

# CHILDREN'S EXPERIENCES IN FEDERAL DETENTION

The following quotes are from interviews conducted with immigrant children - now in facilities in Washington - about their detention.

*"He was kept in a room that he described as small, roughly 7 x 12 feet, that he shared with 25 other kids from the ages of 15 to 17. He said it was so cramped that some had to stand at any given time. There was not enough room for everyone to sit or lie-down at the same time."*

*"In one specific facility, the lack of enough food caused kids to fight amongst themselves. One girl described how guards would throw the food on the ground at them as if they were animals, and because there was not enough food to go around, fights would break out among the kids over the food. She remembers a fight over food where one of the guards grabbed a kid by the neck to get him to stop fighting."*

*"One girl recalled instances when mothers who were detained with their children complained to the officers about the cold temperatures because their kids were getting sick. The officer would then grab the air-conditioner remote. After that, the room would get colder, as if the officer had been annoyed by the request and decided to lower the temperature even further."*