



Division for  
Communicative  
Disabilities and  
Deafness

# **CHILDREN WHO ARE SEPARATED FROM THEIR FAMILIES AT BORDERS:**

## **The Impact of Maltreatment and Trauma**

### **Position Statement of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)/ Division for Communicative Disabilities and Deafness (DCDD)**

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)/Division for Communicative Disabilities and Deafness (DCDD) strongly condemns the policy of family separation and calls for:

- The immediate reunification of all children and their families.
- The immediate discontinuation of practices that separate children from their families.
- The provision of resources and services to address the trauma from the separation and related events.

As educators, we believe that this policy is in direct conflict with our mission, our efforts to prevent childhood maltreatment, and the research literature related to positive outcomes for children. We are particularly concerned about the harm to children with special needs and to those experiencing language barriers.

As a Division of CEC, DCDD is concerned with the well-being, development, and education of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with communication and learning disorders, ranging from mild to profound, and/or who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Please contact your members of congress to urge them to support any efforts to ensure that children and parents are reunited and accomplish the actions called for above.

<https://whoismyrepresentative.com>