



MALTA COLLEGE OF FAMILY DOCTORS

127, The Professional Centre,
Sliema Road, Gzira MALTA (Europe)
Email: contact@mcfcd.org.mt
Website: <http://www.mcfcd.org.mt>

Press Release

19.12.2019

The Malta College of Family Doctors joins numerous organisations deploring the decision of Identity Malta and approval from the respective parliamentary secretary about the deportation of 22 children based on the income of their parents.

This decision disregards the long term psychological impact on the child and assumes that the child can be taken care of by others in the country of origin. It also disregards the fact that a good number of families in Malta do not earn as much as it is asked by the Agency and that does not automatically translate in poverty or neglect.

Malta ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on January 26, 1990. The convention states that every child has the right to, as far as possible, to know and be cared for by their parents (article 7) and that governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help they need to raise their children (Article 18).

The College asks for the input of the Child Commissioner whose office has been set up on the foundation of such convention and further elucidation from the office of the Parliamentary Secretary office for Citizenship about the rationale behind deeming the decision by Identity Malta as being in the children's best interest. It also calls upon the President of the Republic who has just signed Act 23 of this same year which safeguards minors deprived of parental care or in the risk of being so deprived.

Finally it asks the Executive of the Republic to safeguard the values of our nation which are based on tolerance, solidarity and family irrespective of ethnicity, creed and citizenship. Moreover, the College calls upon the Legislative on which the responsibility of making sure that a family earns basic minimum income rests upon.