

04 DO NOT DEFEND YOURSELF!

CPS usually doesn't have a lot of information in the first place. Don't assume they have a court order or even enough evidence to get one! They cannot come in your home without a court order unless they witness an emergency taking place.

Child Protective Services cannot simply take your children away from your home. Except in exigent circumstances, a court order is required before CPS can legally remove a child from your home without your consent.

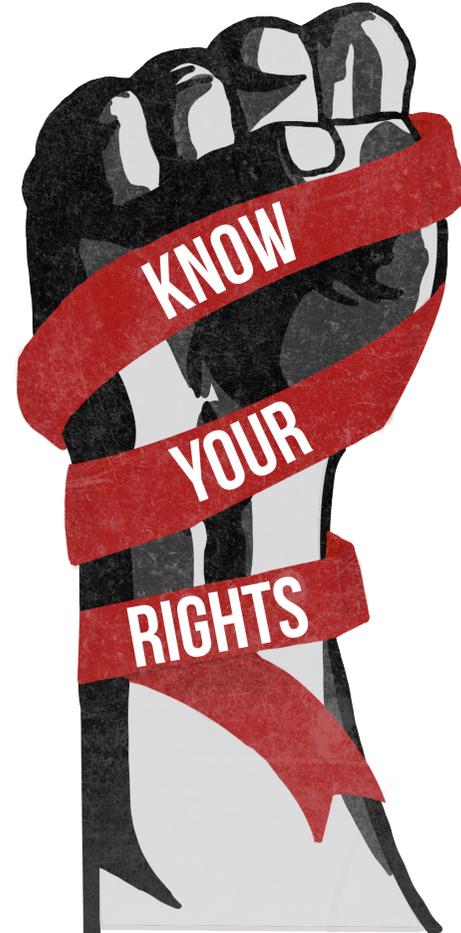
Exigent means that an emergency is actively taking place and action must be taken immediately.



If you are someone who is struggling with your parental responsibilities and would like support, we may be able to be of service. Please contact us to see what's possible. We can be reached at pac@anwouhuru.org or phone us at +1 (240) 326-3959.

Learn more about us at <http://anwouhuru.org>

#ARRESTCPS
STOP KIDNAPPING BLACK CHILDREN



The African National Women's Organization

is a membership-based mass organization. We exist to build the revolutionary capacity of African women, with a focus on the poor working class. We do this with the understanding that for African women and people to be free we need to have a world-wide revolution led by African poor working class. We are led by the political Theory of African Internationalism which explains the world and our future in it.

Our #ArrestCPS is aims to expose the parasitic nature of the child protective services and the devastating role it plays in the lives of black families. We want to see children returned to their homes and resources allocated by the state to go directly to the families, ensuring successful reunification. Anything less than this is an act of genocide.



01 DO NOT DEFEND YOURSELF!

Breathe. Be calm... and be quiet! Stay calm. Don't show your anger or anxiety and, no matter how hard it is, **DO NOT DEFEND YOURSELF!** The more you say, the more they know! Do NOT volunteer information for any reason. We understand the urge to be cooperative but you could just be making things worse for yourself later. Most CPS referrals are very vague. They only know what was reported to them and usually that information is not very specific. If you jump in and defend yourself, anything you say could be used against you later. **The best defense? A closed mouth.**

02 DO NOT LET THEM IN THE HOUSE!

Unless they have a warrant and/or there is an obvious emergency, they cannot force themselves into your home. Even if a police officer is present, they can only enter your home if you consent, if they have a warrant OR if they hear an emergency situation going on. You have the right to refuse and you don't need to explain why. Do **NOT** explain why you don't want them in the house! Avoid saying things like "it's a mess right now." Depending on the allegations, you could be strengthening the case against you!

03 ASK QUESTIONS AND RECORD ANSWERS

Federal law gives you the right to know the exact nature of the allegations against you. If they say something vague, like "child abuse" or "environmental neglect," demand specific answers. Sometimes, they will be very reluctant to tell you exactly what the accusations are but you have the legal right to this information!

If the investigator states they have a warrant, ask to see it. Be sure it is actually signed and dated by a judge!

Here are a few questions you absolutely need to have answered – and be sure to record or write down the answers!

1. Can I see your ID?
2. What is the name and phone number of your supervisor?
3. What are the exact allegations that have been made against me?
4. Do you have a warrant to search my home or speak to my children?