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Handout MENTOR 3.3 A - The Parents Rights Charter by European Parents Association.

The Parents Right Charter was elaborated by European Parents' Association (EPA) and was adopted in 1992. “EPA gathers the parents associations in Europe which together represent more than 150 million parents. EPA works in partnership both to represent and give to parents a powerful voice in the development of education policies and decisions at European level. In the field of education, EPA aims to promote the active participation of parents and the recognition of their central place as the primary responsible of the education of their children.”

Source: http://euparents.eu/Parents_Rights_Charter

Rights and duties of parents in Europe

- Parents have the right to raise their children in a society without discrimination on the grounds of the color of their skin, sex, ethnic, social background, disability, nationality, beliefs, gender orientation or economic position.
- Parents have the duty to raise their children towards a sense of responsibility for each other and for a humane world.
- Parents have the right to recognition of their primacy as educators of their children.
- Parents have the duty to raise children in a responsible way and not to neglect them.
- Parents have the right to full access to the formal education system for their children on the basis of their needs, talents and merits. Everyone has the right to education and to have access to vocational training.
- Parents have the duty to commit themselves as partners in education to the school of their children.
- Parents have the right of access to all information at educational institutions which concerns their children.
- Parents have the duty to give to their children`s schools all information relevant for the attainment of the educational goals on which they work together.
- Parents have the right to make a choice for the education which is closest to their convictions and to the values they hold dear in raising their children and the



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freedom to found educational establishments with due respect for democratic principles.

- Parents have the duty to make well-informed and conscientious choices about the education their children should receive.
- Parents have the right to ensure the education and teaching of their children in conformity with their religious, philosophical and pedagogical convictions. The formal education system shall respect for the spiritual and cultural background of the children.
- Parents have the duty to raise their children to respect and accept other people and their convictions.
- Parents have the right to public material assistance to take away financial impediments to the access to education for their children. This includes the right to receive free compulsory education.
- Parents have the duty to give both time and personal commitment to their children and their school to support its efforts in attaining educational goals.
- Parents have the right to exert influence on the policy which their children`s school implements.
- Parents have the duty to be personally committed to their children`s school as a vital part of the local community.
- Parents and their associations have the right to be consulted actively about the policy of public authorities in education at all levels.
- Parents have the duty to maintain democratic representative organizations at all levels to represent themselves and their interests.
- Parents have the right to high quality educational provision from the responsible public authorities.
- Parents have the duty to help each other to improve their skills as prime educators and partners in the home-school relationship.