

The Rights Angle:
*Human Rights Education
Using the Newspaper*



by the
Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre

WEB SITES

It is suggested that teachers visit these sites to preview their applicability to individual classes and students.

The African National Congress—<http://www.polity.org.za>

This site is a good research tool for teachers. Information is specific to the African National Congress and legislation pertaining to South Africans. Language is technical, but despite this the site serves as a good research tool for senior high students.

Amnesty International—<http://www.amnesty.org>

Latest News/Current News Releases: <http://www.amnesty.org/news/index.html>

This link offers information regarding international infringement of human rights, and is accessible for senior high students.

Children Devastated by War: Afghanistan's Last Generations:

<http://www.amnesty.org/ailib/aipub/1999/ASA/31101339.htm>—This link can be used effectively to show students of all ages how human rights pertain to them and their generation. The information within this link has an immediate impact on students. It is best browsed with a teacher who directs them to reflect on specific issues.

Human Rights on the Internet: <http://www.amnesty.org/web/links.nsf>—This link addresses issues such as civil liberties, the death penalty, gay and lesbian civil rights, prisoner support, refugees, victim support and women's rights. The information is fairly easy to maneuver through because it is broken down clearly. The language used is not overly academic, and the link provides relevant historical background information.

Artists Against Racism—<http://www.vrx.net/arr/>

Students love this site because it features many celebrities addressing racism. Specific quotes from celebrities are given.

Educational Resources for the Student and Teacher:

<http://www.vrx.net/arr/edresource.html>—This link is geared towards senior high students and teachers. However, the interest of students of all ages will be captured by the links to *The Famous or Notable People Page* and *Quotes from Our Artists*. A bonus for teachers is the link entitled *How to Approach Subjects (e.g. Math, English)*

by *Integrating a Cultural Aspect* by Brian Aull Ph.D (MIT) at:
<http://www.vrx.net/arr/educateclasses.html>

As well, teachers may appreciate suggestions for awareness-raising classroom activities at a link entitled *Classroom Exercises* at: <http://vrx.net/arr/exercises-sec.html>

EGALE (Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere)—www.egale.ca/~egale

EGALE is a Canadian organization committed to advancing equality and justice at the federal level for gays and lesbians. This web site is bilingual and easy to read for teachers and senior high students. It provides keen insight into current amendments relating to gays and lesbians.

Canada's School Net—<http://www.schoolnet.ca/home/e/>

This is a bilingual site. One of the highlights, and a great teaching aid, is a link which shows you how to play the Global Change Game, at <http://www.gcg.mb.ca/>

As it says at the site, “By the end of the game...players have explored, understood, and even solved, in their own ways, some of the most difficult challenges facing the modern world, including: international relations, war, international trade, political awareness, gender issues, and refugees/immigration.”

Free the Children—www.freethechildren.org/

This site contains all you need to know about young phenom Craig Kielburger's organization, its activities and its beliefs.

The Human Rights Directorate—<http://www.pch.gc.ca/ddp-hrd/english/introeng.htm>

The entire site is bilingual. Probably the most useful link is:

[Human Rights in Canada:](http://www.pch.gc.ca/ddp-hrd/english/introeng.htm#HUMAN)

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/ddp-hrd/english/introeng.htm#HUMAN>

This link gives information on Youth and Human Rights, as well as the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The Youth and Human Rights portion should prove interesting to students because they are given access to what many people, including celebrities and the Minister of Canadian Heritage, have to say about human rights. It is easily accessed by students of all ages and is an excellent way to introduce the topic of human rights. The information provided is not technical or academic.

[Canada and International Human Rights:](#)

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/ddp-hrd/english/interins.htm>—This link is a good research tool for senior high students. The language is technical because it explores human rights legislation. However, the information includes a glossary and other guides that make the site more accessible.

The Human Rights Web—<http://www.hrweb.org>

A summary of UN Agreements on Human Rights:

<http://www.hrweb.org/legal/undoc.html>

This link is helpful for senior high students. A highlight of this site is its link to *Information on Individuals Who Are or Who Have Been Prisoners of Conscience* at: <http://www.hrweb.org/bios/bios.html>

Some of the links to more in-depth information about prisoners of conscience do not work, but the introductory blurbs nonetheless provide much interesting material.

Human Rights Internet—<http://www.hri.ca/>

This is a great site for junior and senior high students and teachers because it covers so much ground. The highlight of this page is the wealth of current information it offers on human rights issues. The information includes upcoming world events and their dates and purposes, as well as recent human rights publications. The *Current Alerts* link at <http://www.hri.ca/urgent/index.html> offers urgent alerts and press releases which can be used in classroom discussions. Many of these *Current Alerts* are broken down into background, issue, events that have occurred, and plans for future action.

Medianet—www.schoolnet.ca/medianet

This site contains many lessons and classroom ideas for teaching using mainstream media.

Racism: Stop It! International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination—www.march21.com

Teen Rights—<http://www.cyra.org/>

Canadian Youth Rights Association provides information about age discrimination issues facing Canadian youth.

United Nations Home Page—www.un.org

For students who would rather learn about it on their computer, the basic structure and idea of the UN is provided here.

Women's Human Rights Group Database—www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/Diana/

For students and teachers interested in women's rights issues.

Please provide feedback on this binder:

1. What did you generally think of the *Rights Angle*?
2. What parts of the *Rights Angle* did you find most useful?
3. Do you have any suggestions for improvements?
4. Would you recommend the *Rights Angle* to other teachers? If yes, why?
If no, why not?

Other comments?

Signature and School (optional)_____

Please mail your comments to:
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Thanks!