

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

Want to be a civics expert? Once you understand the freedoms you are entitled to, you will be prepared to fully exercise your rights *and* defend them!

## PART A: THE FIRST AMENDMENT

The First Amendment is part of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution. Use this chart to review the freedoms laid out in the First Amendment. Then fill in the spaces to create a Student Bill of Rights that gives specific examples of what exercising your First Amendment rights looks like in *your* daily life. For example: Freedom of speech: I can write a letter to the newspaper editor to share my opinion on school hours if I choose to.



FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS	U.S. BILL OF RIGHTS	STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS
	WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE?	WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE?
FREEDOM OF RELIGION	The freedom to attend any house of worship or abstain from practicing a religion. It is illegal for the government to establish an official religion of the country.	
FREEDOM OF SPEECH	The right to share one's opinions with other people or criticize the government.	
FREEDOM OF THE PRESS	The right to get information from different sources. The right to write letters, newspaper articles, and online pages, which may be published for others to read. The right to express opinions on TV.	
FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY	The right to come together in private and public gatherings. The ability to organize around a common idea and/or common goal.	
RIGHT TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT	The right for U.S. citizens to ask for changes in the government. Citizens can call, e-mail, or write to elected representatives, and lobby the government.	

## PART B: WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

Understanding your rights and expressing your point of view are key aspects of being a civics activist. Which of the freedoms granted by the First Amendment do you feel is most important? On the back of this sheet, write an opinion piece on which right you believe has the most impact on young people. Some other questions to consider:

- Why is it important for people to be aware of their rights?
- Why is it important to have civic rights guaranteed in writing?



Check out *We the People* on Netflix to learn more about rights and citizenship with upbeat songs from popular artists.

**WE THE PEOPLE**

