# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledgments</th>
<th>xi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributors</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Abbreviations</td>
<td>xvii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PART I

**Chapter 1:** Overview  
*Jonathan Todres, Mark E. Wojcik & Cris R. Revaz*

**Chapter 2:** An Introduction to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child  
*Cris R. Revaz*

A. CRC Principles  
B. Origin, Negotiation, and Adoption of the CRC  
C. Monitoring Role and Reporting Requirements of Committee on the Rights of the Child  
D. Ratification and Implementation

**Chapter 3:** Analyzing the Opposition to U.S. Ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child  
*Jonathan Todres*

A. The CRC, The Role of Parents, and the Family Unit  
B. The CRC and U.S. Sovereignty  
C. U.S. Approach to Human Rights Treaties Historically  
D. Conclusion

**Chapter 4:** The Effect of U.S. Ratification as a “Self-Executing” or as a “Non-Self-Executing” Treaty  
*Linda A. Malone*

**Chapter 5:** The Family-Supportive Nature of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child  
*Barbara Bennett Woodhouse*

A. The CRC Is a Human Rights Charter That Restrains Government Abuses  
B. The CRC Does Not Empower Children to Sue Their Parents; It Empowers Parents to Protect Children Against Government Abuses
C. The CRC Affirms and Supports the Fundamental Rights and Responsibilities of Parents ........... 41
D. The CRC Encourages a Partnership Between Families and the State to Protect and Support Vulnerable Children ......................... 46

Chapter 6: The Changing Status of the Child ...................... 51
Barbara Bennett Woodhouse

Chapter 7: Beyond Other Treaties: The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Value of a "Dedicated Line" .......................... 65
Merle H. Weiner
A. Committee on the Rights of the Child ................. 71
B. CRC Domestic Monitoring Bodies .................. 77
   1. NGOs ........................................... 79
   2. IGOs .......................................... 81
C. Conclusion ........................................ 83

Cathy L. Nelson
A. Main Areas of CRC Conflict with U.S. Federal System .................. 88
B. U.S. Ratification of Human Rights Treaties With Reservations ....................... 90
C. Possible Solutions to Conflicts ....................... 92
D. Conclusion ....................................... 95

PART II

Daniel L. Skoler
A. Introduction ...................................... 99
B. The Anti-Discrimination Guarantees ................. 100
C. Impact for U.S. Law—Constitutional Guarantees ... 101
D. Impact for U.S. Law—Legislative Guarantees .... 103
E. Discrimination in Educational Rights—An Exploratory Examination .......... 105
F. Discrimination in Health Care and Related Benefits—Another Impact Examination .......... 110
G. Other Child Discrimination Concerns ............... 113
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The Best Interests of the Child</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elisabeth Mason</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>The Right of the Child to Be Heard</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christine M. Szaj</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. Introduction</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. Article 12 Provision and Related Provisions and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. Trends in U.S. Law</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Delinquency</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Medical Treatment</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Abuse/Neglect and Termination Hearings</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Child Custody Determinations</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Administrative Actions</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D. Broad Impact of Article 12 on U.S. Law</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Freedom of Expression</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martha Matthews</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. History and Interpretation of Article 13</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. History and Interpretation of the Limitation Clause in Article 13</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. The Impact of Ratification of Article 13 upon U.S. Law</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Freedom of Thought, Conscience, and Religion</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greg Lantier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. Discussion of Article 14</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Legislative History and Implementation of Article 14</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. A Child's Freedom of Thought, Conscience, and Religion under U.S. Law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. Implementing Article 14 in the United States</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>What the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child Says (and Doesn't Say) About Abortion and Family Planning</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jonathan Todres &amp; Louise N. Howe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. CRC Provision Regarding Abortion .......................... 164
   a. Preamble ............................................. 164
   b. Article 1—Flexibility Rather Than a Single
      Solution for All States Parties ...................... 165
   c. Article 6—Protections Depend on the
      Definition of Child in Article 1 .................... 168
   d. Article 16’s Right to Privacy Pertains to
      National Policies Regarding Children and
      Is Not Meant to Police Parents .................... 169
   e. Article 24’s “Appropriate” Family Planning
      Provisions Allow Each State Party to Adopt
      Provisions in Accordance with Its Own Views .... 170

B. A Brief Overview of U.S. Law and Policy .................. 172
   1. Abortion .......................................... 172
   2. Family Planning and Birth Control ................... 173

C. Impact of CRC Provisions on Domestic Law ............ 174
   1. Abortion .......................................... 174
   2. Family Planning and Birth Control ................... 174

D. Conclusion ........................................... 174

**Chapter 15:** Children’s Right of Access to Information .... 177

*Siyeon Lee*

A. Legislative History of Article 17 ....................... 177
B. Law and Policy in the United States Regarding
   Children’s Right to Access Information .............. 180
C. Article 17 Is Consistent with U.S. Law and Policy ... 186

**Chapter 16:** Children’s Rights to Freedom of Association,
   Assembly, and Privacy .................................. 189

*Rebekah Tosado*

A. The Rights of Children and Parents under
   Articles 15 and 16 .................................. 189
   1. Rights of Parents and Children under
      Articles 15 and 16 of the CRC ....................... 190
   2. History and Interpretation .......................... 191
      a. Hierarchy of Rights in the Convention .......... 191
      b. Recognition of Parental Authority in
         Article 5 ......................................... 192
      c. Origin of, and Rationale for, Articles 15
         and 16 ............................................ 192
      d. Attempts to Amend the Proposal .................. 193
   3. Views of the Committee on the Rights
      of the Child ........................................ 194
Table of Contents

Chapter 17: The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child and Corporal Punishment .......................... 201

Michael Pates
A. Introduction ............................................. 201
B. Legislative History and Subsequent Interpretation ............................................. 202
C. Impact of Article 19 on U.S. Law and Policy ............................................. 203
D. Conclusion ............................................. 205

Chapter 18: Provisions for Alternative Care for Children Deprived of Their Family Environment ..................... 207

Maya Grosz
A. Introduction ............................................. 208
B. Article 20 ............................................. 208
C. Article 21 ............................................. 210
D. U.S. Law and Policy on Foster Care and Adoption ............................................. 212
1. Foster Care ............................................. 212
2. Considerations of Race, Religion, Ethnicity, and Language in Foster Care and Adoption ............................................. 214
3. Adoption ............................................. 215
E. Impact of Articles 20 and 21 on U.S. Law and Policy ............................................. 217

Chapter 19: The Right to Health under the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child ............................................. 221

Jonathan Todres
A. CRC Provision on the Right to Health ............................................. 222
B. Qualifying Language Applicable to the Right to Health ............................................. 226
Chapter 20: Children's Right to an Adequate Standard of Living... 237
Catherine S. Taylor
A. Legislative History and Analysis of Article 27 ... 237
   1. Legislative History of Article 27 ... 238
   2. Law and Policy in the United States Regarding Children’s Right to an Adequate Standard of Living ... 241
   3. Article 27 and U.S. Law and Policy ... 243
      a. Right to an Adequate Standard of Living ... 243
      b. Parents or Others Responsible for the Child Have the Primary Responsibility for the Care of Their Children ... 245
      c. States Parties Shall Take Appropriate Measures to Assist Parents or Others Responsible for the Child ... 245
      d. States Parties Shall Take Appropriate Measures to Recover Maintenance for the Child ... 248
B. Conclusion ... 249

Chapter 21: State Education Law Compared to Rights under the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child... 251
Anna Dolinsky
A. Introduction ... 252
B. Article 28—A Child’s Right to Access Appropriate Education ... 253
C. Article 29—A Child’s Right to a Comprehensive and Respectful School Curriculum ... 256
D. Summary ... 257

Chapter 22: The Child’s Right to Play, Rest, Recreation, and Cultural Activities... 259
Lori Hall Armstrong
A. Legislative History and Subsequent Interpretation ... 259
B. U.S. Law and Policy Relevant to Article 31 ... 263
C. Impact of Article 31 on U.S. Law and Policy ... 264
D. Conclusion ... 266
Chapter 23: Child Labor and the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child

Elisabeth Mason

A. Legislative History and Subsequent Interpretation ............................................. 267
B. U.S. Law and Policy .............................................................................. 269
C. Impact of Article 32 on U.S. Law and Policy ............................................. 271

Chapter 24: Capital Punishment and Life Sentences for Juvenile Offenders

Evelynn Brown Remple & Mark E. Wojcik

A. The Juvenile Death Penalty ........................................................................ 278
B. Life Imprisonment for Juveniles ................................................................. 285


Cris R. Revaz & Jonathan Todres

A. Introduction .......................................................................................... 293
B. Trafficking Protocol .............................................................................. 294
   1. The Problem of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children .................................................................................. 294
   2. Principal Provisions of the Trafficking Protocol .................................. 296
   3. Impact of the Trafficking Protocol ....................................................... 299
   4. U.S. Reservations, Understandings, and Declarations ......................... 299
C. U.S. Implementation of the Trafficking Protocol ....................................... 301
D. The Child Soldiers Protocol ................................................................... 303
   1. The Problem of the Use of Children in Armed Conflict ....................... 303
E. U.S Implementation of the Child Soldiers Protocol ..................................... 307
F. Conclusion .......................................................................................... 308

Appendices

I. U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child ............................................. 311
II. Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts ............................................ 333
V. States Parties to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. ........................................ 353

Table of Cases. ...................................................... 359

Index. .................................................................. 363