

# Basic Permanency Assumptions

- Children have a right and need to live and develop within safe, secure, and permanent families.
- Children have a right to live with parents/caretakers whom they can love, trust, and depend upon.
- Separation for extended periods of time may result in tremendous **psychological and developmental disruption**.
- A child's **perception and experience of time are determined by his level of cognitive developmental maturity**.
- Whenever possible, a child should live with his family of origin, or "birth family."