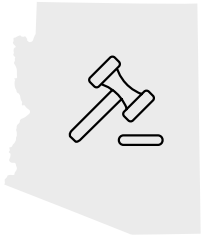


The fundamental rights of children are at stake in abuse and neglect court proceedings. Dependency courts have the power to remove children from their homes, determine who they live with, for how long, and decide whether they will ever see their families again.



By Arizona law, parents are entitled to a lawyer to represent their legal rights in these matters. Children are not.



Children with legal representation exit foster care and achieve permanency up to 3.5 times faster.

CHILDREN WITH LEGAL REPRESENTATION



- **Save the state money** in administration costs and services.
- Have **more visits with family** while in out of home care.
- Are **more likely to be adopted** if they can't safely return home.

CHILD LAWYER



GUARDIAN AD LITEM
(CURRENT ARIZONA LAW)

The child is the client and has traditional legal representation.
The child is protected with the attorney / client privilege.
Motions and pleadings are filed advocating for the child's legal rights.
Lawyer oversight by the State Bar of Arizona.

The child is not represented, the GAL's duty is to the court.
No attorney / client privilege exists.
No obligation to advocate for the child's legal rights.
No oversight by the State Bar.