

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/research/struggle-for-identity-and-inclusion-unaccompanied-immigrant-youth-in-new-york-city>

Policy Issue Resources

Vera partnered with Fordham Law Schools Feerick Center for Social Justice to conduct a research study that explores the needs and experiences of New York City's unaccompanied immigrant youth. The study, [*Struggle for Identity and Inclusion: Unaccompanied Immigrant Youth in New York City*](#), draws upon the personal expertise of these youth and system stakeholders, in collaboration with researchers and community service providers.

In this video, peer researchers who immigrated to the United States alone as minors discuss their experiences recruiting and interviewing other unaccompanied immigrant youth as participants for the study. Abja Midha, project director of Advocates for Children, and Elvis Garcia Callejas, advisory committee member of Catholic Charities New York and himself a former unaccompanied youth, further discuss the importance of including youth as partners in the research.

To learn more, please visit the [Immigrant Youth Participatory Action Research project](#).

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The 2020 election brought much joy and relief to immigrant rights activists, many of whom worked around the clock to help defeat a president who made cruelty to immigrants a central tenet of his administration, and amplified the inhumanity of an immigration system that has been never been fair or just. But more than a year after President Bidens ...

While the U.S. government may provide pillows and booster seats for children who are too small for the chairs in immigration court, it doesn't have to give them an attorney to protect their rights. As a result, far too many children face deportation proceedings alone. They shouldn't have to. Why aren't children who are facing deportation entitled ...

No Child Should Appear in Immigration Proceedings Alone

Each year, thousands of immigrant children are placed into court proceedings in which government prosecutors seek to deport them unless those children can prove they have a right to stay in the United States. Many face these immigration proceedings alone. Many children have legal options that establish their ability to remain in the United States, ...

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