

A Call to Action

DESTIGMATIZING LANGUAGE



This resource intends to build awareness of and facilitate discussions around the use of child-centered, person-first, and identity-first, destigmatizing language when speaking to and documenting the lives of children and youth as a response to the *Representative for Children and Youth's Report: Missing*.

Existing resources are organized by domains to promote immediate adoption of recommended language to promote security, a sense of belonging, and well-being for all.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- [Human Rights Code](#)
- [Accessible BC Act](#)
- [Anti-Racism Data Act](#)



DOCUMENTATION

- [3.12 Gender and Sex Data Standard](#)
- [Writing Guide for Indigenous Content](#)

To address the root systemic and structural causes of children and youth going missing from the child welfare system we need to collectively explore:

1. What are the conditions of unbelonging that lead to children becoming lost or missing in the child welfare system?
2. How are children's unmet needs across systems contributing to them going missing?
3. How do we align systems of care and protection to respond more effectively and uphold the rights of children who have disappeared in the system?

MONITORING

POLICY

PRACTICE

CHILD AND YOUTH VOICE

LANGUAGE

BELONGING

COMMUNICATING WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES



- [Words Matter - Guidelines on Using Inclusive Language](#)
- [Modernizing Language Guide](#)
- [A Way with Words and Images](#)

CRITICAL REFLECTION & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- [Glossary - BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner](#)
- [Plain Language Checklist](#)
- [Wheel of Privilege and Power](#)

