

#### **4) What are my rights as a parent?**

We've shared with you a lot about the rights of children but what about the specific rights of parents?

##### **Fears about rights**

For parents, it's a common fear that children, armed with the knowledge that they have rights will use the knowledge like a weapon and try to use their rights "against" their parents.

##### **It's about respect**

Rest assured, the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) repeatedly upholds the important role parents have in the lives of children and says that governments must respect the responsibility of parents for providing guidance to their children.

Specifically, the Convention supports:

- Parents/caregivers in raising their children. (Article 5)
- Child connecting with their nationality, name and family (Article 8.1)
- How important it is for children to be raised by their parents whenever possible. (Article 7.1)
- Parents to guide the religious development of their children. (Article 14)
- The responsibility both parents have in raising their children. (Article 18)

##### **It's about respect**

The Convention is clear that children have the responsibility to respect the rights of others. Children tend to understand this. If they want their rights respected, they know they must also respect the rights of others. One of the aims of a child rights education is the development of respect for everyone and their values and culture.