

**From:** [gabrielmolinaro1@gmail.com](mailto:gabrielmolinaro1@gmail.com)  
**To:** [KCC - Committee Assistants \(Email Group\)](#)  
**Subject:** Youth right to counsel  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 10:59:54 AM

---

My name is Gabriel Molinaro,

I am a pastor at Sanctuary Church Seattle and member of Plymouth Congregational Church downtown Seattle.

I support youth right to counsel.

Young people should have the right to speak to a public defender before police officers can search, interrogate and pressure them into giving up their constitutional rights.

Youth are more vulnerable to police coercion, and police officers disproportionately stop and seek charges for Youth of Color in King County's juvenile legal system.

Just last year, 86% of youth jailed in King County were BIPOC. There needs to be dramatic changes to our juvenile legal system, and this is an urgent step that needs to happen now. Please direct KC towards a more equitable system, starting with the youth right to counsel.

-Gabriel Molinaro