

**THE "RIGHT" WAY**

(40 minutes)

**OBJECTIVE**

Students identify the rights guaranteed to them by the Bill of Rights.

**MATERIALS**

*The "Right" Way* handout

**GET READY**

- ✓ Duplicate the *The "Right" Way* handout so that you have enough copies for each student in your class.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- ✓ Review the 10 guarantees of the Bill of Rights. Give examples of what each right protects and ask for additional examples from your students.
- ✓ Distribute the *The "Right" Way* handout. Ask the students to match each scenario with the corresponding guarantee from the Bill of Rights.
- ✓ Let students complete the handout individually or in groups of two.
- ✓ Go over the correct answers with the class, having students explain why they matched the scenarios as they did.
- ✓ Ask students, again individually or in groups of two, to choose the right most important to them.
- ✓ Slowly ask one group to join another group, and then that group to join another, etc. Eventually this will bring the groups back to a class discussion of the most significant rights guaranteed to Americans.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- ★ *Which right(s) seems to be the most important to this class?*
- ★ *Which right(s) seemed not as important to this class? Why? How might your life change if we lost those rights?*
- ★ *Did you realize that a right was more important to you than you had previously thought?*
- ★ *Was it easy for a group to agree on what right was most important? Why or why not?*

**MORE!**

Have students write an argument defending what they think is the most important right. Ask students to bring in examples of these rights in newspapers, television, magazines, etc.

**VOTE QUOTE**

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."  
–Edmund Burke



## THE "RIGHT" WAY

Match the guarantees of the Bill of Rights with the scenarios that best describe them.

### THE 10 GUARANTEES OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS

- A. Freedom of speech
- B. Freedom of the press
- C. Freedom of religion
- D. Freedom to assemble
- E. Protection from unreasonable searches and seizures
- F. Right to bear arms
- G. Protection from self-incrimination
- H. Right to a jury trial
- I. Protection from cruel and unusual punishment
- J. Access to legal counsel

### SCENARIOS

\_\_\_\_\_ You publish an article critical of a policy issued by your mayor.

\_\_\_\_\_ You own a rifle and hunt often.

\_\_\_\_\_ A police officer asks to search your home, but you tell him he cannot come in because he does not have a search warrant.

\_\_\_\_\_ You attend religious services on the weekends.

\_\_\_\_\_ You are arrested for a crime and want to see your lawyer.

\_\_\_\_\_ You are charged for a crime and want to be tried by a group of your peers.

\_\_\_\_\_ You are being held for a serious crime, but feel safe from being dealt an inhumane punishment.

\_\_\_\_\_ You are arrested for a crime, but do not have to say anything that might implicate you in that crime.

\_\_\_\_\_ You join a group of friends and protest a construction site in your neighborhood by picketing outside the site on public property.

\_\_\_\_\_ You make comments critical of the president's policies but know it is your right to say what you want.