



TEXAS CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COALITION

In Partnership with
TEXAS
SMART-ON-CRIME
COALITION

**SAVING DOLLARS,
SAVING LIVES**

TREAT KIDS LIKE KIDS

Kids are not just miniature adults. They are more vulnerable, less culpable, and highly amenable to rehabilitation. Prosecuting kids in the adult criminal justice system is not only ineffective, it is harmful — to the kids who need positive and age-appropriate redirection, and to society.

Kids in adult jails and prisons are more likely to be physically and sexually abused, 36 times more likely to commit suicide, and more likely to end up back the criminal justice system than kids in the juvenile justice system.

Holding kids accountable through the juvenile justice system, rather than the adult criminal justice system, keeps kids and communities safer.

POLICY PRIORITIES



**Raise the
Age**



**Second
Look**



**Record
Sealing**

