



## Claim of Juvenility

**Source:** [HT](#)

Recently, the [Supreme Court](#) ruled that **juvenility** can be claimed at **any stage of criminal proceedings**, including **after the conviction** has become final.

- The court pointed out that **juvenility is a right** and not subject to waiver due to **delays or procedural technicalities**.
- The court held that even a final judgement does not prevent a reevaluation of the case if juvenility is in question.
- **Section 94** of the [Juvenile Justice Act, 2015](#) allows juvenility claims to be raised even **post-conviction**, ensuring that the rights of juveniles are protected regardless of procedural delays.
- Similarly, in the ***Abuzar Hossain Vs State of West Bengal Case, 2012***, the Supreme Court had allowed **juvenility claims at any stage** of legal proceedings.
- As per the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 a **juvenile** is defined as a person who has **not completed eighteen years of age**.
  - Juveniles **aged 16-18 years** would be tried as **adults**, if charged with heinous crimes.

**Read More:** [Issue with the Juvenile Justice Amendment Act, 2021](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/claim-of-juvenility>