



Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos

México

Recommendation 56/2011

The following is a synopsis of the recommendation emitted by the CNDH . The complete version may be consulted on this institution's web page.

Mexico City, October 25th, 2011

MATTER: ABOUT THE FAILURE TO SUPPLY FREE UPDATED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BRAILLE TEXT BOOKS FOR CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPEDIMENTS

AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE: PUBLIC EDUCATION SECRETARY

The Mexican National Human Rights Commission examined the elements and evidence contained within file CNDH/2/2011/8342/Q, relating to the case of the failure to provide free text books to teach elementary school children with visual impediments, to the detriment of child V1. The complaint submitted by Q1 was received at the Mexican National Human Rights Commission on August 24th 2011. It stated that his 11 year old son, V1, has a visual impediment and is currently in sixth grade at private school CE1. He mentions that he has had problems with the Secretariat of Public Education for many years as it has been inconsistent in delivering free text books, which need to be edited using the Braille system due to the special needs of the child. In 2007, 2009 and 2010, V1 did not receive his free Braille text books, or the ones he received were not up to date, thus causing them to be different from the standard books handed out to all of the other students in the same grade. This year, V1 has begun sixth grade and has yet to receive his Braille text books. Since the circumstance of V1 may affect the rights of other children living with visual impediments, the Mexican National Human Rights Commission confirmed violations of the rights to education and equality to the detriment of all elementary school children with visual impediments. This is the result of a failure to provide the adequate material needed to teach and leads to a discriminatory circumstance which does not respect the rights of persons with visual impediments. This is attributable to Secretariat of Public Education staff, leading the Commission to issue Recommendation 56/2011.

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