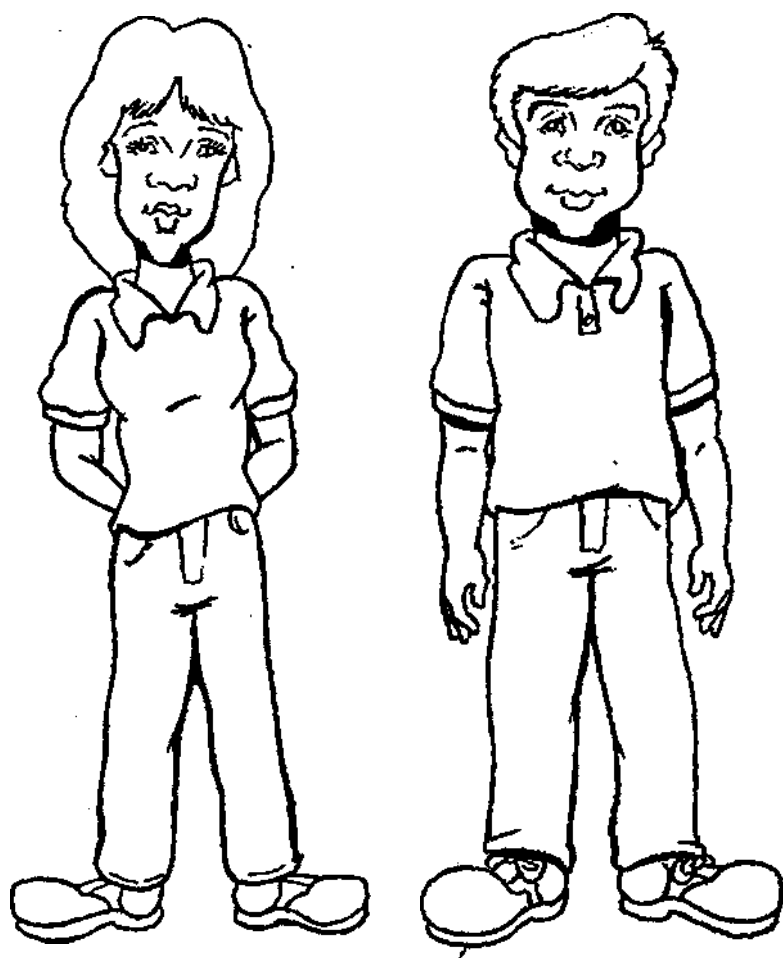




# YOU and YOUR RIGHTS

An illustrated guide to your rights as  
a consumer of human services.

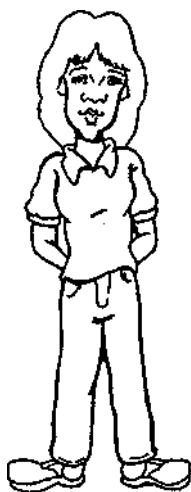
Lynne Tucholke-Shorter & Cheryl Laaker  
Wyandotte Developmental Disabilities Services



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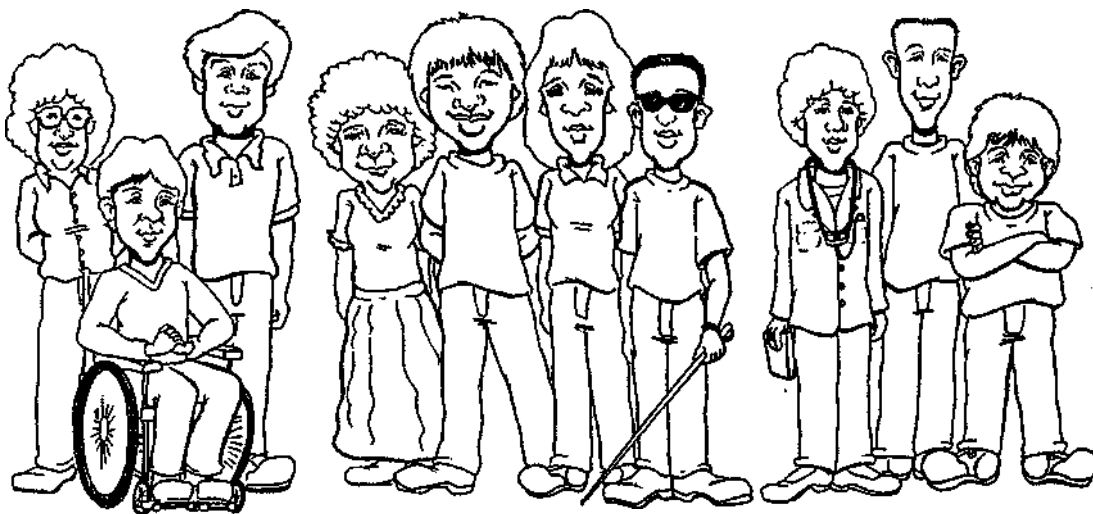
**Lynne Tucholke-Shorter & Cheryl Laaker  
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# YOU AND YOUR RIGHTS

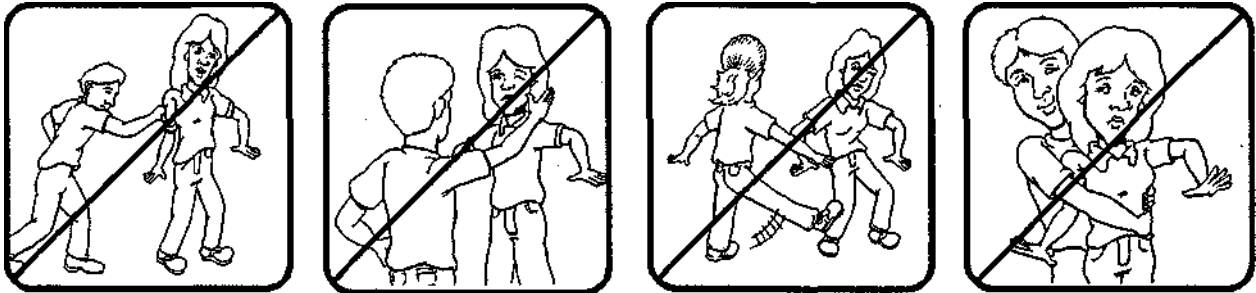
WDDS knows that you should have the same chance that we all have. Picking where you want to live, whom you want to live with, where you want to work, and what you want to do for fun.

You also need to know your rights. Every person in the world should be treated fairly. We know that we all forget things. This is a list of how people should treat you.

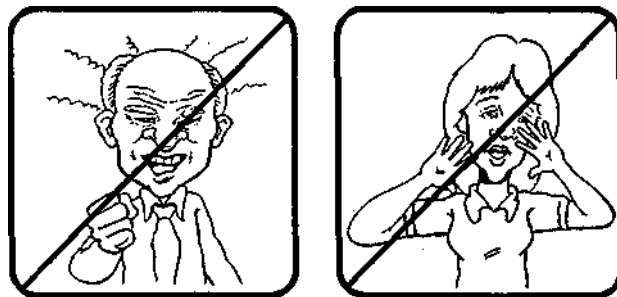


You have the right to be free from physical or psychological abuse or neglect.

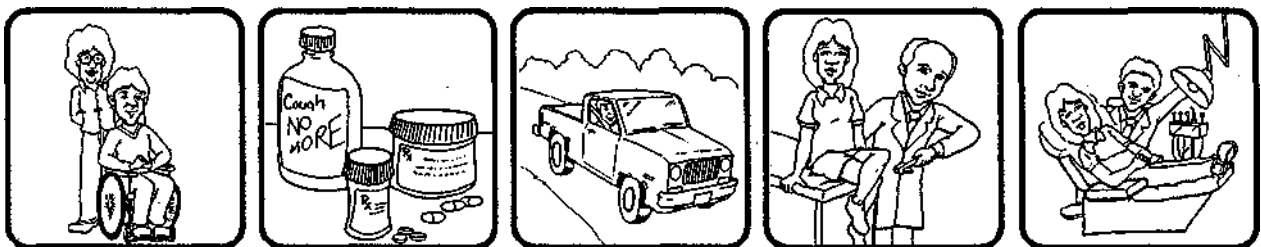
**This means:**



No one should: hit, slap, kick, or touch you in any way that you do not like.



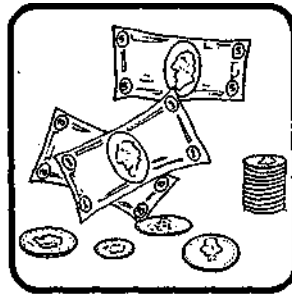
No one should call you names or say things to scare you.



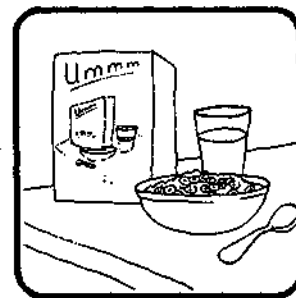
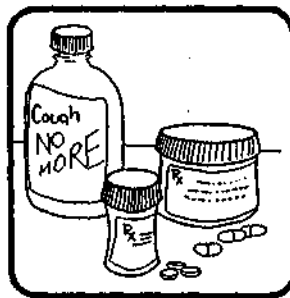
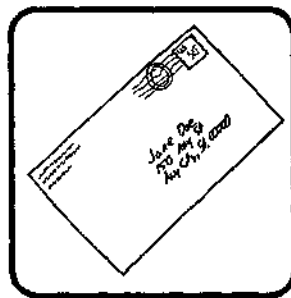
No one should ignore you or forget to do things you need to have done. Like take your medications or take you to doctor appointments if you need help getting there.

You have the right to be free from financial exploitation.

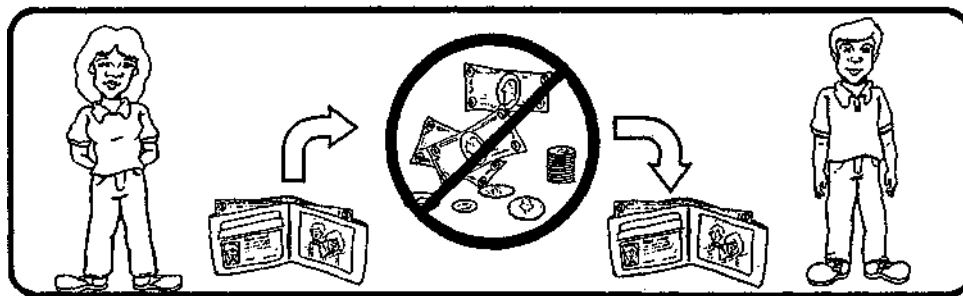
**This means**



No one can: Tell you how you must use your money.



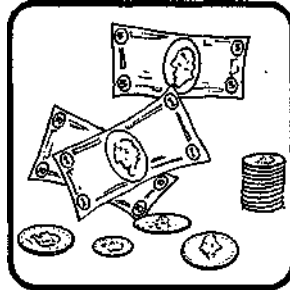
Staff and family may help you remember to pay your bills or buy medications, food, etc.



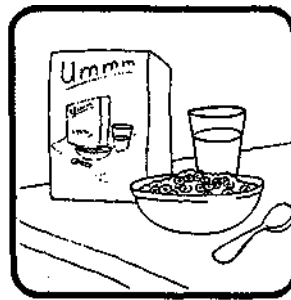
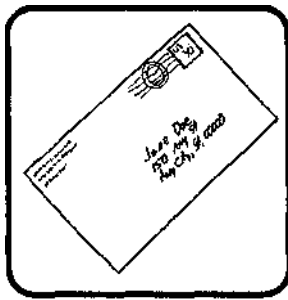
Staff should *NEVER* ask you for money for their own personal use!

You have the right to have control over your own financial resources.

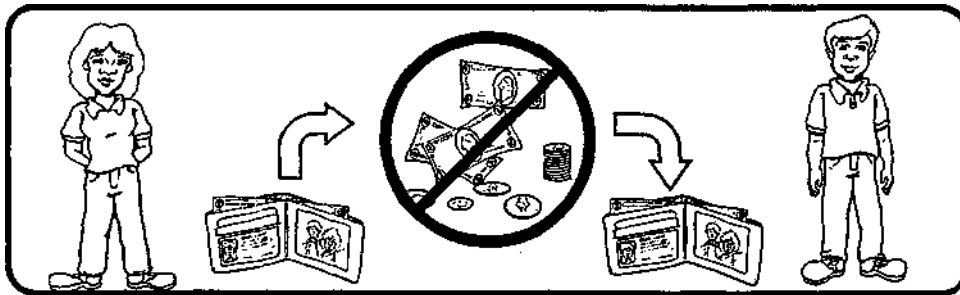
### This means



No one can: Tell you how you must use your money.



Staff and family may help you remember to pay your bills or buy medications, food, etc. When you want to buy something, staff or family should help you find a way to get it.



Staff should *NEVER* ask you for money for their own personal use!

You have the right to receive, purchase, have and use your own personal property.

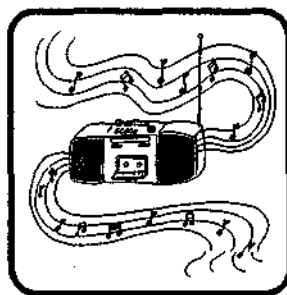
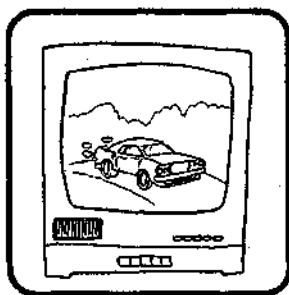
### **This means**



That if you want to buy something, you can.



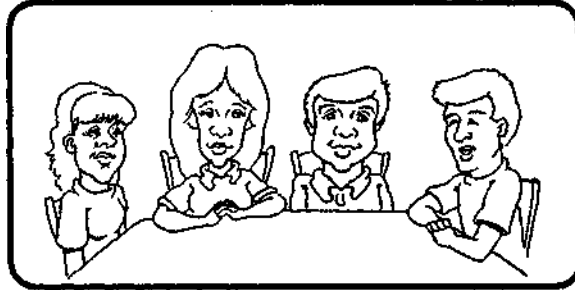
If someone wants to give you a gift, you can have it.



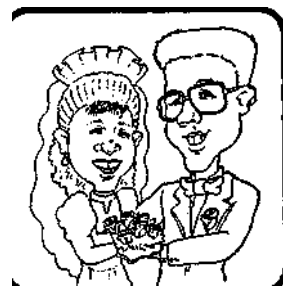
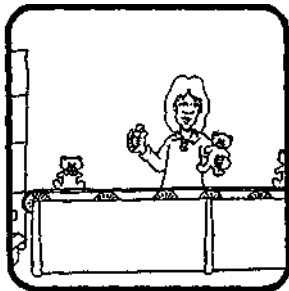
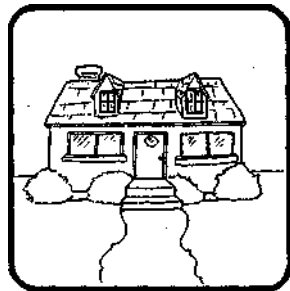
No one can take away anything that belongs to you or stop you from using something that is yours. This means both small things like a TV or radio and could be as big as a house that you save for and buy for yourself.

You have the right to active and meaningful participation in decisions affecting your life.

————— **This means** —————



If there is a meeting about you, you should be there. You should invite the people that you want to come.



You need to tell your service coordinator, QSM, staff or family what you want to do with your life.

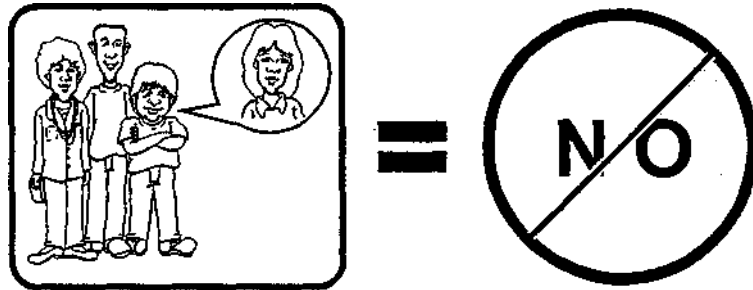


Staff and family need to LISTEN to you, and to help you get what you want in your life



You have the right to privacy.

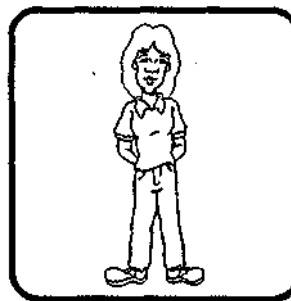
This means:



Staff or family should not talk about you without your knowing about it.



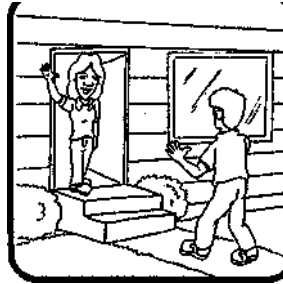
No one has the right to mess with your stuff.



When you need or want time alone, you should have it. Sometimes you need to tell staff / family that you need this time. You also need to remember that other people need to have their stuff left alone, and that they may need time alone also.

You have the right to receive visitors and to choose, communicate, associate and meet privately with your family and friends.

### **This means**



You can have family or friends come to your house, and you can have time alone with them if you want it. If you live at home you need to talk this over with your family.



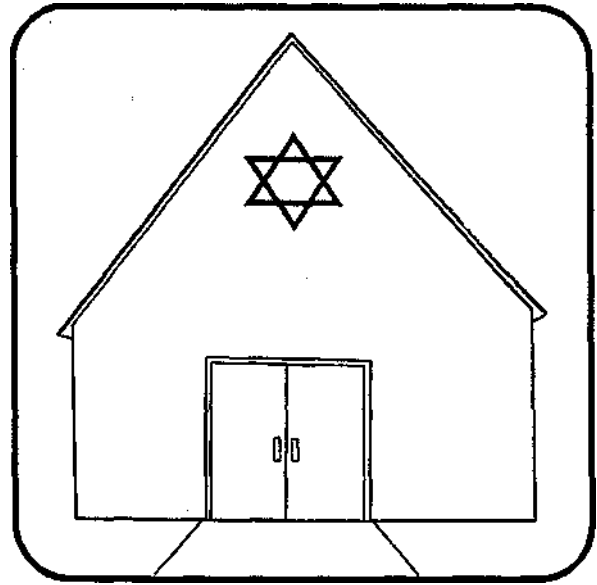
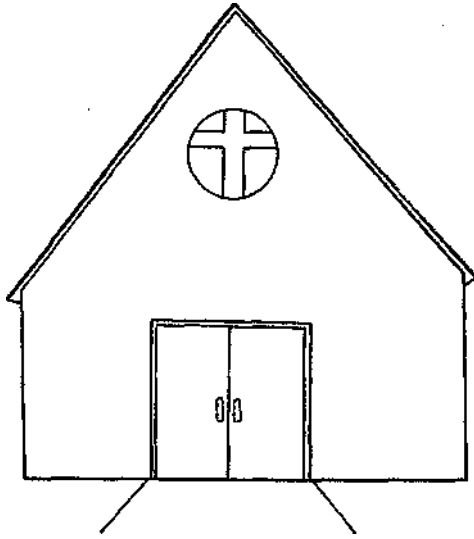
You can talk on the telephone without anyone listening to you.



You have the right to pick your friends.

You have the right to practice the religion or faith of your choice.

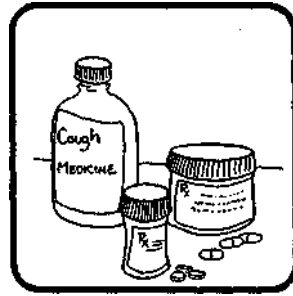
**This means**



You can go to any church, synagogue, or temple that you want to. You can believe anything that you want to.

You have the right to be free from chemical restraint, or having restrictive procedures utilized without your informed consent.

### **This means**



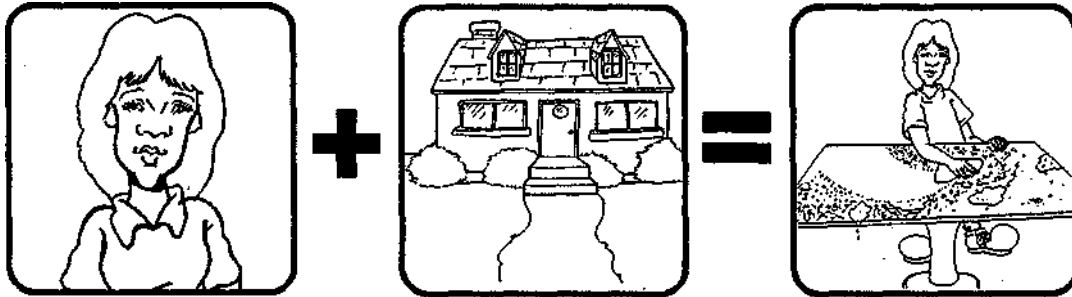
Staff or family can not make you take medications unless you understand why you are taking them, and the side effects (other things) that can happen to you. For example; some medications may make you sleepy, dizzy, very thirsty or feel funny. You need to know about these side effects so you know what is going on with your body. Your family and staff will help you remember why you are taking your medications to help you stay healthy.



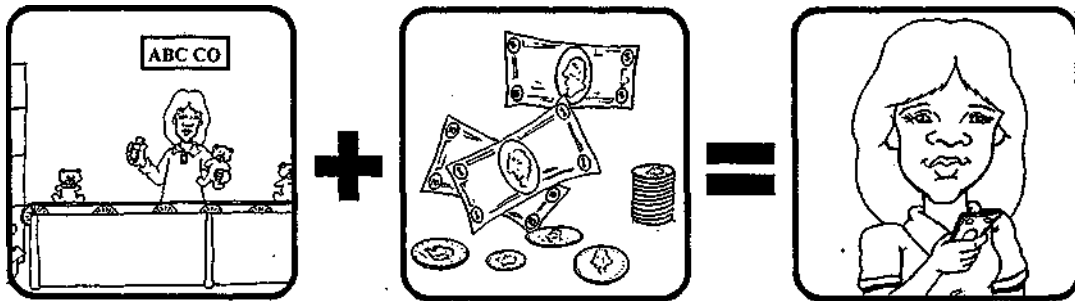
If you choose not to take your medications, family / staff can not take your stuff away or stop you from doing things you want to do. They can not make you stay in your room or stay away from other people. Staff and family can not tell you that until you take your medication you can't do something, like going out to eat.

You have the right to be paid for work outside of your home.

### This means



You need to keep the home you live in clean. This is your home and you are responsible for keeping it clean and nice looking.

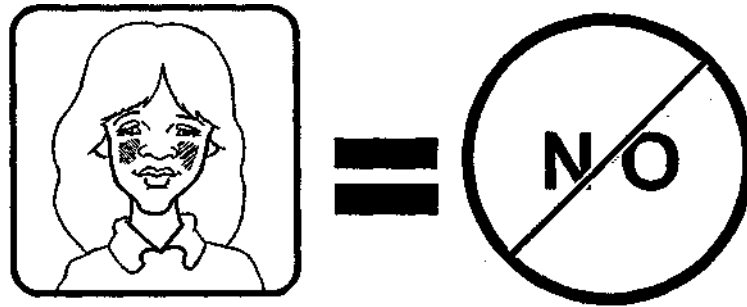


If you work at the workshops or a job in town you are to be paid for the work that you do. The amount you are paid will depend on the job that you do.

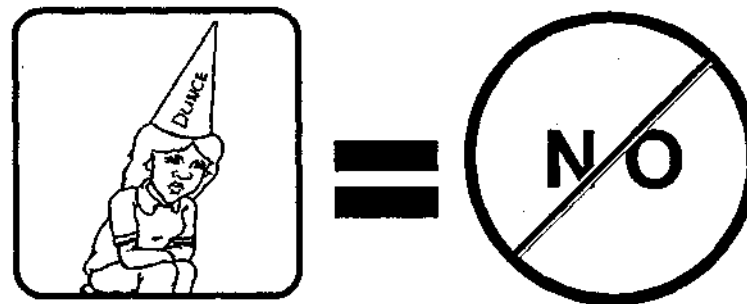
If you are doing something for a friend, you and your friend can agree on the amount and kind of pay you will get for the job. Sometimes we do jobs for our friends and get paid with things other than money, like dinner out or going to a movie, or sometimes the person will do some job for (like a trade).

You have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

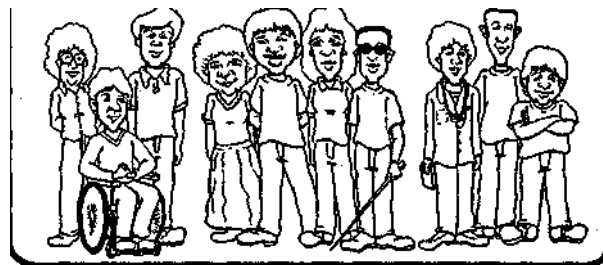
**This means**



Your family and staff should be nice to you. They should not embarrass you in front of your friends.



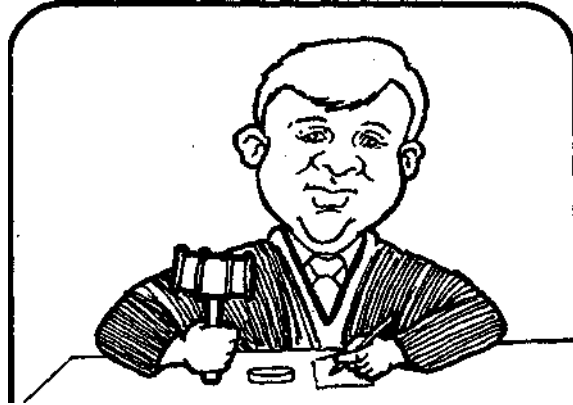
Your family and staff should not make you feel dumb or stupid. They should help you get what you want.



They should treat you the way they want to be treated.

You have the right to due process.

This means:



If your family and/or staff are not listening to you or are stopping you from doing something you need or want, you need to ask someone to help you.

At WDDS all the staff should help you. But if you have a service coordinator or QSM you can talk to them alone.

You have the right to talk to a person who is not part of the problem.

You have a right to get an answer to the problem. It may not be the answer you want, but it will be fair.