

## Purposes of the Juvenile Act

- ✓ Preserve the unity of the family whenever possible or to provide another alternative permanent family when the unity of the family cannot be maintained. To provide for the care, protection, safety and wholesome mental and physical development of children coming within its provisions.
- ✓ Consistent with the protection of the public interest, remove from children committing delinquent acts programs of supervision, care and rehabilitation which provide balanced attention to the protection of the community, the imposition of accountability for offenses committed and the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community.

- ✓ Achieve these purposes in a family environment whenever possible, separating the child from parents only when necessary for his/her welfare, safety or health or in the interests of public safety.
  
- ✓ Provide a means through which the Act's provisions are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured a fair hearing and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and enforced.