

United Nations

Convention on the Rights of the Child

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*Everyone under
18 has all the
rights in the UN
Convention*



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Convention on the Rights of the Child

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All children have these rights, no matter where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or a girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis



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All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions they should think about how their decisions will affect children



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The government has a responsibility to make sure your rights are protected. They must help your family to protect your rights and create an environment where you can grow and reach your potential



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Your family has the responsibility to help you learn to exercise your rights, and to ensure that your rights are protected



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*You have the
right to be
alive*



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You have the right to a name, and this should be officially recognised by the government. You have the right to a nationality (to belong to a country).



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You have the right to an identity – an official record of who you are. No one should take this away from you



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You have the right to your parent(s) unless it is bad for you. You have the right to live with a family who cares for you



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*If you live in a
different country
than your parents,
you do have the
right to be together
in the same place*



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*You have the
right to be
protected from
kidnapping*



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*You have the
right to give your
opinion, and for
adults to listen
and take it
seriously*



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You have the right to find out things and to share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms, or offends, other people



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*You have the right to
choose your own
religion and beliefs.*

*Your parents should
help you decide what is
right and wrong, and
what is best for you*



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*You have the right
to choose your own
friends and join or
set up groups, as
long as it isn't
harmful to others*



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*You have
the right to
privacy*



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You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspapers, books, computers and other sources. Adult should make sure that the information you are getting is not harmful, and help you find and understand the information you need



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*You have the
right to be
raised by your
parent(s) if
possible*



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*You have the right
to be protected from
being hurt and
mistreated, in body
or mind*



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*You have the right
to special care and
help if you cannot
live with your
parents*



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*You have the right
to care and
protection if you are
adopted or in foster
care*



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You have the right to special protection and help if you are a refugee (if you have been forced to leave your home and live in another country) as well as all the rights on the Convention



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You have the right to special education and care if you have a disability as well as all the rights in this convention, so that you can have a full life



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You have the right to the the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help you stay well



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If you live in care or in other situations away from home, you have the right to have these living arrangements looked at regularly to see if they are the most appropriate



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*You have the
right to help from
the government if
you are poor or in
need*



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You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things that other kids can do.



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You have the right to a good quality education and should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can



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You have the right to have an education that will help you learn about yourself, other people and their rights.



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*You have the right
to speak your own
language and
practice your own
religion or culture*



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*You have the
right to play
and rest*



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You have the right to protection from work that harms you, and is bad for your health and education. If you work you have the right to be safe and to be paid fairly



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*You have the
right to protection
from harmful
drugs and from
the drug trade*



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*You have the
right to be free
from sexual
abuse*



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*No one is
allowed kidnap
or sell you*



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*You have the right
to protection from
any kind of
exploitation (being
taken advantage of)*



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*No one is
allowed to
punish you in a
cruel or harmful
way*



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You have the right to protection and freedom from war. Children under 15 cannot be forced to go into the army or take part in war



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*You have the
right to help if
you have been
hurt, neglected
or badly treated*



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*You have the right
to legal help and
fair treatment in a
justice system that
respects your rights*



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If the laws of your country provide better protection of your rights than the articles in this Convention, those laws should apply



Possible uses of these slides

1. Print slides, laminate and cut so they resemble a pack of cards. Distribute cards to participants in a group/class and invite them, in small groups, to agree, say, six articles most relevant to topic e.g. children in a creche/ young people with disabilities/ teachers/ social workers/ Gardai /health professionals etc. Then record the groups' results, noting what's included and excluded and use such data to generate discussion. Invite group to interpret the significance of their choices.
2. Print the slides and post them on a wall. Invite group participants to select ONE that speaks to them in some way (small coloured stickers can help here). Explore who said what, and why! Discuss.
3. Invite participants to make posters with photos/drawings to clarify the significance of particular articles.