



# 2021 DAY OF GENERAL DISCUSSION ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND ALTERNATIVE CARE

## Have your say!

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child is a group of 18 experts that checks if governments around the world are helping children enjoy their rights to live well and thrive. In September 2021, the Committee organises a Day of General Discussion on Children's Rights and Alternative Care.

**Alternative care** is when children do not live with their parents and are in the care of other adults, who can be relatives or members of the community and the social services.

**Children, young people and experts** from all over the world are invited to share their experience of alternative care or the child protection system with the Committee. This way we can improve governments' support for every child to have the care and protection that they need.

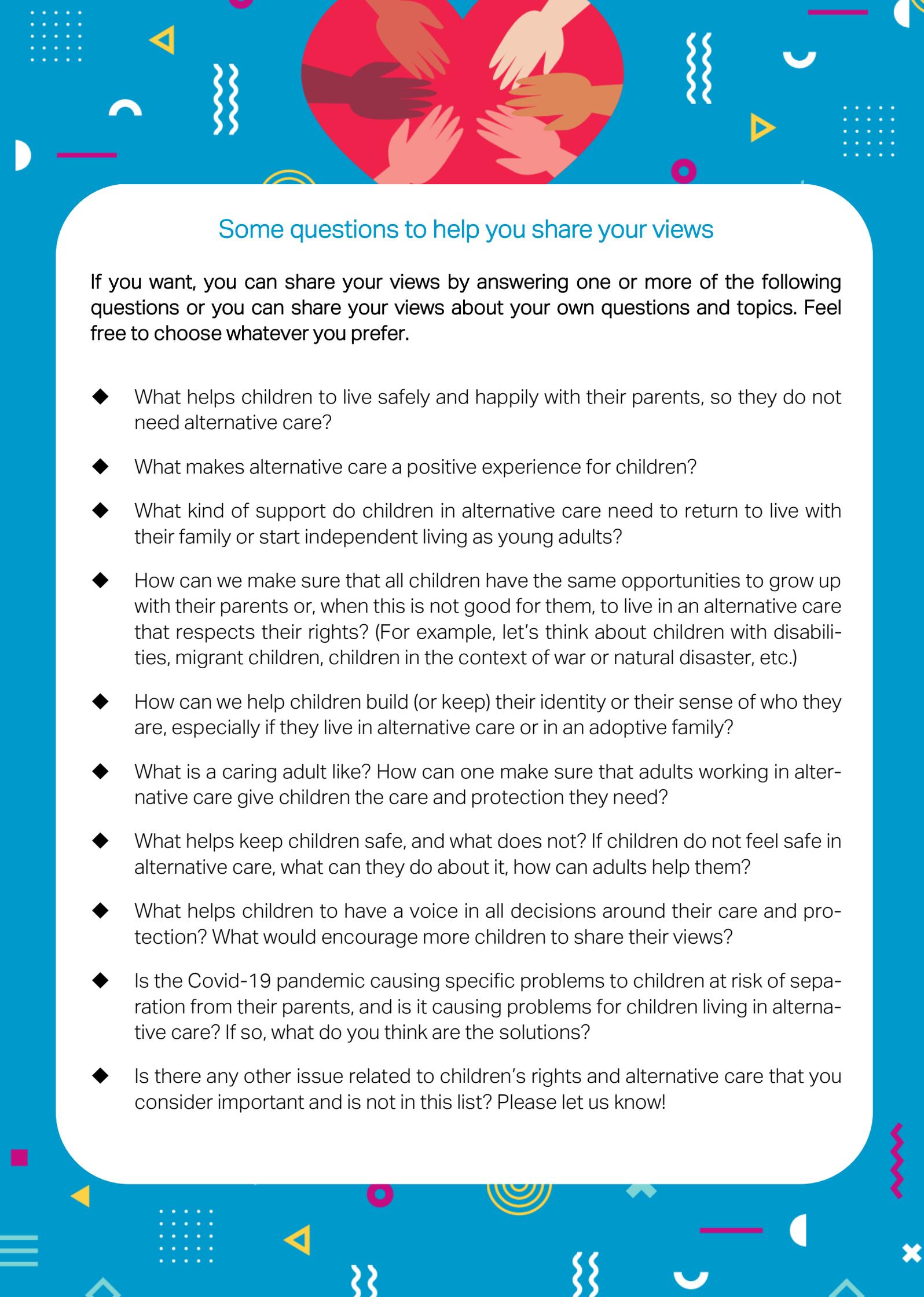
**You are welcome to share your ideas** on what works well (or does not) to help children have positive experiences of alternative care or live well with their parents so they do not need alternative care.

## How you can share your views

- You can share a text with your ideas. If you prefer, you can also share reports, videos, photos or drawings that express your ideas, and perhaps you can write a few sentences to explain what you mean.
- The language should be English or Spanish or French. Children speaking other languages can communicate in other ways, such as drawings, or can ask an adult to assist.
- Please send to [crc@ohchr.org](mailto:crc@ohchr.org) by 14 June 2021.

## Where you can find more information

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/InformationForChildren.aspx>



## Some questions to help you share your views

If you want, you can share your views by answering one or more of the following questions or you can share your views about your own questions and topics. Feel free to choose whatever you prefer.

- ◆ What helps children to live safely and happily with their parents, so they do not need alternative care?
- ◆ What makes alternative care a positive experience for children?
- ◆ What kind of support do children in alternative care need to return to live with their family or start independent living as young adults?
- ◆ How can we make sure that all children have the same opportunities to grow up with their parents or, when this is not good for them, to live in an alternative care that respects their rights? (For example, let's think about children with disabilities, migrant children, children in the context of war or natural disaster, etc.)
- ◆ How can we help children build (or keep) their identity or their sense of who they are, especially if they live in alternative care or in an adoptive family?
- ◆ What is a caring adult like? How can one make sure that adults working in alternative care give children the care and protection they need?
- ◆ What helps keep children safe, and what does not? If children do not feel safe in alternative care, what can they do about it, how can adults help them?
- ◆ What helps children to have a voice in all decisions around their care and protection? What would encourage more children to share their views?
- ◆ Is the Covid-19 pandemic causing specific problems to children at risk of separation from their parents, and is it causing problems for children living in alternative care? If so, what do you think are the solutions?
- ◆ Is there any other issue related to children's rights and alternative care that you consider important and is not in this list? Please let us know!