

# Social Media Toolkit

## Access Denied: A National Snapshot of States' Failure to Protect Children's Right to Counsel

#ACCESSDENIED #GAULTAT50

TWITTER @NATJUVDEFEND

### KEY FINDINGS:

#AccessDenied Key Finding: Only 11 states provide every child with a lawyer, regardless of finances njdc.info/snapshot @NatJuvDefend

#AccessDenied Key Finding: No state guarantees lawyers for every child during interrogation njdc.info/snapshot @NatJuvDefend

#AccessDenied Key Finding: 36 states allow children to be charged fees for a "free" lawyer njdc.info/snapshot @NatJuvDefend

#AccessDenied Key Finding: 43 states allow children to waive their right to a lawyer w/o first consulting w/ lawyer njdc.info/snapshot

#AccessDenied Key Finding: Only 11 states provide for meaningful access to a lawyer after sentencing njdc.info/snapshot @NatJuvDefend

### SAMPLE TWEETS:

NEW REPORT @NatJuvDefend - #AccessDenied: A Nat'l Snapshot of States' Failure to Protect Children's Right to Counsel njdc.info/snapshot

NEW REPORT: Every state falls short of constitutional obligation to provide lawyers for youth #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

Juvenile defenders tether the Constitution to the courts. 50 years after Gault, let's fulfill the promise njdc.info/snapshot #GaultAt50

Access to counsel affords protections in a system that disproportionately incarcerates youth of color #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

In law & practice, the right to counsel is routinely withheld from youth in juvenile court #GaultAt50 #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

TWITTER @NATJUVDEFEND

Children should be eligible for a juvenile defender by virtue of their status as children NEW REPORT: #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

“[The courts] are leaching the poor left and right” - Juvenile Defender in @NatJuvDefend’s new report, #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

“It’s not only unfair but grossly naïve to expect children to navigate this system alone.” Read more: njdc.info/snapshot #AccessDenied

“If public defenders were allowed to do regular post-dispo advocacy, injustices would come to light.” #AccessDenied njdc.info/snapshot

FACEBOOK /NJDC.INFO

#### **SAMPLE FACEBOOK POSTS:**

Today marks the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision *In re Gault*, which affirmed children’s right to a lawyer in juvenile court. But a new report released by the @National Juvenile Defender Center found that fifty years later, no state has yet to fulfill its constitutional obligation to provide effective lawyers for youth. Read the report, share it with friends, and join NJDC in the fight to fulfill the promise of justice for all children. #AccessDenied #GaultAt50 [Paste link: njdc.info/snapshot]

Denial of the right to counsel disrupts — and even demeans — children’s lives, contradicting the most basic tenets of the original vision of juvenile court. The system becomes focused on what is efficient, not what is fair or right or will lead to the most successful outcomes for children. On the 50th anniversary of *In re Gault*, the Supreme Court decision that affirmed the right to a lawyer for youth, read the @National Juvenile Defender Center’s new report and join the movement to demand justice for children. #AccessDenied #GaultAt50 [Paste link: njdc.info/snapshot]

Access Denied: A National Snapshot of States’ Failure to Protect Children’s Right to Counsel, a new report by the @National Juvenile Defender Center, reveals that in both law and practice, children are routinely denied basic protections in court — notably, their right to a lawyer. Fifty years after the Supreme Court affirmed children’s right to counsel, we must do better for our youth. #AccessDenied #GaultAt50 [Paste link: njdc.info/snapshot]

#ACCESSDENIED #GAULTAT50

Fifty years after the Supreme Court affirmed children's right to a lawyer, the ongoing disparate treatment of youth of color alone signals the unquestionable necessity for defense counsel. Read the National Juvenile Defender Center's new report on how every state fails to fulfill the promise of justice for children — and especially for children of color. #AccessDenied #GaultAt50 [Paste link: [njdc.info/snapshot](http://njdc.info/snapshot)]

Access to justice is access to counsel. Read the @National Juvenile Defender Center's new report detailing how children in America are denied their constitutional right to counsel in court — and how we overcome the crisis. #AccessDenied #GaultAt50 [Paste link: [njdc.info/snapshot](http://njdc.info/snapshot)]

## GRAPHICS

Please visit [njdc.info/snapshot](http://njdc.info/snapshot) to download graphics to share with your Facebook and Twitter posts.