

## Module 1: Introduction to Children's Rights and Protection Laws

### Session 3.2: Child Protection Laws in India

Duration: 2:35 min

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At the end of the session, you will be able to describe what is

- The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- Other child protection laws and their features

**The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015:** The Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 was in operation for more than a decade. Though it was amended twice in 2006 and 2011, many issues arose constraining its effective implementation. In view of the cases of serious offences committed by children, the Juvenile Justice Act of 2000 needed to be amended to include punitive approaches in the existing Juvenile Justice Law, which so far remained purely rehabilitative and reformative. The new Act came to be known as the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Bill 2015 was passed by Parliament on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015. The Act came into force from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Let us now discuss the Highlights of JJ Act, 2015, After the revisions, the following amendments were made:**

- Number of chapters increased from five to ten
- New chapters relate to general principles of care and protection of children, JJB, CWC, adoption, other offences against children
- Number of sections increased from 70 to 112
- Greater clarity in the definition of CCI and Children's court
- Act has been divided into two major parts- children in conflict with law and child in need of care and protection (CCL and CNCP)
- Let us remember, there are two key structures under the JJ Act which conduct inquiry in case of CCL and CNCP. These include Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) for CCL and Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for CNCP.

JJB is a Board which consist of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of First Class not

- being Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or Chief Judicial Magistrate with at least three years' experience and two social workers and looks into the matters of CCL.
- CWC consists of a Chairperson, and four other members of whom at least one should be a woman and another, an expert on the matters concerning children. The Committee looks into the matter of CNCP