



3rd NGO Report
on the implementation
of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
in
Curaçao
(Within the Netherland's Kingdom)

With additional remarks from NGO's on
Bonaire
(a municipal country in the Netherlands)

Curaçao, July 2014

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INTRODUCTION

The Convention on the Rights of the Child entered into force on January 1998 for the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and consequently for the Netherlands Antilles. After the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, Curaçao became successor in regards of the signed treaties.

This is the third report, which supplements the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao. This report contains additional information and it comments on the report of the government. It covers the period from 2008 to 2013.

Current data and statistics in Curaçao on the rights of the child are not available. Data and statistics, which are available, are either outdated, or scattered between the different organizations. It was therefor of the utmost importance to interview key persons of non-governmental as well as governmental organizations in the judicial chain, welfare, education, and health care on the situation of children in Curaçao. The following non-governmental organizations and governmental organizations contributed with either data, information, or material for the report: 1. *Jeugd officier van justitie (Youth public prosecutor)*; 2. *Central Bureau of Statistics Curaçao*; 3. *Ombudsman Curaçao*; 4. *Parents Association Totolika (mentally handicapped)*; 5. *Voogdijraad Curaçao (Guardianship Board/Child protective services)*; 6. *Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao (Foundation on Child Protection)*; 7. *Fundashon pa Maneho di Adikshon (Foundation on Addiction)*; 8. *Fundashon Bos di Hubentut (Foundation on Voices of the Youth)*; 9. *Law department of the University of Curaçao*; 10. *Fundashon Famia Plania (Foundation on responsible parenthood)*; 11. *General inspector at the Ministry of education, science, culture, and sport*; 12. *Ministry of Justice*; 13. *Ministry of Social development, Labor, and welfare*; 14. *Roman Catholic School board*; 15. *Rema Uni (confederation of school parents associations)*; 16. *Stichting Slachtofferhulp (Victim support foundation)*; 17. *Fundashon Guia, Eduka I Forma (Alternative care institutions)*; 18. *Ministry of education, science, culture, and sport*; 19. *Parliamentarian*; 20. *Ministry of health, environment, and nature*; 21. *SIFMA (Highscope trainer)*; 22. *Epidemiology & Research Unit of the Ministry of health, environment, and nature*; 23. *Guided tour in Justitiële Jeugd Inrichting Curaçao (Judicial Juvenile institution)*.

SIFMA¹ (Training and resource centre for early childhood care and education) prepared this report and FAJ² (Antillean Federation for Youth Care) contributed to the section on the children's view.

NGO organizations on the island of Bonaire, a municipal country in the Netherlands since the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles, opted to comment in this report on the fourth periodic report of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the second section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Netherlands in the Caribbean.

¹ Tamara Salsbach LL.M.

² Jelle Bax

I. GENERAL MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

(Articles 4, 42, 44(6))

Reservations and declarations

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

Legislation and other measures

The government states to have taken several measures to harmonize the legislation and policies of Curaçao with the provisions of the Convention. However, after dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles in 10-10-10, Curaçao became a constituent country within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. A result from the dissolution is the disintegration of the double-layered government, which brought about a turbulent period for the governmental organizations. Curaçao is still in the process of the governmental reorganization and within this situation all partners involved need to work on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. A problem derived from this situation is the termination of established collaborations after 10-10-10. Critical partners in the field dealing with children's cases need to pass through a newly established bureaucracy, which makes it impossible to create new concessions. Lack of collaboration between governmental organizations and between governmental and non-governmental organizations is an ongoing problem. Protocols have been developed in order to attack this, however they are not complied with. After 10-10-10 ministries isolated themselves, and all activities have become highly fragmented. This brought about a situation where organizations try to solve problems on their own. There is no aftercare and collaboration, which results into children falling through the cracks.

As long as there is no formulated long-term vision on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao, no guarantees can be made in regards of better collaboration between all partners within the Child Rights field. With a well-formulated vision, Curaçao can promote a better implementation of the Convention in the Rights of the Child and give guidance to all in the field as to the future courses of action.

Every new installed government, restarts the whole process, reinvents the wheel, and works with an ad hoc principle, which determines the direction of the Children's Rights in Curaçao. "There is little coordination between ministries and between the ministries and organizations from the civil society, and insufficient governmental supervision on the organizations from the civil society"³. Governmental officials acknowledged that there is no in-house knowledge to analyze for example the annual reports in order to determine whether set goals have been achieved or not. In order to structure the goodwill mentality from organizations working for children, implementation of the Convention on the rights of the child in Curaçao need to be structured.

A well-functioning multidisciplinary child welfare team needs to be re-installed. In order for this team to be able to function properly, the youth care bill, which is currently in draft form, should be in place. This bill specifies the roles of all actors and the designated tasks. All involved stressed on the importance of the passing of this bill, and with no delays.

Independent monitoring structures

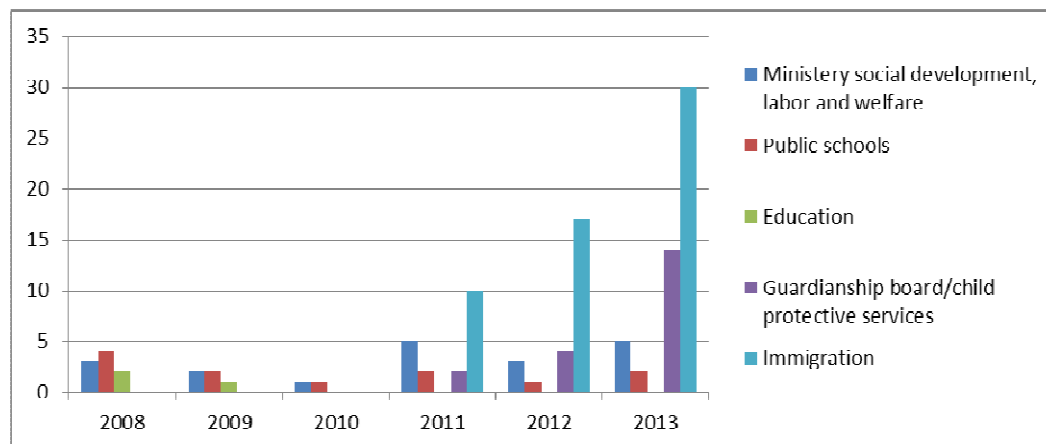
National ombudsman

Curaçao needs an independent and effective mechanism, which monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, deals with complaints from children in a child-sensitive, direct and expeditious manner, and which provides remedies for violations of their rights under the Convention. It is therefore of the utmost importance to establish a children's ombudsman in Curaçao. The parliament of Curaçao is currently looking at the possibilities for the institutionalization of a children's ombudsman. The laws are being analyzed.

The nature of complaints the national ombudsman deals with in regards of children are: Alimony, school transport, school uniform, Undocumented children and education, families from which water has been cut off, school injuries and insurance, medical facilities, internships, and prison visitation.

³ UNICEF, *De situatie van kinderen en jongeren op Curaçao*, United Nations Children's Fund, 2013

Table 1
Complaints per area handled by the National Ombudsman Curaçao



Source: Nationaal ombudsman Curaçao

UNICEF

UNICEF conducted a situation analysis in 2012 on children and youngsters in Curaçao. Based on information gathered on policy, data, group discussions, and interviews with stakeholder UNICEF was able to draw up this report. Not only did UNICEF confirm the issue on data collection in Curaçao, but the organization also noticed that Curaçao has a high living standard and it noticed that the situation of children and youngsters are generally good⁴. Still, UNICEF states that there are several challenges that Curaçao needs to pay attention to, in order to improve the situation of the children on the island. There is criticism in the field on this report, since data published is not correct, situations are wrongly interpreted, and the situation of the children and youngsters are worse than projected. However, either Curaçao does not have sufficient up to date data to substantiate this or feedback on the report was not included.

There is also one cardinal question that the Netherlands, Curaçao, and the other islands in the Caribbean should debate on, and that is to decide which norm is assumed. Namely, one Kingdom norm, in which implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child is equal in all countries within the Kingdom. Or two different norms: one norm, which applies for the Netherlands and one norm, which applies for the Caribbean part of the Kingdom.

The politicians in Curaçao give much attention to the UNICEF report. At least after years the Rights of the Child is debated on. However, all involved with the Rights of the Child should be conscience that the UNICEF report reinforces the Concluding Observations from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and not the other way around. Curaçao ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and is thereby evaluated every five years on its implementation by the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Therefore, the concluding observations from the Committee on the Rights of the Child must be much more valued.

Resources for children

Even though the State party feels it allocates a substantial amount for youth programs, NGO's and GO's keep lamenting the lack of finance and funding available. Budget cuts have taken place yearly and funding of certain programs have stopped. These have had dire consequences for projects and programs focused on children and youth. The government mentions the funding from USONA (Netherlands Antilles Development Fund), AMFO (Antillean Co-financing Organization) which was dismantled in 2013, and the Collaborative foundations for the Caribbean part of the Kingdom⁵, however funding from these organizations and also those received from private organizations need to be seen as impulses given to organizations and projects. These funding do not contribute and guarantee continuity of projects and programs, which ultimately will have a long-term effect on the children. There is great pressure on the

⁴ UNICEF, *De situatie van kinderen en jongeren op Curaçao*, United Nations Children's Fund, 2013

⁵ Samenwerkende Fondsen Caribisch deel van het Koninkrijk

GO's and NGO's to run programs regarding children and youth. The amount set aside for children by the financial institutions need to be allocated to all organizations on all islands. As was stated in the previous NGO report "there is only one cake that all organizations on all islands can eat from". The impulses by these financial institutions are only bandages on wounds. The problems will not be resolved.

Data collection

Disaggregated data need to be collected which incorporates all the areas covered by the Convention and covering all children below the age of 18 years. And indicators should be developed to effectively monitor and evaluate progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention and assess the impact of policies that effect children.

Most to all GO's and NGO's see the need of data and research. However, they all state that there is no budget allocation, manpower, or knowledge for this. Central Bureau of Statistics Curaçao has indicated that it is difficult to receive data and cooperation with organizations. There is no legal obligation for organizations to provide data or to collect data. The CBS Curaçao has a lack of capacity and no budget to focus solely on CRC. "There is a large demand in the community of Curaçao for social statistics, however they can only partly comply with this demand because of the shortage of human resources (statistical researchers), insufficient cooperation of external data sources and insufficient financial resources to execute CBS house-hold surveys"⁶.

The University of Curaçao has the role of being the research center on the island, by not only conducting research on various social problems on the island, but also publishing the data on this. However, it has been a while that budget was allocated for research and the University does not have enough manpower to conduct research. The government would like the university to be engaged in scientific research, but it does not allocate funding.

All organizations and individuals interviewed from all sectors in the community acknowledged the growing problem caused by the group of youngsters, which probably can be categorized as mildly mentally impaired. Beside from scoring below the average on IQ scores, they also have a limited social adaptability. Research should be conducted on this issue and lay out the extent of the problem, the quantity of children with this, and the cause.

The most recent mortality rate, requested from the epidemiology & research unit of the Ministry of health, environment and nature in Curaçao, were not available. Data was collected over the years, but it is not yet publicized. The only data available on this matter is from 1996 to 2000.

The youth health unit of the Ministry of health, environment and nature in Curaçao has implemented an electronic file (Electronic Client Dossier) in which client data can be registered. It is the intention that the entire child welfare field registers data in this system, which will eventually promote efficiency within the healthcare field.

Fundashon Famia Plania⁷ is connected to IPPF/WHR since 1965, and has introduced a more direct SHR (Sexual Reproductive Health) electronic medical registration system.

Dissemination

Children, parents and professionals working with and for children know that children have rights and they work in the best interest of the child. Organizations working with articles from the Convention only do so with the single article that concerns them. Most organizations apply the national law. Workshop on implementation of the articles of the convention need to be organized, with additional information on the practical usage of the articles in the field.

It is believed that children are not knowledgeable on the Convention and it does not interest them. Different approaches to reach them need to be developed. Furthermore, they need to know where to go for information and where to call for help when in trouble.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is not integrated into the curricula of the educational system, however around the International Day of the Child it is given some attention. The

⁶ Central Bureau of Statistics Curaçao, *Data availability and data gaps in the field of social statistics*, CBS Curaçao, 2014

⁷ Foundation on responsible parenthood

organizations are not aware of the periodic reports of the government, the NGO-reports, and the concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

II. DEFINITION OF THE CHILD

(Article 1)

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child defines a child as any human being under the age of eighteen. However, for statistical purposes organizations are incorporating an age range encompassing the youth, which most of the times covers the ages 15-24. Therefore, if inquiries are made specifically for children between 0-18 it is not found.

III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(Articles 2, 3, 6, 12)

A. Non-discrimination

Disabled children are not receiving the attention they deserve. Parents have to go through a tedious journey to get things done. Therefore it is of the utmost importance to map the issues this group encounters. Furthermore, the community needs to be more knowledgeable on all aspects of a disabled child. One bottleneck is the lack of opportunities for job placement or internship.

All who in one way or the other is involved with deprived neighborhoods should be attentive for stigmatization of all children in that specific neighborhood. There will always be rotten apples. Research need to be conducted in these neighborhoods, determining the problems, and highlighting the positive aspects of that area. These neighborhoods are being positively discriminated upon. The positive discrimination triggers a victim attitude from the residents, who know that with that attitude they will get what they want. Self-reliance should be taught to residents from these deprived neighborhoods.

The right to education is respected in Curaçao and undocumented children are allowed to receive an education. No up to date data is available, however the latest data is from 2006, in which an approximate of 500 undocumented students without valid residence permits were registered⁸. However, there are poignant situations of administrative nature, which interfere with the education of these children. For example, parents who are not able to submit a wage slip, will not qualify for paid school transportation. This causes a problem in especially the secondary education, where schools are not in the neighborhoods. A much more serious problem is the absence of a birth certificate, which impedes the order of a registry extract from the population registry, which is needed for obtaining the diploma, even though the child in question completed the school education successfully⁸.

An estimate of 100 to 150 children is born yearly from illegal parents in Curaçao⁸. However, the population registry states that only a few birth certificates were drawn up. If the child does not have a birth certificate, it will not be registered in the population registry. Apparently, the fear is greater than the right for the child to have an identity, or this right is unfamiliar with the target group⁸.

B. Best interest of the child

The best interest of the child is one of the general directives of the convention and it does not disclose in what way the best interest should be interpreted. The article does not contain a standard or norm how to interpret or to apply. There is no uniform interpretation of the best interest, therefore training should be organized in application of this article.

⁸ Ministerie van Sociale Ontwikkeling, Arbeid en Welzijn Curaçao, *Regionale migratie en integratie op Curaçao 1999-2013*, 2014.

C. The right to life, survival and development

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

D. Respect of the view of the child

The child's views need to be taken more into account, and organizations state that indirectly the child's view is considered. They do not participate in meetings and formulation of policy, but their opinions are acknowledged and the policies are made with the youth in mind. Children get the opportunity to have a say in their case in the judicial field. The ministries do not have forums where children are heard. With the implementation of the Highscope curriculum in the daycare centers, children get the opportunity to voice their opinion. Youth parliament is from the foundation Bos di Hubentut⁹. The youth parliament has been dormant, due to lack of funding. The organizations stated that they often do not know in what way exactly children can have a say in policymaking. In other words, there is no structural approach in regards of the respect of the view of the child. Training should be given in how the view of the child should be interpreted and in what way children can influence policymaking. It is important for organizations to know how children's view should be respected and in what way these children should participate in matters affecting them.

IV. CIVIL RIGHTS AND FREEDOM

(Articles 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 39)

A. Birth registration, name and nationality

Please refer to chapter III: General principles, Paragraph A: Non-discrimination, of this report for detailed information.

The undocumented group of children are a vulnerable group in Curaçao. Without birth certificate, these children cannot receive their school diploma, apply for identity documents, and apply for residency in Curaçao or elsewhere. Children born to illegal parents in Curaçao can receive a birth certificate from the population registry. However, as was stated earlier the fear is greater than the right for the child to have an identity or this right is unfamiliar with the target group. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to give more publicity to this target group on the possibilities of receiving a birth certificate for their child¹⁰.

B. Preservation of identity

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

C. Right to seek, receive and impart information

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

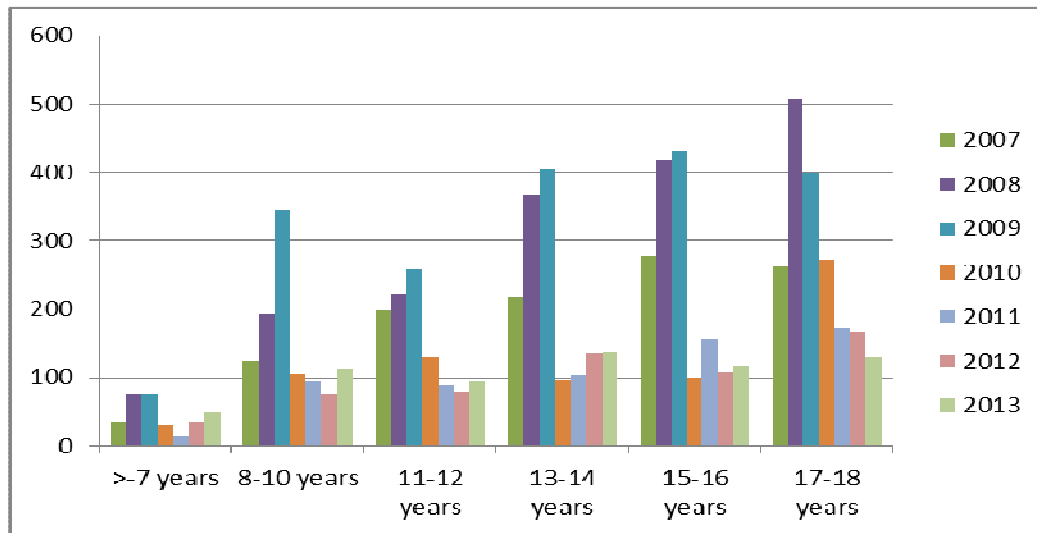
Children need to know where to seek, receive, and impart information. It must be clear for all involved where children could call for help when in trouble. When they have minor problems, they do not approach anyone. Only when the problem escalates they call on the school. There is a children's helpline established since 2007 by the Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao¹¹. A total of 400 calls are handled monthly. The callers range from less than 7 years old to older than 23 years old. The sort of topics dealt with are: Sexuality, relationship, situation at home, health, school issues, violence, emotional issues, information on the helpline, and general information.

⁹ Foundation Voices of the Youth

¹⁰ Ministerie van Sociale Ontwikkeling, Arbeid en Welzijn Curaçao, *Regionale migratie en integratie op Curaçao 1999-2013*, 2014.

¹¹ Foundation on Child Protection

Table 2
Calls per age category



Source: Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao

D. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Please refer to chapter III: General principles, Paragraph D: Respect of the view of the child, of this report for detailed information and the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao.

E. Freedom of association and of peaceful assembly

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

F. Protection of privacy and protection of the image

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details

G. Access to information from a diversity of sources and protection from material harmful to his or her well-being

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details

H. Measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of child victim

The right to speak by the victim is not incorporated in the Code of Criminal Procedures Netherlands Antilles. In order for the victim to have a say, a joinder report is submitted to the prosecutor, however the communication with the prosecutor is difficult.

In Curaçao not much is regulated for protection of child witnesses. Parents do not deal well with the child in sexual abuse cases. Once the father or stepfather is discharged from prison and returns home, it is the child that needs to leave. There is no social integration and the child is not protected. In case protection is needed, the child witness is placed in alternative care institution or is placed in foster homes.

There are no physical, psychological, recovery programs, and social reintegration for the victims. Specialized shelters, guidelines, uniform registration criteria, finance, training and coaching are needed.

There are many organizations paying attention to the victim in sexual abuse cases. There are no guidelines and policy as to where these victims should go. These victims need to show up, tell their stories many times, with the consequence that the case is infected.

V. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

(Articles 19, 39, 37 (a), 28 (2))

A. Abuse and neglect, including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration

There is a protocol in place, which specifies how to act when detecting child abuse. However, these procedures are not act upon. There is no child tracking system to follow a child once it ends up in the child abuse system. The collaboration between the organizations is splintered. However, many organizations state that whenever a case is not dealt with through the normal canals, connections are called upon. There is no aftercare for sexual abuse cases and no central organization to call. There are too many organizations on the island, which deals with child abuse. And furthermore, organizations which are in the publicity for prevention on child abuse purposes need to deal on a regular base with abuse reports. Child abuse reports need to be centralized and structured by the government.

A Central Registry and Referral Centre for Child Abuse¹² was established in 2009 and in 2011 a country ordinance, with its duties described. There is a lot of criticism from the field with respect to the malfunction of this organization and rightly so. The biggest bottleneck of this organization is the funding it never received. In order for the organization to function, three employees from the Guardianship Board/Child protective services¹³ were at the disposal of this central registry. It was voiced that this organization is currently in a phase to become independent.

In Curaçao, there is also an Advice and Reporting Centre for Child Abuse and Neglect¹⁴. These two organizations need to find a collaboration mode. With the set authorities of the Central Registry and the duties of the Advice and Reporting Centre they can aid one another on child abuse cases. However, both organizations need to register, handle complaints and reports uniformly. There should be a closed circuit in place in regards of child abuse reports.

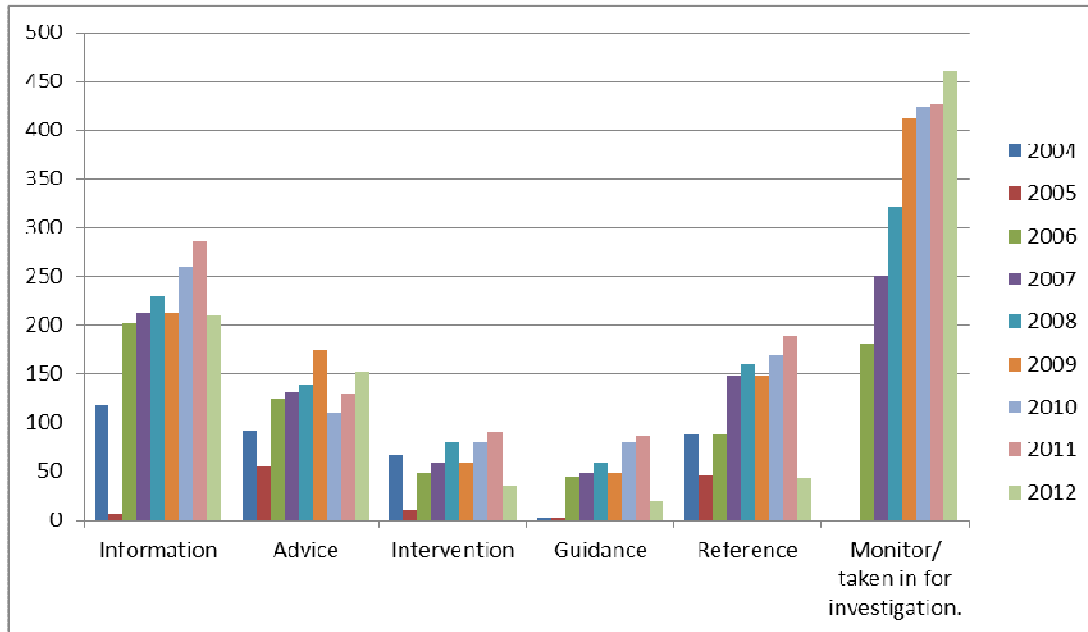
The following is an overview of cases dealt with by the Advice and Reporting Centre for Child Abuse and Neglect¹⁴.

¹² CMK

¹³ Voogdijraad Curaçao

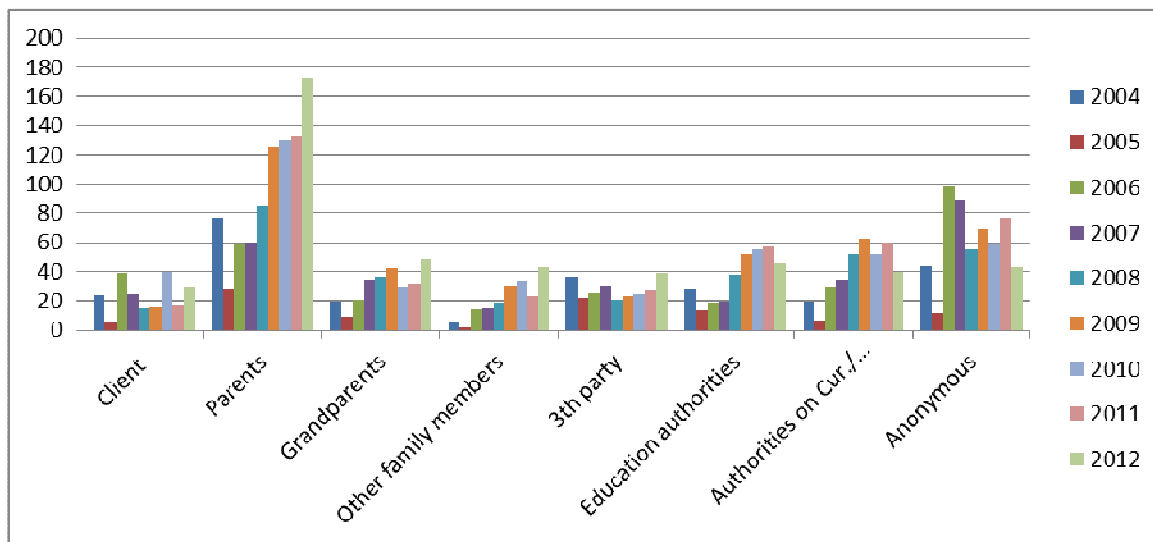
¹⁴ AMK

Table 3
Cases dealt with by Advice and Reporting Centre for Child Abuse and Neglect



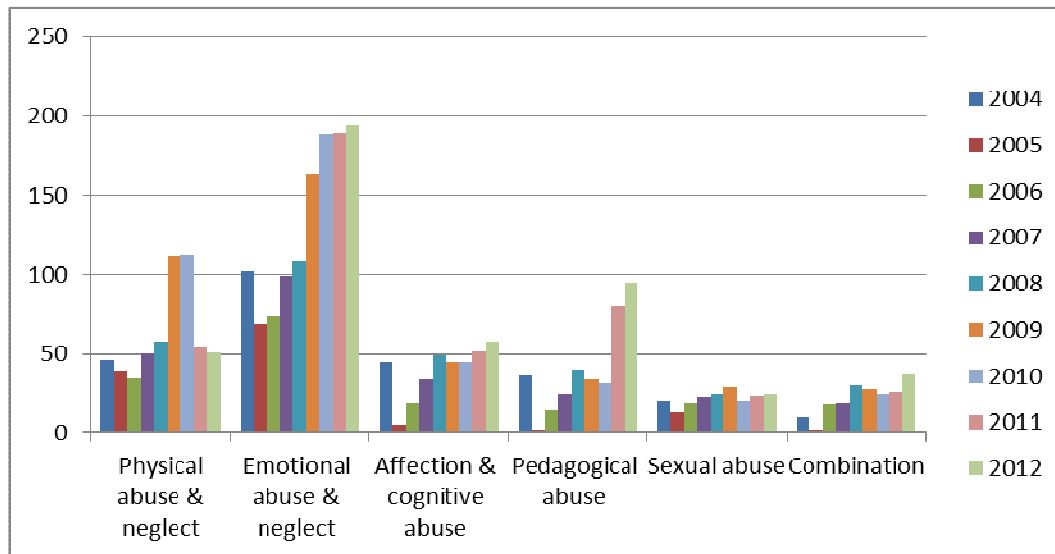
Source: Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao

Table 4
Reporters



Source: Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao

Table 5
Cases monitored & taken into investigation



Source: Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao

B. Right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including corporal punishment

Please refer to chapter V: Violence against children, Paragraph A: Abuse and neglect, including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration, of this report for detailed information.

There are some signals of usage of corporal punishment in daycare centers. However, a more thorough investigation should take place to assess the extent of corporal punishment in daycare centers, schools, and at homes.

VI. FAMILY ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

(Articles 5, 9, 10, 11, 18, 20, 21, 25, 27(4))

A. Family environment and parental guidance in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child

Families should receive more attention. There are some organizations, which offer parental guidance courses. However, these courses are organized based on necessities detected by the NGO. These NGO's request funding at the financial institutions, which, as stated earlier, should be seen as impulses given to the field. The government should invest in a better and structural approach for parental guidance. Formulate a vision, which will guarantee durability.

Parental involvement is an issue in Curaçao. Parents are very involved during the kindergarten period. However, the higher the children are in the school system the less involved they become. In the secondary education, the parents are no longer involved.

B. Separation from parents

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

C. Family reunification

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

D. Illicit transfer and non-return

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

E. Parents' common responsibilities, assistance to parents and the provision of childcare services

The government invested in quality improvement in daycare centers for some years now by introducing the Highscope curriculum. However, the Highscope trainers cannot offer aftercare to these daycare centers due to insufficient funding. It has already been noted that implementation of the Highscope is diminishing in some daycare centers.

The explanatory memorandum of the minimum requirements for daycare centers is being revised. There are four daycare center inspectors working at the Ministry of education, science, culture, and sport. However, the job as an inspector should be a full time job and independent. The current inspectors have to do the inspectorate alongside their daily job as a governmental official.

The minimum requirements do not assist the inspectors in case they need to intervene. There are no penalties formulated in the minimum requirements whenever a daycare center does not comply with the requirements.

F. Children deprived of family environment

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

G. Adoption, national and inter-country

The Guardianship Board/Child protective services¹⁵ takes care of adoption cases. However, this department struggles with lack of manpower to deal with these cases.

H. Periodic review of placement

The fundamental starting point of an alternative care institution is the status of a temporary shelter. However, the institution encounters children with psychosocial, mentally disabled, slightly mentally disabled, behavioral, psychological, and psychiatric problems, which changes the institutional setting into a treatment setting. The admitted children need a more personal treatment and targeted therapy. In other words, the target group has changed and this type of group needs a different approach. The institutions are placing all children together, but the children with their individual problems should be clustered. Changes need to be made in order for an institution to be able to deal with these types of problems. It starts with training of the social and welfare workers. Funding were requested at the different financial organizations, however as stated earlier, these funding give impulses to the institutions and not structure and stability.

Within the field, there should be more cooperation between the different organizations. Unfortunately, due to the waiting lists at the organizations in charge of placement of children, the aid to the children is not optimal. For instance decisions are made too late whether to place a child or not in an institution. They often choose to try first in the home setting. By doing this, the problem escalates, and the institutions need to deal with a more severe problem. On paper families are supposed to receive help and guidance. However, in practice it is not true. After treatment in the institution, the child is placed back with the family to whom no help was given.

In addition, the governmental grants are yearly cut, which prevents the institution to invest in more structural help to the children and prevents the institution to guarantee continuity.

The undocumented children cannot receive appropriate aid. Without legal papers, they cannot be treated for, for example psychiatric problems. Please refer to chapter IV: Civil rights and freedom, Paragraph A: birth registration, name and nationality, of this report for detailed information.

¹⁵ Voogdijraad Curaçao

The minimum quality requirements for alternative care institutions is from 1998 and is in dire need of an update. These institutions should also be inspected, however this has not taken place.

I. Recovery of maintenance for the child

The Guardianship Board/Child protective services¹⁶ takes care of recovery of maintenance for the child. However, this department struggles with lack of manpower, therefore it takes approximately 2 to 3 months for cases to be dealt with.

VII. DISABILITY, BASIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

(Articles 6(2), 24, 24(3), 26, 18 (3), 27(1-3), 33)

A. Survival and development

Please refer to chapter I: General measures of implementation: Data collection, of this report for detailed information. "In Curaçao, the average perinatal mortality ratio was 23.5 per 1,000 newborns during the period of 1990-2000, including 17 per 1,000 stillbirths. Neonatal mortality (between 1 and 4 weeks after birth) was on average 5 per 1,000 births, and infant mortality (between one month and 1 year after birth) was on average 6 per 1,000 births. The mortality ratio for children between one and five is on average 0.5 per 1,000. The most common causes of early death are: hypoxia, asphyxia and other respiratory problems; congenital disorders, slow growth of fetus, malnutrition and other problems during pregnancy; obstetrics complications"¹⁷.

Early detection takes place at the consultation bureau/health clinic and succeeding the bureau the Sentro Guia Edukashonal¹⁸. This organization supports schools, parenting organizations, and parents with the situation after the detection. However, this organization is understaffed and therefore is not able to work optimal. It takes approximately six weeks before an intake session takes place. Especially the disabled children do not have a place to go. Parents try to place their probable-disabled child in a daycare center, in anticipation of the intake session.

B. Health and health services, in particular primary health care

Professionals sometimes have disputes with parents in regards of traditions or cultural differences such as excessive usage of medication, rituals at birth, or traditional food habits that can be harmful for the child.

Undocumented children and uninsured children cause serious problems in healthcare. Financially, because of the costs for care, which are not covered by the insurance companies, and in terms of quality and health risks. Some professionals and health care organizations are willing to help these children. However, a policy is essential in regards of funding and reimbursement of medical care by general practitioners, midwives, and the hospital. Care must be provided, however the financial problem then lies with the health care provider, since no one takes responsibility for the unpaid bills¹⁹.

C. Measures to prohibit and eliminate all forms of harmful traditional practices, including, but not limited to, female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

D. Social security and childcare services and facilities

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

¹⁶ Voogdijraad Curaçao

¹⁷ Governments of Curaçao and Sint Maarten in cooperation with the United Nations development program, *First Millennium development goals report*, Curaçao & Sint Maarten, 2011.

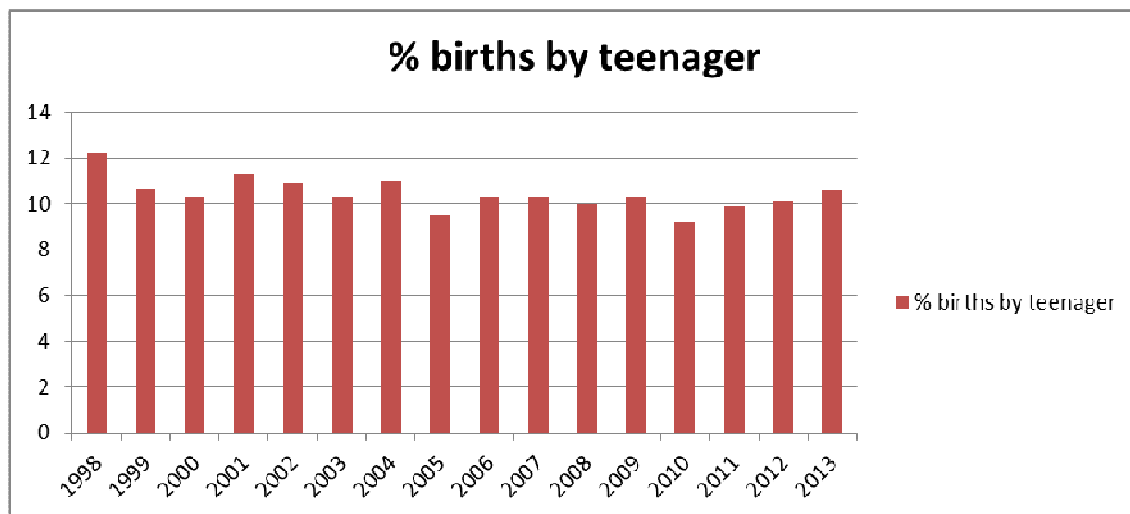
¹⁸ Educational guidance center

¹⁹ Ministerie van Sociale Ontwikkeling, Arbeid en Welzijn Curaçao, *Regionale migratie en integratie op Curaçao 1999-2013*, 2014.

E. Standard of living and measures, including material assistance and support programs with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing, to ensure the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development and reduce poverty and inequality

Data from Fundashon Famia Plania²⁰ shows that an average of the percentage of births by teenagers is around 10.4%. The age range from the data available is 11 to 19 years old. Specific groups have a tendency to pick up condoms at the foundation during the year, and during the Carnival period, it augments. However, when the foundation asks about the usage of the condoms, most reply that these are not used. Even though teen pregnancy varies between 9 and 11%, more prevention programs should be given at schools. The secondary education covers prevention in classes at school, however it is sporadic in the primary education. The collaboration between the schools and the foundation should be on a more structural base. The foundation also noticed that both the parents and schools have a great deal of influence on the child. Therefore, organizations should focus more on these two groups.

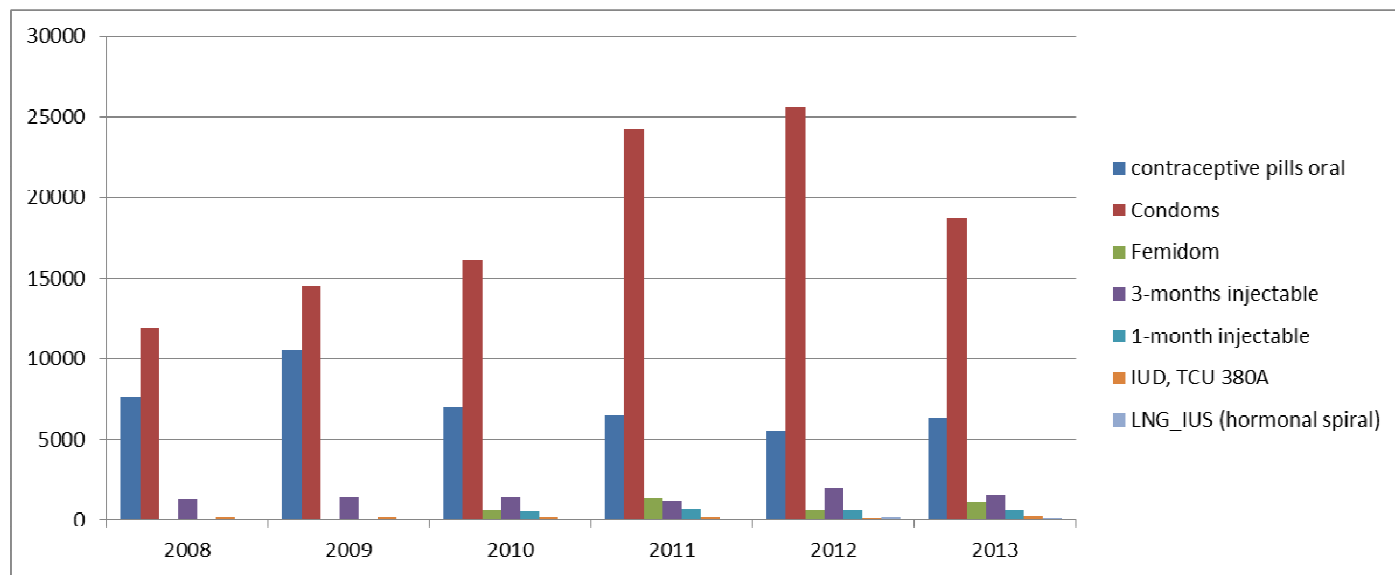
Table 6
% of births by teenagers in Curaçao



Source: Fundashon Famia Plania

²⁰ Foundation on responsible parenthood

Table 7
Number of Contraceptive methods given in Curaçao

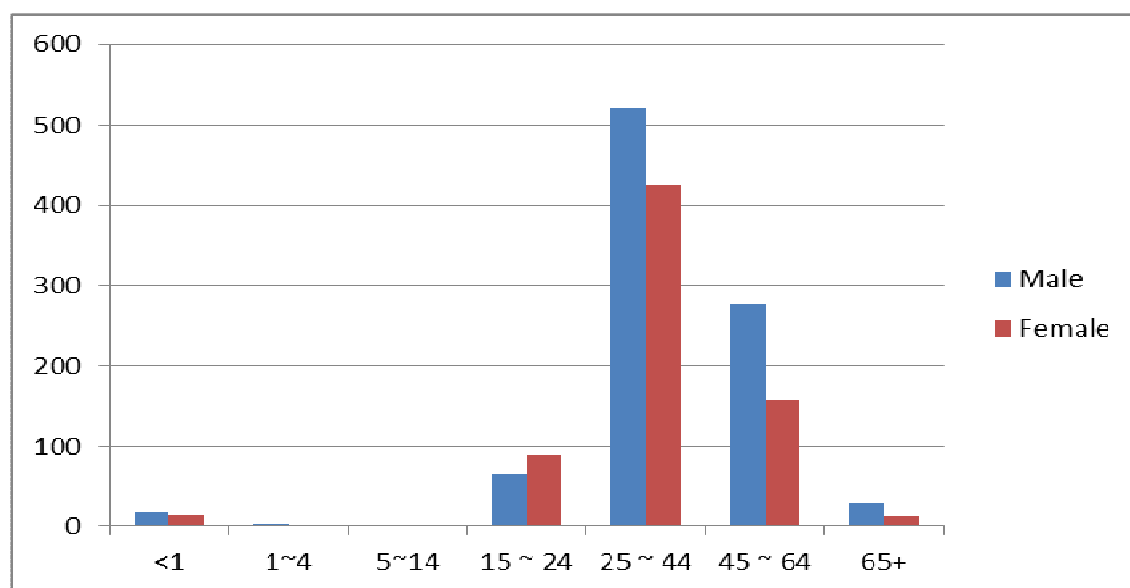


Source: Fundashon Famia Plania

According to the epidemiology & research unit of the Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature, death related to HIV in the age group of 0 – 18 years is almost nonexistent, which is distinctive to the etiology of the disease. HIV is considered a chronic condition.

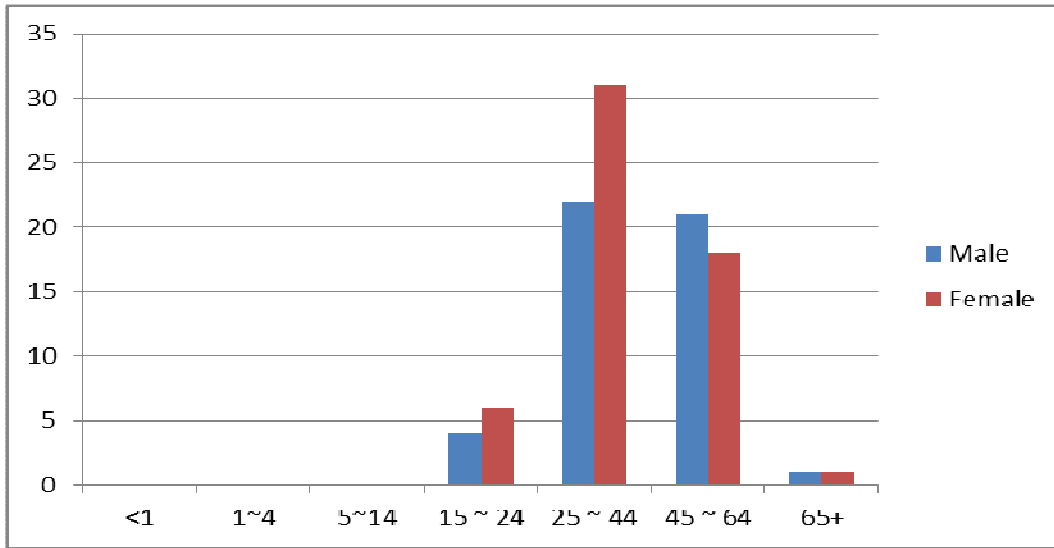
HIV is more common in the older age category, since children and youth become sexually active upward of the age category 15 to 24. HIV in Curaçao is mostly transmitted through sexual intercourse. Every case of HIV infection is one too many. It's not about the known numbers, new cases, or the increase or stabilization of HIV in Curaçao, however it's about decrease in numbers, which does not take place.

Table 8
Cumulative known HIV-infected Curaçao 1985-2012 by age group and gender



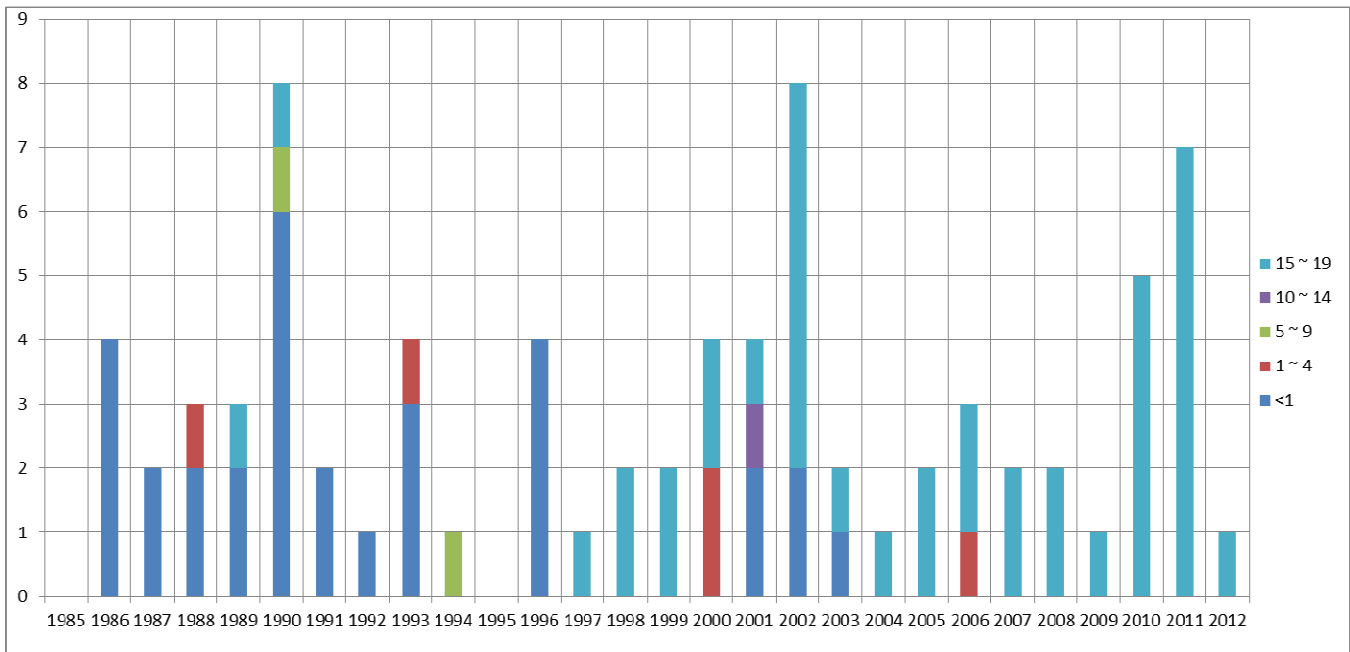
Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature; Curaçao

Table 9
Newly registered known HIV-infected Curaçao 2012 by age group and gender



Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature; Curaçao

Table 10
Year of diagnosis by age category known HIV-positives 1985-2012 Curaçao



Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Ministry of Health, Environment and Nature; Curaçao

F. Measures to protect children from substance abuse

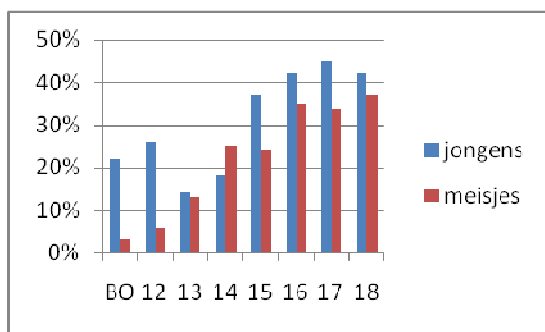
Fundashon pa Maneho di Adikshon²¹ provides preventive, curative care and outpatient care. In regards of school prevention programs, the foundation has collaborations with the Catholic school board. In 2014, more school boards will join. Prevention programs cannot take place on a structural basis, due to lack of funding and funding that is reduced.

Research needs to take place in regards of drug usage among youngsters. There is a 24 hour housing facility, however youngsters between 18-21 years do not feel at home. Special care facility should be created for the youngsters. More awareness programs should be made and parent involvement and parent awareness should be invested in.

Smoking²²

13% of the school-aged children in the primary education have at some time smoked and 32% of secondary school students. Boys start earlier than girls with smoking. The average age of smoking for primary education is 10 years old. In secondary education, the average age is 13 years old. (jongens=boys Meisjes=girls)

Table 11
% of boys and girls smoking by age



Source: Fundashon maneho di adikshon

Alcohol²²

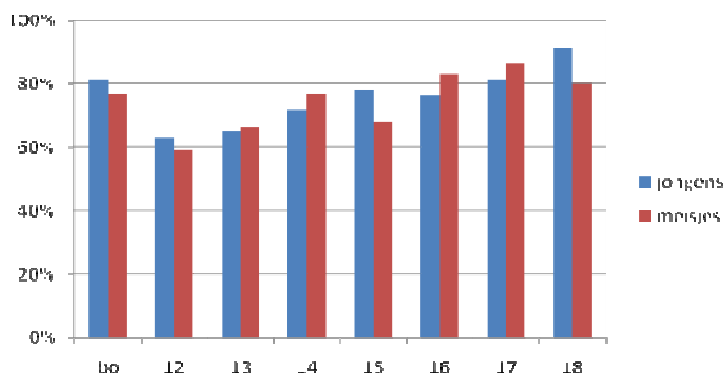
79% of school-aged children in the primary education have at some time drunk alcohol. 76% of secondary school students have at some time drunk alcohol. The average age in which students begin to drink is with 10 years and for the secondary education it is 13 years.

49% of school-aged children in the primary education are allowed to drink at home in comparison with 36% who are not allowed. 56% of secondary school students indicate that they are allowed to drink at home. 30% of school-aged children in the primary education drink at home and 14% drink with family and friends. 23% of the secondary school students drink the most with family and friends and 22% drink at home. Secondary school students stated not to buy alcohol, however 35% get the alcohol from someone else. The older the youngsters the more likely they will buy the alcohol in a nightclub.

²¹ Foundation on Addiction

²² Fundashon pa Maneho di Adikshon, *E chòis, den ken su man: Onderzoek naar alcohol en drugs onder schoolgaande jongeren tussen 10 en 18 jaar*, Curaçao, 2010.

Table 12
% of alcohol consumption by boys and girls



Source: Fundashon maneho di adikshon

Table 13
% of alcohol consumption by boys and girls in primary education

	Basisonderwijs		
	jongens %	meisjes %	Totaal %
Bier*	47	17s	33
Wijn*/ ponche crema	72	65	67
Breezes*/premix	23	14s	19
Mix*	38	22s	30
Likeur*	19	8s	14
Sterke drank*	26	15	21
Sheri*	nvt	nvt	
Punch*, piña colada	63	39s	51

* Beer, Wine, Breezes, mix, liqueur, strong beverages, cherry, punch

Source: Fundashon maneho di adikshon

Table 14
% of alcohol consumption by boys and girls in secondary school

	Voortgezet onderwijs		
	jongens %	meisjes %	Totaal %
Bier*	52	63s	41
Wijn*/ ponche crema	76	82	80
Breezes*/premix	38	44s	42
Mix*	53	56	55
Likeur*	20	24	22
Sterke drank*	29	22s	25
Sheri*	17	18	17
Punch*, piña colada	70	81s	77

* Beer, Wine, Breezes, mix, liqueur, strong beverages, cherry, punch

Source: Fundashon maneho di adikshon

*Marijuana*²²

2% of school-aged children in the primary education and 4% of the secondary school students have at some point smoked cannabis. They start in the primary education with 10 years and 14 years in the secondary education. 3% of these children receive the weed from someone or they smoke it together with someone else. And 1% stated to buy it themselves.

*Cocaine, heroin, amphetamine, ecstasy, mushrooms*²².

Cocaine, heroin, amphetamine, ecstasy, mushrooms usage was only questioned in secondary school education. Six students stated to have once been in contact with one of the above mentioned drugs in their lifetime. 0.1% cocaine, ecstasy 0.1%, 0.3% mushrooms, amphetamines 0.1%. No response on heroin usage.

*Gambling and lottery*²²

9% of school-aged children in the primary education ever gambled. 13% boys and 5% girls. As for the secondary school students 17% gambled least once in their lifetime. 19% boys and 17% girls. Lottery purchase was asked only in the secondary education. 10% purchased lotto in the last 4 weeks of the research. 8% of the students purchased between 1 and 3 times, 2% bought more than 3 times during the four weeks prior to the investigation. Most of the times girls buy lotto and boys play slot machines.

VIII. EDUCATION, LEISURE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

(Articles 28, 29, 30, 31)

A. Right to education, including vocational training and guidance

Children with aggressive attitude at school are removed and are often not placed elsewhere. The aggressive attitude is usually aimed at teachers and children. Even though schools need to consent to the compulsory education, they all choose for the safety of the teachers and the rest of the children. Research need to be conducted on this aggressive group of children, which could be categorized as mildly mentally impaired. In Curaçao, there are no facilities to place children with aggressive and behavioral problems. 15 years ago, a worked out plan was written on introduction of a cluster 4 as part of the special education. It has been revised a couple of times and forgotten. However, this plan is picked up again. This facility focuses on the children's capacities and deals with behavioral problem. It is believed that by placing these children in the mainstream educational system, more problems will arise.

It has been a while since the introduction of the new educational system. It has not been audited and therefore not adjusted where bottlenecks were encountered. The consequences are now felt in the field. One of the greatest problems is the introduction of the preparatory secondary vocational education²³ in which both the practical level and the theoretical level of education were merged. It is believed that these levels need to split. However, this needs to be evaluated in order to determine whether this structure works or not.

The Council on education and labor²⁴ is dormant. Its primary task is to align the vocational education with commerce. For example, there are too many students in the administrative field and it is getting saturated. Students are not interested in an education in welding, construction, vehicle, tiling or metal, but there are job openings and foreigners are looked for to do the job. The council could contribute with research and advice on the matter.

There are signals from within the educational system that functional analphabetism is a growing problem. Research need to be conducted on the matter by determining the problem, the quantity, and whether it is alarming or not.

It was stated that there is an alarming phenomenon within the educational system. The youth are not interested in getting an education. The educational system is not interesting enough, they are more interested in earning money, and they are not interested in getting a degree. In order to pass through the educational system and earn money, they work under their capacities at school. Research need to be conducted in order to determine what the exact problem is, and determine whether it is an alarming situation or not.

Evasion of compulsory education and compulsory youth training are risk factors for the beginning of a criminal career. There is a compulsory brigade, since 2008, which inspects unauthorized absence and deals with the compulsory youth training frauds. However, the enforcement of the compulsory education need to be planned by both the judicial and educational sector. At the moment there are not enough officers available to deal with the evasion^{25,26,27}.

²³ VSBO

²⁴ Raad Onderwijs en Arbeid (ROA)

²⁵ Openbaar Ministerie Curaçao, Jaarverslag 2011, parket in eerste aanleg Curaçao, 2011

²⁶ Openbaar Ministerie Curaçao, Jaarverslag 2012, parket in eerste aanleg Curaçao, 2012

²⁷ Openbaar Ministerie Curaçao, Jaarverslag 2013, parket in eerste aanleg Curaçao, 2013

B. Aims of education with reference also to equality of education

Please refer to chapter III: General principles, Paragraph A: Non-discrimination, of this report for detailed information.

The concentration of immigrant children in some schools, especially in the public education system is large. Extra pressure arises in these schools to give extra attention to these children, however, there is no extra funding. These schools need school social work, remedial teacher, and teaching methods for children with different mother tongue²⁸. A policy is needed, which supports schools, the immigrant children, teachers, and local children with language impairment. There is no policy on language acquisition and integration of children in school. Each school invented its own wheel and found a method that seems to work²⁸, however it is not a uniform method and not necessarily acceptable.

C. Cultural rights of children belonging to indigenous and minority groups

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

D. Rest, play, leisure, recreation and cultural and artistic activities

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

Foundation on voices of the youth²⁹ observed that there is no development activities for the youth in Curaçao, the smaller children do have.

IX. SPECIAL PROTECTION MEASURES

(Articles 22, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37(a-d), 38, 39, 40)

A. Children outside their country of origin seeking refugee protection unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, internally displaced children, migrant children and children affected by migration

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

Please refer to chapter III: General principles, Paragraph A: Non-discrimination and chapter VII: Education, leisure and cultural activities, paragraph B: Aims of education with reference also to equality of education, for detailed information.

B. Children belonging to a minority or an indigenous group

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

C. Economic exploitation, including child labor, with specific reference to applicable minimum ages

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

D. Use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

²⁸ Ministerie van Sociale Ontwikkeling, Arbeid en Welzijn Curaçao, *Regionale migratie en integratie op Curaçao 1999-2013*, 2014.

²⁹ Bos di Hubentut

E. Sexual exploitation and sexual abuse

Organizations working in the field of abuse and prevention state to have suspicions of child prostitution. There are signs of 15 year old and older children who prostitute on the streets. And there are 12-year-old children who are sent to prostitute by their parents. These are children, who are being threatened, who do not know their rights, and do not know where to knock when in need of help. An extensive research need to take place in order to get a view on this matter.

Pornography is easily accessible for children through internet. With the modern technology children can easily find the sites on their phone.

Guardianship Board/Child protective services³⁰ indicates that attention should be paid to minors involved into sexual abuse cases. The offenders escape punishment when they are younger than 15 years old, if they are not dealt with in a suitable manner they later will be a threat to the society.

In sexual abuse cases organizations report to the child and vice squad, Central Registry and Referral Centre for Child Abuse, the Guardianship Board, or police. In a situation in which cases are not dealt with, not one of the organizations know where to turn to. There are no protocols for organizations to work from in order to guarantee uniformity.

No investigation has taken place in regards of the loverboys problem. There is no data available.

F. Sale, trafficking and abduction

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

A taskforce on human trafficking is installed in order to take actions on human trafficking in Curaçao. Representative state that there are signs of human trafficking in Curaçao, but it is not alarming. However, there is no data available to confirm or contradict this.

The Victim Support Foundation takes care of children intercepted at immigration in Curaçao. The foundation arranges for example shelter. There is a script with which organizations should work with, however it needs to be made official. In the period of 2009-2011, 22 children were intercepted. They were all from Haiti. From 2012 to 2013, only adults were intercepted.

Table 15

<u>Year</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Place of origin</u>
2009	12	Haiti
2010	5	Haiti
2011	5	Haiti

Source: Stichting Slachtofferhulp

G. Other forms of exploitation

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

H. Sentencing of children, in particular the prohibition of capital punishment and life imprisonment and the existence of alternative sanctions based on a restorative approach

Since the introduction of the new Penal Code in 2011, Curaçao has a section on juvenile criminal law with a flexible and balanced package of sanctions, in which several different alternatives of detention are possible. Once the draft on execution of the legislation on implementation of the alternative detention is formal, it will contribute to an improvement in the

³⁰ Voogdijraad Curaçao

legal status of the detained juvenile. All that remains is the construction of the juvenile detention center with its closed units in concordance with the penal code section juvenile criminal law³¹.

In 2011 a mega plan was submitted for finance of a juvenile detention center³² with 48 beds. A working group commissioned by the Minister of justice wrote this plan and in 2012 this group assumed the responsibility to prepare an implementation plan for construction and design of this center. Due to the shifting focus of the new government, this project came to a halt in the second half of 2012³³.

The judicial juvenile institution is being expanded and improved. The government should be aware that there is a difference between this institute and the juvenile detention center as indicated in the blueprint.

Research should be conducted on the youth and their involvement in the criminal circuit.

I. Children deprived of their liberty, and measures to ensure that any arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be used as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate time and that legal and other assistance is promptly provided

Please refer to chapter VIII: Special protection measures, Paragraph H: Sentencing of children, in particular the prohibition of capital punishment and life imprisonment and the existence of alternative sanctions based on a restorative approach, for detailed information.

J. Children in armed conflicts, including physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

K. Physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

L. Administration of juvenile justice, the existence of specialized and separate courts and the applicable minimum age of criminal responsibility

Please refer to the fourth periodic report of the kingdom of the Netherlands, specifically the fourth section covering the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Curaçao for details.

³¹ Annemarie Marchena-Slot, *Jeugdigen en vrijheidsbeneming in de West*, Universiteit van Curaçao, 2013

³² Justitiële Jeugdinstelling Curaçao

³³ Openbaar Ministerie Curaçao, Jaarverslag 2012, parket in eerste aanleg Curaçao, 2012

CHILDREN'S VIEW

For the 3rd periodic NGO report 32 children at school age from 10 to 17 years were interviewed in 3 small group meetings about the knowledge, situation and implementation of the rights from the Convention on the Rights of the Child. All the children are getting education on one of the following types: regular or special foundation based education (4 -12 years), preparatory secondary vocational education (13 - 16 years), secondary vocational education (13 - 17 years) and senior general secondary school (havo). Alongside questions concerning knowledge on one or more rights, they were asked - in a direct and indirect way - to express their view upon the situation and implementation in Curaçao of almost all the rights from the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Because of the prescribed limited length of the report and therefore of this section we will only present a few interesting findings.

Just as in the previous NGO report almost all children could mention one or more rights, which they recently or in the past few years have learned at school, special events of youth focused organizations, television, the internet or from their parent(s). Similarly, they have received information about and have learned how to act in case of violence, abuse and exploitation. They consider the information concerning their rights in general as sufficient, but at the same time they want to have the possibility to obtain additional and more comprehensive information, for instance by means of a website which contains information about the Convention. A substantial minority has stated that in principle they do have the freedom and possibilities to establish their own organizations. Though in order to establish and manage a organization, in general resources are needed, which, in their position, are not easy to obtain from the government or financial institutions.

Most of the children have indicated that they have sufficient freedom and possibilities to acquire information about issues of personal interest in various ways (television, internet, meetings, documents etc.), to form their opinion and, if they wish, to express it publicly. A part of them has pointed out that members of the government and parliament pay lipservice to opinions, interests and ideas of children, but, in fact, do not act in accordance with their words. Another part of them has mentioned that government, parliament and even child focused organizations do not regularly ask them about and/or take account of their views and interests.

A majority has expressed that organizations or institutions (for instance SGR-group, Pro Bista, Foundation White Yellow Cross) who take care of disabled children, do work as good as possible. However, the government should give more resources to these organisations in order to improve and augment the care for these children. The government should also take care of more (material and financial) provisions that disabled children in their home setting should be able to live a more independent life. Furthermore, government agencies, companies and other organizations should improve the accessibility and use of their buildings and facilities - for purposes like shopping, arts, sports, education etc. - for disabled children.

All children has mentioned crime amongst peers as a serious problem. The government not only must punish them, but also handle possible causes: (among other things) reform the education system, offer professional support to children and their families, tackle deprived neighbourhoods and augment the opportunities plus facilities voor sports, recreation, education and arts.

Many children have indicated that the situation in which they receive education is miserable. They consider the will and motivation of their teachers in general still positive, but the teaching materials and conditions are deplorable. Modern and functioning teaching materials are very necessary. A lot of buildings and facilities need to be renovated thoroughly. Furthermore, the safety instruments and procedures must be improved. Separately from the previous remarks about the education system it must be mentioned a group of students from an secondary vocational education institute established in may 2014 an action committee against a package of measures (i.e. budget cuts) which had negative consequences for that type of education. This protest action and other protests finally resulted in the draw back of the measures at the beginning of June 2014.³⁴

³⁴ Newspaper 'Antilliaans Dagblad' 9th of June 2014:

<http://www.antilliaansdagblad.com/images/stories/adnews/2014/Juni/09-06-14/P05.pdf>; 12th of June 2014:
<http://www.antilliaansdagblad.com/images/stories/adnews/2014/Juni/13-06-14/P01.pdf>

A number of elder children have expressed their worries about the lack of opportunities for work after finishing their studies. Opportunities for internships and the connection between study and the shop floor also need improvements. Furthermore, the government has to increase the variety of studies, which will diminish the need to study abroad.

Almost all children have stated that after school programs and activities, including homework support, in daycare centers and opportunities for sports, arts, recreation and education in neighbourhood centers have to be augmented.

All children have indicated that they are worried about the increasing pollution of the environment in Curaçao. The government must handle and punish offenders. At the same time, the government and non-governmental organizations need to act together to stimulate positive behaviour and to discourage negative behaviour.

Finally in this section has to be mentioned the first Kingdom Youth Parliament (KYP), which was held from 20 until 22 may 2014 at Saint Martin. Delegations of the five parts of the Dutch Kingdom debated on a range of issues that affect them directly. The KYP is the initiative of the Committee Kingdom Relations, the National Committee 200 years Kingdom and five enthusiastic young people: the KYP ambassadors.³⁵ The KYP has made a closing agreement.³⁶ The delegation of Curaçao consisted of 10 girls and boys. Four of them were under the age of 18 years old.

³⁵ <http://kingdomyouthparliament.org/> ; <https://www.200jaaroninkrijk.nl/content/english>

³⁶ <https://www.200jaaroninkrijk.nl/content/princess-beatrix-receives-closing-agreement>;

Text of the closing agreement;

<https://www.200jaaroninkrijk.nl/sites/default/files/bestanden/persberichten/ENG%20%20KYP%20%20slotverklaring%20DEF.pdf>

NGO REMARKS FROM THE ISLAND OF BONAIRE (a municipal country in the Netherlands)

Page 144 under number 548:

The cooperation and coordination between the education partners and CJG /youth care is limited, and there is no ongoing consultations on the principle “one family/one plan”.

Page 145:

The plans, in regards of the new community school, have drastically changed. These plans only cover the Papa Cornes school and a daycare center. There are no local/community facilities and the realization of it has been delayed. The Papa Cornes School is a school that has been rejected based on safety.

Attention is given to improvement of the educational system, however no attention is given to early childhood education. Children from families at risk participate insufficiently in early childhood educational programs. These children enter the educational system with a disadvantage.

Children living in poverty do not receive benefits, such as child alimony, structural childcare subsidy, and child budget, since the parents are difficult to reach.

The triple P methodology Triple P is considered a suitable program for prevention and light support, however, in multi-problem cases it is not perceived as effective. Lack of financial aid does not help the cause either. It is believed that daycare center caregivers should have a course in triple P in order for the field to apply the same approach.

Page 146 under number 557:

Jeugdlinq is a registration system, which performs well with prevention and youth care. However, it is not suitable for healthcare. In order to have a view of all children an electronic file child dossier need to be purchased.

Page 149:

There is a steering committee on child abuse and maltreatment. However, with the changes of the director in youth care everything stopped. Someone else needs to be appointed to revitalize the plans. The conditions needed for implementation are not mentioned. These are for instance a hotline, training, children's helpline, and shelter for victims. Protocols have been drafted and signed in the judicial system. As for the youth care there are protocols formulated, but not yet signed due to the lack of conditions needed for implementation. Nevertheless a new foundation was established, which for the moment gives information on abuse.

Page 149 number 570:

It was noticed that there is no improvement in recreational activities for the youth. The youngsters are bored and they are involved in activities, which have negative impact on them.

Page 150 number 573:

Support from The Hague did not lead to implementation of policy and improvement of programs, which addresses the situation in the youth/public health care system. The cause is a very large backlog, limited resources, and manpower. However, a start has been made, namely discussions are taking place with actors in the field, and structured meetings are held. May 2014 was the Public body of Bonaire able to hire policy makers, who carry out the stipulated tasks. Expansion of the youth department could not take place due to the above-mentioned situation, and the infant and toddler's bureau received instead all the attention. The prevention health programs need to be worked on.

Page 150 number 577:

Poverty is a big issue on Bonaire. Since, 10-10-10 the price levels have risen and consumption on the island for example is getting day by day more expensive.

The department of Children & families does not function optimal, however they try for the children to become good citizen with the Early Head-start program & Head-start program.

Page 151 number 578:

Minimum income of families on Bonaire needs to improve. Both AOW and AWW wages must be raised to at least the minimum subsistence level. Low-income families do not benefit from tax advantages.

Page 151 number 579:

There is no concrete plan for structural funding for daycare centers. Children from certain groups occasionally are being subsidized. Many children have been left off the list.

Proposals:

1. Make attendance in daycare centers, which comply with basic quality requirements, free.
2. Introduce monitoring and enforcement systems for daycare centers.
3. Families living on Bonaire are on Dutch territory. Therefore families should receive equal child benefits, as those given in the Netherlands, which is stated in article 1 of the Constitution.
4. After school care for youngsters leaves much to be desired of. Therefore training should be given to the leaders working with these youngsters, in order for them to cope with the newly introduced Dutch method, which is imposed on the schools. In order to gain optimal results, the youngsters must be clustered in age-related groups.
5. Allowances for the foster parents need to increase, these are too low. After 10-10-10 costs have increased and maintenance of the children and contribution to improvement of their social life is made harder.
6. A doctor should be appointed in the management team in the youth health care.
7. A new school method should be developed for both the elementary school and high school.
8. Hearing tests for baby's/toddlers need to be introduced on Bonaire, in order to prevent problems later in life of a child.
9. More should be invested in social activities on Bonaire. Community centers do not function with a district administration. It counteracts on creativity.

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