

I'm Dorothy Zook from Hesston, Ks and President of the Silver Haired Legislature

Most of us are Grandparents so we have a real interest in Grandparents rights. We want what is best for the child; When there are unfit parents not taking good care of their children and the children are taken away, usually, the Grandparents were the ones taking care of them most of the time before.

But when they go to court the grandparents don't have any say and before they know it SRS has put them into foster homes without even recognizing that Grandparents can give them a stable home also.

We have had testimony at our convention of brothers and sisters broken up because most foster homes don't want more than three. Also where Grandparents only had minimal visiting rights after they went to foster parents, this is not right.

Grandparents need to be included in evaluating what custody, visitation or residency arrangements are in the best interest of the child. Grandparents must show by clear and convincing evidence that the child has actually resided with such Grandparents in a stable relationship where they nurtured and supported the children. Also that children have permanency and stability in their situations and that the continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved.

WHO LOVES GRANDCHILDREN MORE THAN GRANDPARENTS