

**Attention middle school and high school teachers!**

As part of our commitment to the concept of human rights, the Harmony Day Committee has put together various resources for teachers to use in their classrooms. We understand that going out to look for resources and incorporating them into your classes can often be a challenge. To assist you in this matter, we have come up with a list of different types of resources that you can possibly use in your class without too much time or complications. You can choose from short videos to open discussion topics. Pick and choose what is most suitable for your time and needs. If you have any further suggestions, please share by emailing them to Leigh-Ann Yanow at [Leigh-Ann.Yanow@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:Leigh-Ann.Yanow@sd23.bc.ca). We appreciate all of your ideas. Let's do our bit in raising awareness of human rights during this month of February!

<b>Resource Type: Video</b>
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20 Unbelievable TED Talks on Human Rights: <http://www.onlinecollegesanduniversities.net/blog/2011/20-unbelievable-human-rights-talks-on-ted/>

- An **array of topics** that are intrinsically connected to basic human rights.
- Video lengths are variable, but, the topics crave your attention!

9 Cool TED Talks about Human Rights (Amnesty International): <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/mandela/teach/>

- **Relevant** and **thought-inspiring** talks about various aspects of human rights
- The videos can be anywhere from six to twenty plus minutes long.

Shane Koyczan’s “To This Day” on TED Talks: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cIJGToXQwIM>

- **Inspiring and creative**, this video is likely to get the attention of any age group. The topic is a sensitive one – **bullying** – but reflects upon the basic human right of being who you are and calls for acceptance of diversity.

6 TED Talks about incredible escapes: <http://blog.ted.com/2013/03/20/6-talks-about-incredible-escapes/>

- 6 **short** but very **poignant** talks about individuals who come from different walks of life and present a very different perspective on fundamental human rights: food, water, shelter, safety. There is also insight as to life inside the secluded regime.
- **North Korea** is always an interesting topic for any age group these days and two of the speakers are individuals who managed to escape from there.

“The Hugs are Free at Tim’s Place” (CBC article with video):

<http://www.cbc.ca/strombo/news/the-hugs-are-free-at-tims-place-a-restaurant-owned-by-a-young-man-with-down>

- Beautiful real-life story that shows the depth of human compassion and forces us to reflect on what perhaps we’ve been missing out in our time-strapped lives.
- Really short video about a man with down-syndrome who owns his own restaurant and welcomes people in all his genuineness

**Resource Type: Article**

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“Tony Smith files human rights complaint against Capital Health”: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/tony-smith-files-human-rights-complaint-against-capital-health-1.2893727>

- This is a CBC article about a man who lives in Nova Scotia and filed a complaint against his job place for reasons related to racism and disability. This is very relevant and posted as of yesterday. It would be interested to hear what students think about racism in our society today – a great discussion starter or reference point.

Timeline: Key Events in the Omar Khadr case: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/key-events-in-the-omar-khadr-case-1.1153759>

- This is a timeline for a **relevant**, long-time topic of **national** and international contention with **significance to all Canadians**: should Omar Khadr have served in Guantanamo Bay?
- Please note that the timeline starts from the bottom and becomes more current as you scroll upwards.
- Look up other articles on the topic for different perspectives and hold a discussion or a debate

**Resource Type: Document for Reference**

Human Rights Code (Legal): [http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00\\_96210\\_01](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00_96210_01)

- Teachers can use definitions and content as a springboard for discussion or simply as a resource for understanding

UN ideas for teaching human rights: [http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/visitors/shared/documents/pdfs/Pub\\_United%20Nations\\_ABC\\_human%20rights.pdf](http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/visitors/shared/documents/pdfs/Pub_United%20Nations_ABC_human%20rights.pdf)

- This is a very comprehensive document, but it contains valuable resources **on possible topics to cover** (general and specific), background information, activities, and other resources.

Canadian Human Rights Commission, “I want to complain”: <http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/eng/content/i-want-complain>

- If someone feels like their human rights have been violated, our government system offers them a place to file their complaint. The above link shows all the steps towards making a legal human rights complaint.
- Perhaps you could brainstorm some possible complaints that are valid and use this as a tool to understand how they would be addressed.

**Resource Type: Activities/Lesson plan ideas**

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Human Rights in Canada: A Historical Perspective: <http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/en/index.asp>

- This is an awesome tool to explore **specific human rights achievements in Canada** from four historical time periods ranging from 1900 to 2000.

Amnesty International **ready-made** lesson plans for middle school and high school (please note that you have to scroll down a bit): <http://www.amnestyusa.org/resources/educators/lesson-plans>

- These are comprehensive, but **flexible** lesson plans that force students to reflect upon their own personal definitions of elements related to human rights.
- There is a lot of **critical thinking** involved in these lesson plans, and they are **relevant** to what is happening in our world today.
- Also, there is an **array of topics** that are covered – pick and choose!
- Also available on this site: **film** curriculum resources and teaching resources