

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

## STUDENTS AND PARENTS

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# What we'll cover today:

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- Introduction to Civil Rights
- What Students and Parents Should Know
- What To Do if it Happens To You

# What are civil rights?

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AND WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

# Prejudice and Discrimination

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## PREJUDICE

A preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience



## DISCRIMINATION

The unjust treatment of different categories of people based on prejudice



What is an example of PREJUDICE? What is an example of DISCRIMINATION?

# Sources of Civil Rights:

## The Constitution of the United States

- The Bill of Rights
  - First Amendment
  - Fourth Amendment
  - Fifth Amendment
  - Fourteenth Amendment

**Which of these grants the right to freedom of speech?**

## Federal and State Law

- The Civil Rights Act of 1964
- The Voting Rights Act of 1965
- The Fair Housing and Credit Act of 1968
- Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act



# Sources of Civil Rights

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## JUDICIAL PRECEDENT

Supreme Court

Federal Courts

State Courts

## MAJOR CIVIL RIGHTS CASES:

Brown v. Kansas Board of Education

EEOC v. Abercrombie and Fitch



**Do you know of  
any other major  
civil rights cases?**

# What are civil rights?

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## FREEDOM OF SPEECH



## FREEDOM OF RELIGION



Give an example of FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

What are the two parts of the First Amendment?

# What You Should Know

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WHAT ARE MY CIVIL RIGHTS AS A STUDENT OR PARENT?



# Prayer Breaks

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You have the right to take short breaks for daily prayers.

You MAY be able to get a break for Jummah prayers – in certain circumstances.

Student-led prayer should be allowed as long as it is not disruptive.



# Holidays

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You should be able to take time off school for religious holidays.

Be sure to inform your teachers ahead of time and in writing.

# Extracurricular Activities

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## EQUAL ACCESS

If the school grants ANY religious group time and resources, they must also grant them to Muslim students.

## ATTENDANCE REQUIRED?

The school may not force you to participate in before- or after-school religious events.



**What extracurricular events do YOU like to participate in?**

# Clothing

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You have the right to wear clothing mandated by your religion.

You have the right to accommodations for gym activities that require a change of clothes.

You have the right to wear clothing that has a religious message IF other clothes with similar messages are allowed.



# Religious Speech

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## INFORMING OTHERS

You have the right to discuss your religion with other students as long as it is not disruptive.

You can express your religion in artwork, reports, or homework.



## BEING EXCUSED

If a discussion or activity is religiously objectionable, you may be excused from it.

You cannot be forced to participate in a religious or anti-religious activity.

Outsiders should not have access to students to hand out religious materials.

# Bullying

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You have the right to be free from harassment, bullying, and violence on the basis of your race, color, religion, or national origin.

Your school has an obligation to ensure that you enjoy a non-hostile learning environment.

You also have the right to make a complaint about harassment or discrimination without fear of retaliation.

**Have you ever experienced bullying because of your race, religion, color, or national origin?**



**What are some ways that you can respond if you see someone being bullied?**

# How to Protect Your Rights

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WHAT TO DO IF IT HAPPENS TO YOU

1. Remain calm  
and polite.



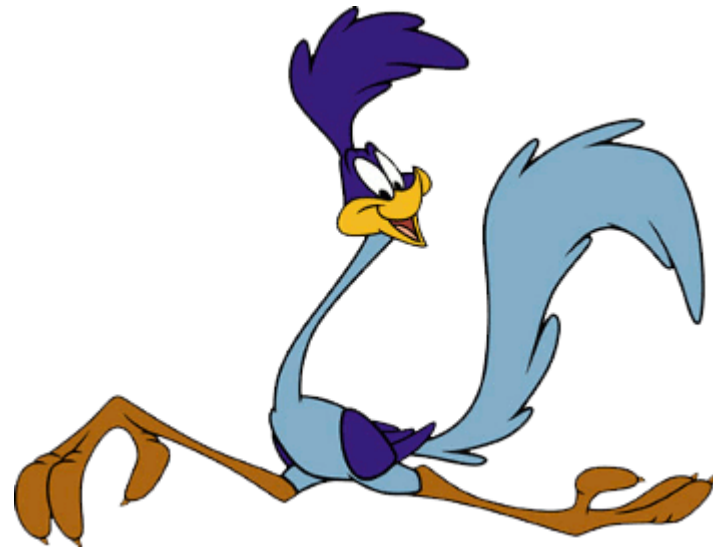


## 2. Get to a safe place.

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3. Address it quickly!



## 4. Report in writing

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## 5. Document everything



# 6. Recruit Allies

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## 7. Contact CAIR!

Veronica Laizure

[vlaizure@cair.com](mailto:vlaizure@cair.com)

405-415-6851

Or submit a complaint at  
[cairoklahoma.com/report](http://cairoklahoma.com/report)



**Council on American-Islamic Relations**  
**Oklahoma Chapter**

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