



# **CREATING A DEFENDER-DRIVEN AGENDA FOR CHANGE**

**2016 Northern Regional Juvenile  
Defender Training  
Tupelo**

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it’s the only thing that ever has.”**

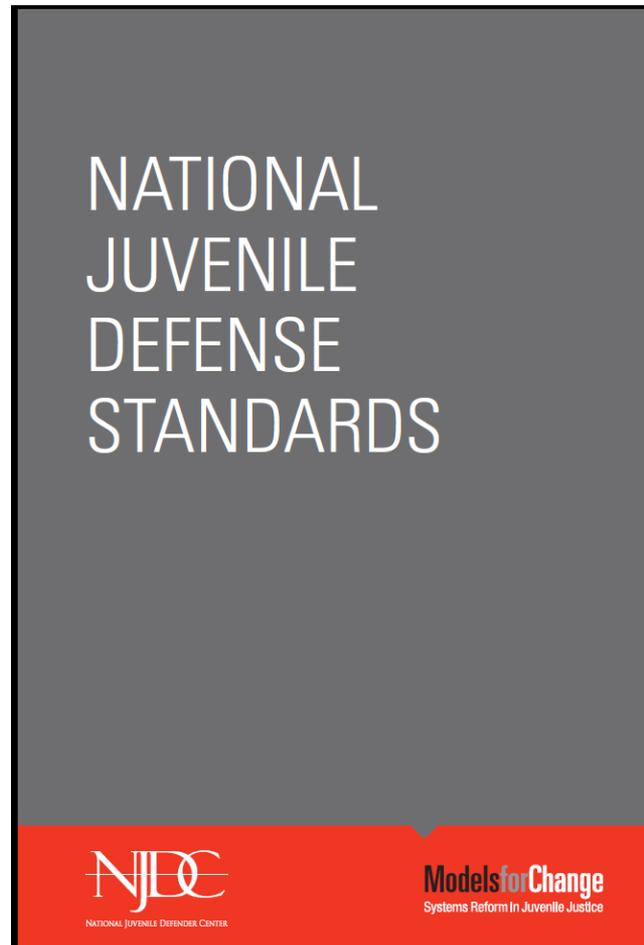
**-Margaret Mead**



## *Gold Standard Representation*

Provide the same quality of representation that a wealthier client could afford and the same quality of representation that anyone charged with a crime deserves

# Examples of Gold Standard Representation



## NATIONAL JUVENILE DEFENSE STANDARDS

**NJDC**  
NATIONAL JUVENILE DEFENDER CENTER

**Models for Change**  
Systems Reform in Juvenile Justice

# Examples of Gold Standard Representation

- Client meetings in advance of court hearings
- Confidentiality of communications
- Investigation
- Interviewing of witnesses
- Adhering to statutory timelines
- Pretrial motion practice
- Avoiding conflicts of interest
- Advocating for the client's expressed interest

# CHALLENGING CONDITIONS



THERE IS A TENSION

Aspirational Standard

vs.

Existing Constraints

I Can't Do That In  
My Jurisdiction



BALE

11

INVEST IN AFRICA

23

16

9

10

4

7

SPURS

# The Question

What are the obstacles that make it difficult to provide Gold Standard Representation?

# Exercise Instructions

- Small Groups of 4-5 people
- Each group should have:
  - A piece of butcher paper
  - A pad of sticky notes for each person
  - A pen for each person
  - Tape

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# What are the obstacles that make it difficult to provide Gold Standard Representation?

- Write on the sticky notes- one obstacle per sticky note
- Once you are done writing, put all the sticky notes on the butcher paper
- 10 minutes
- ***All of the sticky note work is done in silence***

# Read and Organize and Rank

- Read each sticky note
- Organize the notes into thematically similar groups
- Rank the notes from most important to least important
- 10 minutes
- ***Again, All of the sticky note work is done in silence***

# Now You Can Talk

- Talk in your group about the decisions you made
- Add and rank more obstacles if they come to light
- If anyone objects to a ranking, then right it down on a sticky note and put it separately on butcher paper
- 10 minutes

# Last

- Tape down the notes
- Discuss how to eliminate or lessen your most important obstacles
- Pick someone to represent the group.
- 10 minutes

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