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Do you know your rights when filing a complaint for a sexual or other grave offense?

If you are a boy, a girl or an adolescent, or a responsible accompanying adult, read this information.

Any type of sexual violence towards children or adolescents is a crime and must be reported.

More information at: www.amparoyjusticia.cl

#NOMEPREGUNTENMAS



What is a complaint?: A notice to authorities of a possible offense, to begin an investigation.

Where can I file a complaint?: The police (Carabineros de Chile), investigative police (Policía de Investigaciones), the Public Prosecutor's office (Ministerio Público), or criminal courts.

The officials of these institutions **cannot refuse to receive the complaint.** Neither can they derive it to another unit or institution (Law 21.057).

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During the complaint

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1. The people who receive the complaint must treat complainants with dignity and respect. **They must also inform them about their rights and the following steps.**

2. The participation of the child or adolescent in the complaint is voluntary and not mandatory in any case. If they choose, they can attend without an adult. Likewise, the responsible adult can go without the victim.

3. The complaint **must be filed in a private and protected space,** separate from places where there are other people present.

4. The people taking the complaint must **literally** register all the verbal and non-verbal expressions of the child or adolescent. They cannot ask them questions about how the events occurred or who participated.

What happens after that?

After filing a complaint, a professional from the Regional Units of Assistance to Victims and Witnesses (URAVIT) of the Prosecutor's Office will get in touch with the child or adolescent or the responsible adult to determine if they are in physical and psychological conditions to participate in a Video-recorded Investigative Interview.

What is a Video-recorded Investigative Interview?

It is an interview led by a trained official to obtain the testimony of a child or adolescent, intended to guide the investigation and protect their rights. **This conversation is recorded with a camera and a microphone, and it is carefully safeguarded.**

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