

Everyday Human Rights: What Would You Do?

Use each scenario on its own for small-group or whole-class discussion.

Scenario 1 – Right to education

In a fictitious country X, girls often have to leave school early to help at home or to marry young. A girl called Amina wants to stay in school and become a doctor, but her family does not plan this for her.

Guiding questions:

- Which human right is affected here?
- Who is involved in this situation?
- What obstacles make it hard to realise this right?
- What possible solutions or compromises can you think of?

Scenario 2 – Freedom of expression and protest

In a German town, young people want to protest against the planned closure of their youth centre. They plan a demonstration and want to make banners. The city administration tells them they may only demonstrate at certain places and times and that their posters may only contain certain messages.

Guiding questions:

- Which human right is relevant here?
- Where should the limits of freedom of expression be in such a case?
- How could the young people claim their rights without breaking the law?

Scenario 3 – Discrimination based on origin

A student called David is new to the class and comes from another country. Some classmates make fun of his accent and exclude him from group activities.

Guiding questions:

- Which human right is being violated here?
- What responsibilities do classmates, the teacher and the school leadership have?
- How could you react in this situation as a classmate? As a teacher?

Scenario 4 – Right to asylum

A family flees war and persecution in their home country and arrives in Germany. They apply for asylum and hope for protection and a new start.

Guiding questions:

- Which human right is important here?
- What challenges might the family face in the new country?
- Who is responsible for examining the asylum application?
- What forms of support could the family receive?