

**Protecting Human Rights: I Can Statements**

1. I can explain how minority rights are protected in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
2. I can explain how affirmative action programs have affected the workplace and why they are controversial.
3. I can describe the human rights that apply to children.
4. I can provide details of how the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects human rights in Canada.
5. I can evaluate the limits to our rights and freedoms.
6. I can explain the significance of the notwithstanding clause.
7. I can explain the fundamental rights and freedoms defined in the Charter.
8. I can explain how human rights are protected in British Columbia.
9. I can describe why the amending formula is important.
10. I can describe the role of the United Nations in protecting human rights.
11. I can provide details of how Canada participates in human rights issues.
12. I can define the following key terms:
  - Universal Declaration of Human Rights: the United Nations outline of the rights to which all human beings are entitled.
  - Canadian Bill of Rights: a bill passed in 1960 that outlined human rights for Canadians.
  - Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms: the bill identifying human rights that are guaranteed to everyone in Canada; enacted in 1982 and embedded in the Constitution of Canada.
  - Notwithstanding clause: a clause in the Canadian Constitution that enables Parliament or the legislature of a province to allow an Act to stand even though it contravenes the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
  - Democratic rights: Charter rights to participate in a democratic society, including voting in elections, guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
  - Language rights: Charter rights to receive government services in English or French and to be educated in either English or French.

- Fundamental freedoms: freedoms in the Charter that guarantee citizens are free to worship and believe what they wish, to express their opinions freely, to associate with whomever they wish, and to gather together peacefully with others.
- Mobility rights: Charter rights that guarantee people the ability to move around or in and out of the country.
- Equality rights: Charter rights that guarantee people will not be discriminated against based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability.
- Affirmative action: programs that are designed to help disadvantaged individuals or groups achieve equity.
- Minority rights: legal rights to ensure that specific groups which are vulnerable or disadvantaged are protected and able to achieve equality.
- Legal rights: Charter rights that guarantee people will be treated fairly by the legal system, including knowing why they were arrested, having access to a lawyer, and getting a fair and speedy trial.
- Amending formula: a rule established in 1982 that states Canada's Constitution cannot be changed unless at least seven Canadian provinces, representing at least 50 percent of the population of Canada, approve.
- Employment equity: policies that ensure certain groups are given an advantage by employers, in particular women, people with disabilities, Aboriginal peoples, and visible minorities.