

# Letter to a Senator

Date

The Honorable Joseph Pax Romana  
Leadership Title (if appropriate)  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**SAMPLE**

Dear Senator Romana:

**NOTE:** (If your Senator is the Chair of a committee or a Floor Leader, it is proper to address them as: Dear Mr. or Madam Chairman: or Dear Mr. or Madam Majority/Minority Leader)

Your intervention is respectfully requested to help secure the return of my children, both American citizens, to the United States. I have not seen my children Hans (age 8) and Greta Kinder (age 10) in three years. In May 2004, the non-custodial father, Helmut Vater, unlawfully removed them from our home in Connecticut and fled to Germany.

The Circuit Court of Stamford County has since determined the father violated the custody order and has issued a subsequent order of contempt, but is powerless to enforce any action. Because the father was also ordered by the court to pay child support, but has ignored that as well, I contacted the local Child Support Enforcement Office in Stamford County seeking their assistance. Regrettably, the CSE office cannot offer any service in this difficult matter, either. A visit to the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. also proved a dead-end, being informed that the Republic of Germany is unable to return children or extradite the father based on a civil matter of family law.

Recognizing your dedicated accomplishments in helping protect and improve the condition of abused and impoverished children, and the U.S. endorsement of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Hague Convention), I am grateful to be one of the many registered voting constituents in your, and appeal to you now for help not only as my elected representative, but as a parent. Any interventions you are able to offer would be greatly appreciated. Please refer to the following important information:

Greta Anna Kinder, daughter, born: April 1, 1997, SSN: 123-45-6789  
Hans Karl Kinder, son, born: December 2, 1999, SSN: 987-65-4321  
Helmut Gruber Vater, father, born: May 8, 1977, Bonn, Germany; SSN: 111-22-3344;  
Passport #: US123456-789.

Sincerely,

Gertrude Anna Kinder-Vater  
555-12-3456  
1010 Main Street  
New London, CT 06101  
(860) 123-9876