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**Presentation title:** A judge is the person who decide who sings better: Children comprehension of legal terminology.

Children's involvement in judicial proceedings has been increasing progressively over the years, so questioning children at court has become a common practice. Regional and international organizations have developed guidelines for child-friendly justice. Those guidelines recognize that one of the main obstacles for the access of children to justice is their lack of knowledge about legal language and proceedings. Research confirms, consistently, that children at court are questioned using inappropriate strategies and a legal terminology well above their linguistic capabilities (Hanna, Davies, Henderson, Crothers, & Rotherham, 2010; Zajac, Westera & Kaladelfos, 2018). Most research was developed in English-speaking countries with an adversarial model of justice, wherefore results could not be easily extrapolated to different judicial systems and different languages. 322 Portuguese children from 6 to 13 years ( $M=9.23$ ;  $SD=2.05$ ) participated in this study. At interviews, children were asked to produce a definition/explanation of 18 legal terms (e.g. 'What is...(a judge)? Answers were categorized into 7 categories representing different answer strategies. 47% of interviewed children did not give a correct definition of any of the legal terms presented to them. Comprehension rates range from 0% to 35%, with the exception of the term "crime" which is correctly defined by 61% of children. The results of the present study are similar to those developed in countries with different judicial systems and English legal terminology corroborating that adapting court proceedings to children is a common need across multiple legal systems and languages.