CONVENTIONS ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Student Task Force
What is the United Nations?
What is an International Treaty?
U.S. Ratification Process for International Treaties

- The President (or representative) endorses the treaty by signing it.

- The treaty is submitted to the U.S. Senate with recommendations for reservations, declarations, and understandings (RDUs).*

- The Senate Foreign Relations Committee holds hearings and then makes a recommendation to the full Senate. The Senate must attempt to ensure that all federal and/or state laws meet the standards of the

- The President submits a formal document to the United Nations.

- The legislation is implemented as RDUs are fulfilled.

- The Senate votes for ratification. A ratification vote must succeed by a 2/3 majority (67 votes).

- Three months later the United States becomes a party to the treaty and is required to submit periodic reports to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child that detail the measures they have taken to implement the CRC.
Background

Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is a human rights treaty created specifically to promote and protect children worldwide.
The CRC sets forth basic standards which individual nations agree to pursue on behalf of children. These norms rest on the following four underlying themes: **Survival, Protection, Development, and Participation.**
Mission Statement- Importance of Family
Why should we ratify the CRC?

1. Because our failure to ratify the CRC is a failure to stand up for all children everywhere and undermines our leadership for protecting children.

2. Failure to ratify is a failure to recognize and address the plight of all children.

3. Ratification would enhance our role as an international leader in human rights, while the lack of ratification undercuts our influence and our international leadership.

4. With US ratification, the most powerful nation on earth, the world could stand united to promote and protect children’s rights.

5. With US ratification we would finally be eligible to participate in the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and bolster international child advocacy efforts.
Thinking Globally, Acting Locally