There will be consequences, but your child will not be treated as an adult.

Usually, your child won't go to court.



Teens don't go to adult prisons.



Teens might have a record, but it's not the same as a criminal record.



Your child has the right to a lawyer.

Your child is eligible for **free** legal aid.



The lawyer represents your child throughout the process.



Éducaloi can help you understand what is happening in your child's case.

Read our legal information articles on these topics:

- Teens Accused of Crimes: Possible Outcomes
- Steps in the Youth Court Process
- Your Child, the Police and You
- What is a Youth Record?

Visit

www.educaloi.qc.ca/YouthJustice



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The law is constantly evolving. The information in this pamphlet is up to date as of October 2026. Please visit our website educaloi.qc.ca/en or consult a lawyer to make sure the law has not changed since that date.

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Was your teenager stopped by the police?



What You Need to Know

éducaloi

Parents are not usually accused of their child's crime.

Parents don't face criminal charges when their child commits a crime, except in some rare situations.



But you might have to pay for the damage your child caused.



Support your child throughout the process.

- Ask questions
- Stay informed about your child's case
- Help your child obey any orders



Possible Outcomes

The Youth Criminal Justice Act says that young people must answer for their crimes, but it also encourages their rehabilitation. Several outcomes are possible, depending on the situation.

Possibility 1
Extrajudicial Measure

No court process.



Possible measures:



None



A warning



Sent to an OJA (alternative justice organization) for an information session

Possibility 2
Extrajudicial Sanction

No court process if your child obeys the sanction.



Possible sanctions:



Mediation with the victim

Restorative justice



Community work



Complete a specialized program

Possibility 3 – Court

Your child must go to court.



You are usually told the date your child must go to court.



