

REVIEW OF CHILD IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS

- WHEREAS, Misinformation and noninformation abound in child identification programs because they too often focus on stranger abduction and exploitation; and
- WHEREAS, Parents need to be aware that acquaintances, not strangers, commit most abductions and sex crimes against children; and
- WHEREAS, Schools need to be aware that a thumbprint is useless to the FBI in locating missing children and that only a complete set of ten fingerprints on an official FBI card will assist in the recovery of a missing child; and
- WHEREAS, Most child identification systems fail to include court records and custody orders which are necessary for prompt recovery in family abduction cases; and
- WHEREAS, Careful screening of child identification systems can both prevent nationwide paranoia about stranger danger and lead to a greater awareness of the facts of parental abductions and the consequences of running away, therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the National PTA urge state and local PTAs/PTSAs to review child identification systems which tend to exaggerate the danger of stranger abductions; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the National PTA collect and forward samples of pertinent materials to the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children for judgement on those which may be exploiting the issue of missing children.

1986

Replaced by amended resolution 1987