

Vocabulary Challenge – Juvenile Justice

Match the word with its definition.

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| _____ Adjudicatory Hearing | A. | The voluntary surrender by parents of the care, control, and earnings of a minor. |
| _____ Admission | B. | This Supreme Court case determined that jury trials were not required in juvenile cases, mainly with regard to privacy of juvenile hearings. |
| _____ Aftercare | C. | The age—usually 18 or 21—at which a person becomes an adult, as specified by state law, and acquires both the rights and the responsibilities of adulthood. |
| _____ Age of Majority | D. | This Supreme Court case determined that juveniles charged with a criminal act must be found “delinquent by proof beyond a reasonable doubt”—the same standard required in adult criminal cases. |
| _____ Confidential | E. | A person not yet considered an adult for the purposes of determining either criminal or civil liability; a minor. |
| _____ Delinquent Offender | F. | This is equivalent to a guilty plea in a criminal case involving an adult. |
| _____ Denial | G. | An adult appointed to prosecute or defend a suit on behalf of a minor or other party unable to represent him or herself. |
| _____ Department of Juvenile Services | H. | The doctrine that allows the government to take care of minors and others who cannot legally take care of themselves. In Latin, literally meaning “parent of his country.” |
| _____ Detention | I. | Statutes in which parents are held responsible and may be prosecuted for crimes committed by their children. |
| _____ Disposition | J. | This is equivalent to being arrested in the adult criminal system. |
| _____ Diversion | K. | The procedure used to determine the facts in a juvenile case; similar to an adult trial, but generally closed to the public. |
| _____ Emancipation | L. | This is the equivalent of parole in the adult criminal system. |
| _____ Guardian ad Litem | M. | At this preliminary hearing, the state must prove that an offense was committed and that there is reasonable cause to believe that the accused committed the crime. |
| _____ In re Gault | N. | The process of measurable change, as within a system or institution. |
| _____ In re Winship | O. | This is the equivalent of a “not guilty” plea in the adult criminal system. |
| _____ Initial Hearing | P. | A judge’s decision regarding the type of punishment or sentence a juvenile offender should receive. |
| _____ Intake | Q. | A punitive measure or action that results from failure to comply with a law, rule, or order. |
| _____ Juvenile | R. | Real, court-sanctioned sessions that are run predominantly by youth for the purpose of hearing cases involving misdemeanor offenses committed by teens. |
| _____ McKeiver v Pennsylvania | S. | A Supreme Court case which held that juveniles should receive many of the same due process rights as adults, including the right to notification of the charges against them, the right to an attorney, the right to confront witnesses, and the right to remain silent. |

_____ Minor	T.	A minor who has committed an offense ordinarily punishable by criminal processes.
_____ Parens Patriae	U.	The process through which a convicted person is changed or reformed, so as not to commit another criminal act.
_____ Parental Responsibility Laws	V.	The governing agency responsible for administration and oversight of all cases involving minors charged with a crime.
_____ Rehabilitation	W.	When something is known or conveyed only to a limited number of people.
_____ Reform	X.	A child; a person under the legal age of adulthood.
_____ Sanction	Y.	The formal process by which court officials or social workers decide if a complaint against a juvenile should be referred to juvenile court.
_____ Status Offense	Z.	A youth who stays away from school without permission.
_____ Take into Custody	AA.	Often referred to as preventive _____, this serves to protect the community and the juveniles themselves from the consequences of future crime.
_____ Teen Courts	BB.	An act that is only illegal when it is committed by a minor; for example, truancy, running away from home, or breaking a town curfew.
_____ Truant	CC.	The suspension of the prosecution of a charge for a period of time during which the defendant participates in a rehabilitation program and after which the charges are dismissed if the rehabilitation is completed.

Answer Sheet

- K** Adjudicatory Hearing
- F** Admission
- L** Aftercare
- C** Age of Majority
- W** Confidential
- T** Delinquent Offender
- O** Denial
- V** Department of Juvenile Services
- AA** Detention
- P** Disposition
- CC** Diversion
- A** Emancipation
- G** Guardian ad Litem
- S** In re Gault
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- M** Initial Hearing
- Y** Intake
- E** Juvenile
- B** McKeiver v Pennsylvania
- X** Minor
- H** Parens Patriae
- I** Parental Responsibility Laws
- U** Rehabilitation
- N** Reform
- Q** Sanction
- BB** Status Offense
- J** Take into Custody
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- Z** Truant