



Holy Cross High School

GRADE 9

TERM 2

CHAPTER 4

ISSUES RELATING TO CITIZENS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

What are human rights?

Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death. They apply regardless of where you are from, what you believe or how you choose to live your life. E.g. Every person in South Africa who is 60 years and older, has a right to old age grant.

What is a bill of rights?

It is a declaration of rights or a charter of rights, which consists of a list of the most important rights to the citizens of a country.

What is constitution?

A composition of principles according to which a state / country is acknowledged to be governed. E.g. If you rape, you go to jail.

RESPECT FOR OTHER'S RIGHTS

HOW DO WE RESPECT FOR OTHER'S RIGHTS?

- (a) Everyone is responsible / accountable.

Citizens of South Africa must be responsible in order to make the constitution work. Politicians are voted into office by citizens of South Africa. They have a responsibility to serve the people of South Africa and remain committed to the promises they have made during elections.

You should be accountable for your actions and value people around you as human beings. Do not violate other people's rights.

(b) We need to protect the rights of all.

Human rights are for everybody irrespective of old age or disability. Every one's rights need to be protected. Some people are physically or mentally disabled and need not to be taken advantage of.

(c) Help those whose rights are being abused.

If someone's rights are being abused, seek for professional intervention. E.g. if someone is abused physically, report to the police and social workers.

(d) People living with different disabilities

Types of disabilities

d1. Physical disability e.g. people who cannot walk and use wheel chairs.

d2. Intellectual disability e.g. learning disorder.

d3. Sensory impediments e.g. deaf or blind people.

d4. Speech impediments e.g. people who are unable to speak.

People with disabilities must be treated with respect and need to be motivated in order to achieve great things in life, e.g. education.

(e) Sick people

South Africans are infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. The infected rate is so high approximately 5,6 million which means South Africans are affected by HIV in different ways:

e1. Workplace- Sick people have to take off in order to care for themselves or family responsibility.

e.2. Future Business people – are lost to the illness / die due to aids.

e.3. Orphans – Children are orphaned because their parents die.

e.4. Medical services are affected – Sick patients stay longer in hospitals and beds become unavailable for other patients who have other sicknesses.