or irresponsibility, some children are faced with violations of their rights. Therefore, an in-depth study of the role, responsibility and educational impact of the family in protecting the rights of children is becoming an urgent scientific and practical issue today.

The relevance of studying the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors is manifested, first of all, in its direct impact on the stability of society and the future generation's growth as a well-rounded person. Because the family is the primary guarantor of the rights of the child, the natural environment for his formation as a person.

Today, important reforms are being implemented in the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of protecting the interests of children. In particular, President Sh.M. In accordance with Mirziyoyev's decree "On measures to further improve the system for ensuring the rights of the child" dated August 9, 2021, the Institute of the Children's Ombudsman was established. This brought the system for protecting children's rights to a new level.

However, factors such as the social and moral weakening of the family, the work of parents away from home due to migration, and the uncontrolled influence of the media are among the urgent problems that threaten the rights of minors. In this regard, strengthening the role of the family in protecting the rights of the child, increasing the legal literacy of parents, and improving

the culture of working with children are becoming important factors in the development of society.

Therefore, the study of this topic is relevant not only theoretically, but also practically, and it serves as an important scientific basis for strengthening the socio-legal protection of children, raising a healthy generation, and ensuring the stability of a democratic society.

When we say minors, we mean citizens under the age of 18, as specified in Article 22 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The question arises: "What rights can minors have and how are they protected?"

Today, minors have many rights, which we can see in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, an authoritative international document adopted in 1989, and the Law on the Rights of the Child adopted in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In addition, Articles 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 73 of the Family Code also relate to children's rights.

Article 64 of the Family Code establishes the fundamental rights of minors, which include a number of important rights, such as the right to a name and surname, to life, to mental and physical development, to freedom of thought and conscience, to education, to a life free from violence, and to respect for personal dignity. At the same time, the legislation specifically states that, along with minors, unborn babies, that is, babies in the womb, also have the right to inherit.

Article 66 of the Family Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan states that a child has the right to freely express his or her opinion in resolving any issue affecting his or her interests. This norm indicates that a child, as a person, has the ability to think independently and make decisions. For example, when a child is born, their name and surname are determined by agreement between their parents, but once the child turns 16 and receives a citizenship certificate, they have the right to change their name or surname at their own discretion.

The rights of minors are primarily protected by their legal representatives - their parents, since minors do not have the opportunity to independently exercise their rights and freedoms. In this regard, parents have equal rights and obligations in protecting the rights of the child, jointly fulfilling the responsibility of providing for the child financially, raising him in a healthy physical, mental and moral way, and preparing him for an independent life. Because from the first day of his birth, the child feels the care of his parents and spends most of his life with them. Therefore, the child's behavior, role in society and values, first of all, directly depend on the upbringing in the family. Unfortunately, today some parents do not fully understand their responsibility. In some cases, parents treat children cruelly, humiliate them, indulge in alcoholism or drug addiction. This is an abuse of parental rights. If such circumstances are identified, the judicial authorities will make a decision to deprive the parents of parental rights, taking into account the interests of the minors.

The court also issues a decision on the recovery of material support for the child - alimony - from the person deprived of parental rights. In accordance with Article 99 of the Family Code, the amount of alimony is one quarter of the parents' income for each child, one third for two children, and half for three or more children. This amount is intended to meet the child's daily needs.

In addition, minor children can also be fully supported by state or non-state institutions. Children whose parents have died, that is, orphans, are fully supported by the state. Large-scale work is being carried out in the Republic of Uzbekistan to support children socially, economically and spiritually.

In particular, on August 9, 2021, President Sh.M. The Institute of the Children's Ombudsman, the representative of the Oliy Majlis for children's rights, was established on the basis of the decree "On measures to further improve the system for ensuring children's rights" signed by Mirziyoyev. This institute is engaged in protecting the rights and legitimate interests of children,

considering appeals related to their violation, and coordinating the activities of state bodies in this regard.

The United Nations also plays a significant role in protecting children's rights. One of the highest goals of the UN is to protect the rights and interests of children. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted on November 20, 1989, was ratified by the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1992. After the adoption of this international document, significant results were achieved worldwide in such areas as improving the lives of children, putting an end to forced labor and exploitation, and combating child trafficking. According to statistics, one in four children in the world lives in areas where conflicts or emergencies prevail.

One of the specialized agencies of the UN, UNICEF, also plays an important role in protecting children's rights. The main goal of this organization, established after World War II, is to save children's lives, promote their healthy development, and strengthen the system of legal and social protection.

Unfortunately, today the number of crimes committed by minors is also increasing. Such situations have a negative impact not only on their future, but also on the sustainable development of society. Due to their lack of life experience and social responsibility, minors often commit crimes due to an unfavorable environment, negative influences, or neglect. Their mental state, upbringing, and social circumstances are among the main factors in such behavior. The causes of juvenile delinquency include neglect in the family, bad friends, harmful information on the Internet, and unemployment. Therefore, every child needs attention, love, and proper guidance. If we provide children with sufficient upbringing, care, and attention, crime will decrease, and peace and stability in society will be strengthened.

In conclusion, the following can be stated. A theoretical and methodological analysis of the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors shows that this issue can be seen at every stage of human history. Protecting the rights of minors is an important factor for the sustainable development of a democratic society. The study revealed that the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors can be fully revealed only when systematic, comparative, sociocultural, and discursive approaches are used in a comprehensive manner. These approaches help to understand the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors not only as a legal or political phenomenon, but also as a system of education of children's psychology and cultural values. In this sense, the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors remains one of the relevant scientific and practical directions in the modernization processes of Uzbekistan. From the above summary, the following proposals can be made:

firstly, to introduce more advanced curricula on the importance of the family in protecting the rights of minors in the education system, to conduct training sessions on children's rights among parents and children;

secondly, to promote writings and projects about the rights of minors through the media;

thirdly, to strengthen children's rights, prevent discrimination, harmonize international standards with national legislation;

fourth, expanding cooperation between political and social institutions, establishing scientific and practical cooperation with the Children's Ombudsman and other institutions;

fifth, studying scientific research and international experience - analyzing the policy models of developed countries on children's rights and developing recommendations suitable for the conditions of Uzbekistan.

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