



# The Girls' Bill of Rights Toolkit

A guide to taking action for girls' rights,  
no matter where you live.





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# Introduction

Hey there, girl\* activist!

It's leaders like you that made it possible to launch the **Global Girls' Bill of Rights**, a declaration of the rights all girls are entitled to, written by girls, for girls. Over 1,000 girls from more than 34 countries came together to submit their rights. A panel of 15 global activists worked together to finalize the rights. Members of the panel presented it to the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, as well as the Executive Director of UN Women, Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-NGCUKA.

This is an incredible win for girls. **But we can't stop now.**

With over 130 million girls out of school, and even more girls' whose rights are being infringed on, we must continue paving the way for a better future for girls.

Your passion and momentum for change inspired us to create a toolkit to support you in your Girls' Bill of Rights advocacy. With the input of girls around the world and our friends at Akili Dada and MAIA (two girl-focused organizations in East Africa and Guatemala, respectively), we developed project guides and resources for taking action on the Girls' Bill of Rights. Remember, *you're* the leading expert on girls in your community, so tailor the toolkit as you see fit.

As you continue on your fighting to make the world a better place for girls, we want to be right there with you. Share your stories with us here\*\* and on social media by using the **#girlsbillofrights** and tagging us **@shesthefirst**.

**Are you ready to lead the way?**

In solidarity,  
She's the First

*\*The term girls is inclusive of all individuals who identify with the experiences of girls, including gender-nonconforming, genderfluid, transfeminine experiences.*

\*\* [girlsbillofrights.org/tellus](https://girlsbillofrights.org/tellus)



# THE GLOBAL GIRLS' BILL OF RIGHTS

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## ALL GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO...

- 1 Free, quality education which prepares us for the modern world.**

We deserve equal opportunity to attend school all the way to graduation, and we deserve freedom and safe transportation to get there. A girl's right to school should not be impacted by her cultural background, her pregnancy status, or the money her family may lack.
- 2 Equality.**

We should be free from discrimination and stereotypes because of being a girl, whether at home, at school, or in our communities. We should have access to equal opportunities and we should never be harassed nor oppressed due to what we wear, what we do, or how we express ourselves.
- 3 Involvement in decision-making and pursuit of leadership positions without fear of discrimination, harassment, or persecution.**

Girls must be allowed to decide what our future holds and be able to lead just as much as boys in school, at home, or in the community. Any decision that affects us should include us in a position of authority. We have the right for our voices to be listened to and respected.
- 4 Documentation.**

Every girl has the right to access or acquire all legal and academic documents that will allow her to access opportunities and lead a full life recognized by relevant authorities.
- 5 Comprehensive sexual education and access to free, quality reproductive healthcare.**

This includes an education that informs us about our rights, consent, contraception, and healthy relationships. We should also have access to abortion and to proper healthcare, without criticism or shame.
- 6 Protection from harmful traditions and enjoyment of positive cultural practices.**

We must be kept safe from non-consensual practices, and be given the opportunity to express the positive elements of our cultures.
- 7 Safety from all forms of violence.**

All girls deserve healthy and safe relationships, including with romantic partners, parents, and family members. We should be safe from violence in all locations. All girls deserve shelter, clothing, and food.
- 8 Make decisions about our bodies and sexuality.**

Girls have the right to choose whom they love, regardless of gender, and to express their sexuality without censure. We have a right to say "no" and to choose who, when, and if we will marry.
- 9 Protection under the law without fear or unequal treatment.**

Every girl has the right to seek legal protection in any situation where she feels insecure or undergoes an experience that needs legal attention, without being judged or her claim disregarded. No girl should ever be in a position where she has to choose to be silent due to fear of lack of legal protection.
- 10 Freedom from exploitation.**

All girls deserve a happy childhood. We should never be forced to work, and we should be kept safe from child trafficking and early marriage.



[#GirlsBillofRights](#)



# Host an activity



# Create a Girls' Bill of Rights for your community

If you and your friends think you should have a different set of rights for your own community, there's nothing stopping you! Here are guidelines for hosting your own session to create a local Girls' Bill of Rights.

## Before the event

Spread the word about your plans. You can include your friends, your classmates, or your after-school program. Let them know that you'll all be creating a bill of rights for girls in your community. You can host this event in person or online.

## During your event

1. Introduce yourself and share why the Global Girls' Bill of Rights is important to you, and important to girls around the world. Sharing why you're passionate can inspire others. Let the other participants introduce themselves and why they chose to come to the meeting.
2. Recap the Global Girls' Bill of Rights. Be sure to include what it is, how the rights were compiled, and its impact to date - you can find those details on page 16.
3. Work with your participants to create a set of rules to guide your conversation to ensure a safe, respectful space. These are often called shared agreements because the group must unanimously agree to uphold them. Write them down somewhere visible to all participants so that it can be easily referenced during the discussion. As a group, decide how many total rights you would like to include in your local Girls' Bill of Rights
4. Give participants a few minutes to brainstorm on their own or in small groups about what rights they would like to include. On page 17, you'll find a worksheet to structure their ideas.
5. Take an inventory of the rights. Work with your participants to group similar rights together.
6. Read outloud the first right (or category of rights) to the group. Have participants take turns doing this as well. Before moving on to the next right, ask attendees to share why it should be included in your list. Then, hold a vote for that right. Keep track of how many votes each right receives, until you've narrowed your list down to the number you chose together.
7. Determine what's next for your local Girls' Bill of Rights - including what you want to call it! There are so many ways to advocate for girls' rights -- work together and decide what will make the biggest impact in your community!



## Next Steps

Connect with your attendees after the event through a follow-up message via an email, Facebook or Whatsapp message, or SMS/text. Start your message with gratitude and a recap of the event. Remind them of what's next for the local Girls' Bill of Rights and how they can stay involved. You can find tips on how to build your community on page. 27.



## Invite an Expert to speak about girls' rights

You can invite them as part of a girls' circle you're organizing, or as a school/community-wide event for all.

### Before the Event

1. Get tips on how to host a successful event on page 19.
2. Identify a topic you would like to learn more about or bring awareness to. This can be about girls' rights at large, or can explore more specific issues highlighted in the Girls' Bill of Rights. What obstacles do girls face where **you** live? Which rights are obvious to people where you live? Which rights do people know little about?
3. Research experts in your community that can inform your attendees about the topic. You can find experts who can be guest speakers for your event at a local university/college, nonprofits working with girls, or amongst your peers! As you search, ask about girl activists (activists in your age group) or activists that are working towards your topic. Remember that girls with a powerful story to tell can be experts, too.
4. Reach out to potential experts -- you can find an email template on page 20. Connect with them over the phone or in person to go over the event and give them a space to ask you questions. During your conversation, talk about the Girls' Bill of Rights, event plans, and let them know details about where they will be speaking and any resources available to them (like a stage or projector). Once you've selected your speaker, send them a message to confirm event details and what you've both agreed to. If you are doing a video conference call, be sure to send any instructions on how they can access it!
5. Plan out how you want the event to run. Include an introduction to the Girls' Bill of Rights, an introduction to the expert, and an opportunity for the audience to ask questions at the end. During your planning, identify your "ask." In other words, what action are you asking the attendees to take? This could be having them share the Girls' Bill of Rights with at least five of their friends, introducing it to their school administration, or your own idea!
6. Work with your expert as they plan their part of the event to ensure it's informative, engaging, and interactive with the audience.



## During your event

1. Briefly introduce yourself and why you decided to host this event. Sharing your motivation can inspire passion in your attendees. Lead an overview of the Girls' Bill of Rights. Be sure to include how it directly affects the girls living in your community.
2. Introduce your expert and invite them to begin their session. While they engage the audience, walk around and take photos. If the event is being hosted on a video conference call take screenshots.
3. When the speaker has finished, ask the audience if they have any questions about the Girls' Bill of Rights or the topic covered by the expert.
4. Lead a short reflection activity with your attendees. Here are some questions to consider:
  - What surprised you?
  - What did you learn today? How do you hope to use it going forward?
  - What action do you hope to take to be a stronger advocate for girls?

End your event by telling them your ask and sharing how they can reach out to you if they're interested in getting involved in the future.

## Next Steps

Connect with your attendees after the event through a follow-up message via an email, Facebook or Whatsapp message, or SMS/text. Start your message with gratitude and a recap of the event. Remind them of actions they can take, and how you would like them to further the Girls' Bill of Rights. You can find tips on how to build your community on page 27.



# Host a Girls' Circle at school or in your community

A Girls' Circle is a small group of girls who come together to discuss important topics, in-person or online. You can meet once, or on a regular basis.

## Before the Girls' Circle

1. Get tips on how to host a successful event on page 19.
2. Select a topic you would like to discuss during your Girls' Circle<sup>1</sup>. This can be about girls' rights at large, or can explore more specific issues affecting girls in your community. We've put together discussion prompts on page 22 for your inspiration.
3. Identify a discussion facilitator for your Girls' Circle. This person will plan, guide and manage the discussion. Members of the circle can take turns taking this role each meeting. If you would like an outside discussion facilitator, consider asking a fellow girl activist or a local expert. We've put together guidelines on how to invite a speaker on page 7.

## During the Girls' Circle

1. Briefly introduce yourself and why you decided to start a Girls' Circle. Sharing your motivation can inspire passion in your attendees. Lead an overview of the Girls' Bill of Rights. Be sure to include how it directly affects the girls living in your community.
2. Before passing it over to the discussion facilitator, lead an icebreaker so members of the circle can get to know each other.
3. Introduce your discussion facilitator. They can use the prompts below to get the conversation started. For more rights-based prompts, review page 22.
  - How would your life be different if you were born into another gender?
  - If you could add a right to the Girls' Bill of Rights, what would it be and why?
  - Do you feel that sharing this document will change the lives of girls? How can you get the message across? Especially to those who won't listen.
  - In what ways would you like to see the world change for girls? What can you, your peers, and/or people in your community do to see that change?

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<sup>1</sup> Anyone who identifies as a girl is welcome in Girls' Circle

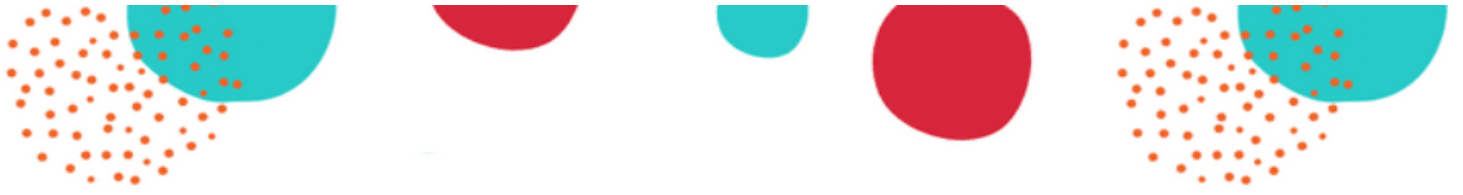


4. Reflect as a group and identify next steps. Consider asking the following questions:

- How did it feel to be in the circle? What would you like to discuss at the next meeting?
- What was something you found interesting or learned?
- What can you, your peers, and/or people in your community do to work towards a better world for girls?
- How should the Girls' Circle take action for girls' rights?

### Next Steps

Connect with members of the Girls' Circle after the event through a follow-up message via an email, Facebook or Whatsapp message, or SMS/text. Start your message with gratitude and a recap of the event. Remind them of takeaways from the meeting, and the date for the next Girls' Circle. You can find tips on how to build your community on page 27.



# Spread the Word



## Meet with Leaders to present the Girls' Bill of Rights

1. Research decision makers in your community that can influence policies affecting girls. In some places, this might be a school official, a member of your government, a cultural leader, or someone in charge of youth development in your community. Consider approaching decision makers who would be open and accepting to the Girls' Bill of Rights to aid your cause. You can team up with other girls to do this!
2. Contact your decision maker (DM). The approach you take will be different depending on your access to the person. You might approach a school official directly in-person and ask for a meeting. On the other hand, you might approach a government official indirectly by contacting their office (via phone or email). You can ask for an in-person meeting or a virtual meeting where you can use free platforms like Google Hangout to share your screen and walk them through your presentation. We've put together an email template on page 20.

When contacting your decision maker, keep in mind the following:

- Introduce yourself and include why they should care about what you have to say. For example, you can say that you live in the community they represent or are a student at their school.
  - Be direct and explain that you would like to present the Girls' Bill of Rights. During this meeting, you hope to gain their commitment to upholding the Girls' Bill of Rights.
  - Provide an approximation of how long your presentation will take and a date(s) in the near future that you are available to present.
  - At the end, confirm the best way to contact your decision maker.
3. Decide how you want to make your presentation: through a speech, a computer with Google Slides/Powerpoint, or through photos and posters. Your presentation should cover:
    - An explanation of the Girls' Bill of Rights. On page 16, you'll find everything you need to know.
    - The importance of the Girls' Bill of Rights for girls **in your community**.
    - Local support for the Girls' Bill of Rights. This can be collected through a document where people in your community can sign their support to the Girls' Bill of Rights.
    - Suggestions on how the decision maker can uphold the Girls' Bill of Rights. They can be related to implementation of the Girls' Bill of Rights overall or target a specific right. Here are some ideas:
      - The decision maker introduces the Girls' Bill of Rights during to other decision makers
      - The school or community pledges to adopt the Girls' Bill of Rights



- Create a gender equality board where girls and boys alike can report issues and seek advice for gender-related issues
  - Organize a sexual and reproductive health and rights workshop.
  - Create a positive cultural practice that celebrates girls.
  - Identify a safety officer that girls can approach when they feel unsafe.
4. Prior to your meeting, reach out to your decision maker to confirm details about your meeting, including location, time, and access to anything you may need (like a computer if you are doing a presentation). If you are meeting virtually, send along instructions on how they can join.
  5. Create a checklist covering your tasks leading up to the meeting and for afterwards. You should include checking the travel time to the location, bringing your script, and other materials (like if you printed the Girls' Bill of Rights) for your presentation.
  6. Practice your presentation in front of others. Time yourself to make sure you're keeping it short. Be open to constructive feedback to help make your pitch and delivery perfect.
  7. On the day of your meeting, wear something that makes you feel confident. Review your to-do list to make sure you've covered everything. We've put together "Five ways to boost your confidence" on page 26 to inspire you right before you walk into the room!
  8. Reflect after your presentation. What went really well? What would you change? Make notes of them while it's fresh so you can return to them when pitching to your next decision maker.
  9. Send a follow-up note to your decision maker. This should include answers to any questions they had or reiterating commitments they agreed to. You can find tips on how to build your community on page 27.



# Amplify the Girls' Bill of Rights

## Social Media

Social media plays an important role in advocacy; it has the power to reach people all over the world. Sharing the Global Girls' Bill of Rights with your online community of family and friends is a great and easy way to raise awareness and spark a conversation on girls' rights!

1. We've put together graphics that you can share on your social media. Find them at [girlsbillofrights.org/social-media](http://girlsbillofrights.org/social-media) or on page 28.
2. Boost your reach by using the #girlsbillofrights hashtag and tagging @shesthefirst so that we can re-share your post.
3. Try creating videos with a smartphone! You can post a video explaining why girls' rights and the Girls' Bill of Rights is important to you, and share your call to action.

## Newspaper

1. Sharing your motivation can inspire others. You can include facts and statistics about girls' rights to convey why you're passionate, or share a personal story about why the Girls' Bill of Rights is important to you.
2. Incorporate quotes and stories from your peers and experts. Be sure to ask for permission before sharing someone's words or photos.
3. Proofread your articles before you publish them. Most school newspapers have editors and a style guide to help you with this. If not, ask your friends.

## Radio Show

1. Preparation is key to having a meaningful message. If you're being interviewed, ask the host for a list of questions they will ask. If you're by yourself or with friends, plan the main messages you want your community to know.
2. Plan and practice your talking points in advance. Review the Girls' Bill of Rights 101 on page 16. While creating your talking points, consider the audience of the show. Would they be familiar with girls' rights? Are there things you need to explain before you can discuss them?
3. During your appearance, speak clearly and slowly so that the audience can understand.
4. Remember, you're an expert on the Girls' Bill of Rights! On page 26 find five tips to boost your confidence before you go on the show.



# Resources



# Resource:

## Girls' Bill of Rights 101

### What is the Global Girls' Bill of Rights?

All girls have rights, but not all girls get to experience them. The Global Girls' Bill of Rights is a declaration of the rights all girls are entitled to, written by girls, for girls: [girlsbillofrights.org](http://girlsbillofrights.org)

### Who submitted their rights?

Any girl or person who identified as a girl, ages 13-22, was welcome to submit their rights. The age restriction was only to comply with internet regulations. More than 1,000 girls from 34 countries submitted their rights in 5 languages (English, Spanish, French, Kiswahili, and Portuguese). Some worked in their organizations to complete an activity, and their mentors were able to submit on their behalf, while others submitted directly.

### Then what happened?

The submissions were coded according to theme area and simplified into a survey by the She's the First Team. Then, the Global Girls' Panel, a group of 15 girls from nearly a dozen countries, worked with the survey and a WhatsApp group to finalize the ten rights on the final bill.

### Who organized this?

She's the First, Akili Dada, and MAIA, three organizations who work on girls' education and girls' rights, came together to organize this initiative and ensure girls' voices would be heard.

### Why is this important to you?

Be prepared to talk about your own personal experiences or ways your peers have been affected by these issues in order to highlight the importance of these rights. Think about which rights are most important to you and why.

### What is the goal?

We aim to ensure that girls' voices are heard and respected. With Beijing +25 approaching, we hope the United Nations will incorporate girls' voices into the agenda here and everywhere. We want for people everywhere to respect these rights, to ensure that girls are no longer marginalized or oppressed, no matter where they live. We want this declaration to be taken seriously.

### What are the next steps?

These rights are something that families and communities can talk about together, with girls leading the discussion. For me personally, I plan to \_\_\_\_\_. The organizing team will also be talking about and working on these rights moving forward, including creating activity guides for girls' groups and schools.

### If people want to support:

They can learn more about the rights at [girlsbillofrights.org](http://girlsbillofrights.org) and please share the rights with their friends, family, or online. The hashtag is #girlsbillofrights and there are graphics and photos to share.



# Resource:

## Girls' Bill of Rights Worksheet

Use this worksheet to help structure your ideas.

Girls should have the right to...

1)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

2)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

3)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

4)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

5)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other



Girls should have the right to...

6)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

7)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

8)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

9)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other

10)

**This right is closely related to:**

- Agency/choice     Education     Expression     Income/employment     Health     Marriage  
 I'm not sure     Sexual and Reproductive Health     Safety     Representation     Other



## Resource: Event Planning Guide

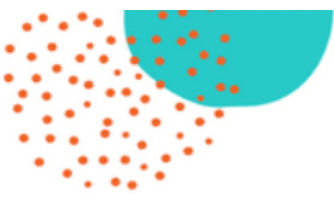
1. Select a location, date, and time that will maximize the number of girls attending your event. Consider the needs of girls in your community. A thoughtful selection ensures strong attendance of girls.

Here are some questions to get you started:

- What holidays make it less likely for a diverse audience to attend? (i.e. practicing Jewish girls may not venture out on Friday evening/Saturday because of Sabbath)
  - Is it a space that is accessible to handicapped girls?
  - Are there secure restrooms for people of all genders?
  - Can girls of all backgrounds and styles of dress travel to and from the venue safely?
  - Would more girls attend if this was an online event such as a Facebook/Instagram live, Google Hangouts/Skype video call, or WhatsApp call?
2. Identify the audience for your event. They can be girls who are a part of your organization's programming, girls in nearby schools, and/or girls that are from the community in which you work. For us, 'girls' means anyone who identifies as a girl. You might also think about opening your event to people of all genders and ages.

After you have decided, lay out a plan to reach them. You might consider posting flyers (where girls will see them), sharing on social media (Whatsapp, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), connecting with school officials, partnering with other organizations, or walking around your community.

3. Create an agenda for your event. Be sure to include extra time to ensure that everything runs smoothly and on schedule.
4. Prior to your event, send a message to your event space and anyone speaking at it to ensure everyone is on the same page one week in advance. 1-2 days from your event, send a final event reminder to everyone you reached out to.
5. Prepare any materials you will need for the discussion. This could include printed copies of the Girls' Bill of Rights, pens, and paper, or even snacks or drinks. (None of this is required and you do not have to include materials to hold an event.)
6. Head to your event space early and set up the room as needed. Choose an area by the entrance where attendees can sign in and share their contact information. You may also consider having copies of the Girls' Bill of Rights and an event agenda.



## Resource: Email Template

**Expert** | Use the following template to reach out to an expert to speak at an event.

Dear [Name],

My name is [NAME], and I am organizing an event on [topic]. This event is to [purpose]. Through this event, I hope to highlight the Girls' Bill of Rights, a declaration of the rights all girls are entitled to, written by girls, for girls.

I am reaching out to you in the hope that you can help me in discussing [ topic] at [ event] because of your experience [describe why they would be a strong fit] . The event will be on [date] in [place]. Would you be interested?

Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,  
[Your Name]

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**Community Leader** | Use the following template to request a meeting to speak about the Girls' Bill of Rights.

Dear [Name],

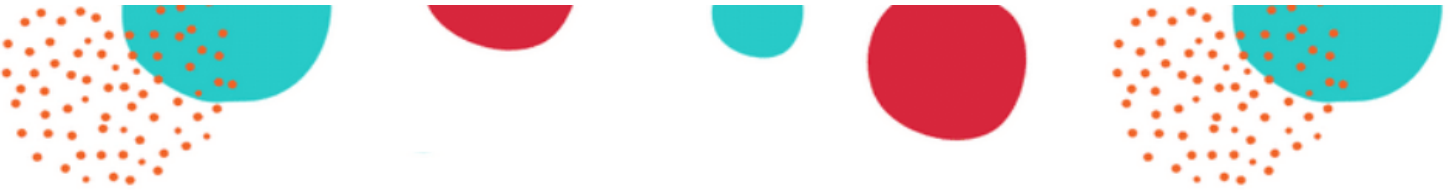
My name is [NAME] and I am reaching out to you about the Girls' Bill of Rights, a declaration of the rights all girls are entitled to, written by girls, for girls. As a [community leader/school official/government employee] you have the ability to create policies that ensure that girls' are respected, educated and heard.

I would like to request a meeting with you to share ideas and suggestions on how our [school/community/government] can uphold and implement the Girls' Bill of Rights. [You can go into more detail of what you want to accomplish here].

Are you available for me to present the Girls' Bill of Rights to you?

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,  
[Your Name]



**Local Business** | Use the following template to reach out to a business to donate goods/services.

Dear [Name],

My name is [NAME] and I am hosting an upcoming event about the Girls' Bill of Rights, a declaration of the rights all girls are entitled to, written by girls, for girls. This is a [community/school] wide event on [date] in [location]. There will be [number] of attendees.

We are seeking a donation for [good or service] for this event. In exchange, we will feature your business in our event messaging [flyers, printed programs, etc]. Your business can help promote the Girls Bill of Rights by donating goods and services to an upcoming fundraiser. [You can explain here what goods and services you are talking about, and what the fundraiser is].

Thank you in advance for your consideration! I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Kind Regards,

[Your Name]



## Resource: Discussion Prompts

Use these discussion prompts to guide a conversation on individual rights.

### Right 1 | free, quality education which prepares them for the modern world

We deserve equal opportunity to attend school all the way to graduation, and we deserve freedom and safe transportation to get there. A girl's right to school should not be impacted by her cultural background, her pregnancy status, or the money her family may lack.

More than 130 million girls are out of school worldwide. (Source: World Bank)

Discussion Prompts:

- What are challenges girls face in our community when they're trying to go to school?
  - How does finishing school unlock opportunities for girls?
- 

### Right 2 | equality

We should be free from discrimination and stereotypes because of being a girl, whether at home, at school, or in our communities. We should have access to equal opportunities and we should never be harassed nor oppressed due to what we wear, what we do, or how we express ourselves.


Globally, girls spend 40% more time on housework than boys do. This is time they aren't spending on play, education, and building social networks. (Source: UNICEF)

Discussion prompts:

- Are girls and boys treated differently in the classrooms, on the sports field, and in our homes? How?
  - What is your version of an equal world?
- 

### Right 3 | involvement in decision-making and pursuit of leadership positions without fear of discrimination, harassment, or persecution

Girls must be allowed to decide what our future holds and be able to lead just as much as boys in school, at home, or in the community. Any decision that affects us should include us in a position of authority. We have the right for our voices to be listened to and respected.



Only 24.3% of all national parliamentarians were women as of February 2019, a slow increase from 11.3% in 1995. (Source: UN Women)

Discussion Prompts:

- How can we have our voices heard? When was a time you felt your voice was powerful?
  - If you could pass a law for girls, what would it be and why?
- 

### **Right 4 | documentation**

Every girl has the right to access or acquire all legal and academic documents that will allow her to access opportunities and lead a full life recognized by relevant authorities.

The births of around one fourth of the global population of children under five have never been registered. (Source: UNICEF)

Discussion Prompts:

- Imagine that you did not have documentation or an ID. How does that affect your day? Can you enroll in school? Get medical attention? Can you travel?
  - Are there girls in your community that are affected by a lack of documentation?
- 

### **Right 5 | comprehensive sexual education and access to free, quality reproductive healthcare**

This includes an education that informs us about our rights, consent, contraception, and healthy relationships. We should also have access to abortion and to proper healthcare, without criticism or shame.

23 million girls become pregnant each year. (Source: World Health Organization)

Discussion Prompts:

- How does receiving comprehensive sexual education improve our lives?
  - Are we learning about our rights, consent, contraception, and healthy relationships in our school or at home? If not, how can we go about learning this?
-



## Right 6 | protection from harmful traditions and enjoyment of positive cultural practices

We must be kept safe from non-consensual practices, and be given the opportunity to express the positive elements of our cultures.

At least 200 million women and girls alive today have undergone FGM (female genital mutilation) in 30 countries where representative data is available. (Source: UN Women)

Discussion Prompts:

- What are harmful traditions for/expectations of girls in our society?
  - How can we celebrate girlhood?
- 

## Right 7 | safety from all forms of violence

All girls deserve healthy and safe relationships, including with romantic partners, parents, and family members. We should be safe from violence in all locations. All girls deserve shelter, clothing, and food.

Approximately 15 million adolescent girls (aged 15 to 19) worldwide have experienced forced sex at some point in their life. (Source: UN Women)

Discussion Prompts:

- What are ways that girls experience violence in our community?
  - How can we protect our girl peers from violence?
- 

## Right 8 | decision-making about their body and sexuality

Girls have the right to choose whom they love, regardless of gender, and to express their sexuality without censure. We have a right to say “no” and to choose who, when, and if we will marry.

One girl under the age of 15 gets married every 7 seconds. (Source: UNICEF)

Discussion Prompts:

- In our community, are there decisions that girls are prevented from making about their bodies and sexualities?
  - What forces in our community are preventing girls from having control of their bodies? What can be done to work with these forces?
-



## Right 9 | protection under the law without fear or unequal treatment

Every girl has the right to seek legal protection in any situation where she feels insecure or undergoes an experience that needs legal attention, without being judged or her claim disregarded. No girl should ever be in a position where she has to choose to be silent due to fear of lack of legal protection.

More than a billion girls and women lack legal protection against sexual harassment in education and public spaces. (Source: Global Partnership for Education)

Discussion Prompts:

- Does our community protect girls equally under the law?
  - How can we cultivate a community where girls feel safe and are protected?
- 

## Right 10 | freedom from exploitation

All girls deserve a happy childhood. We should never be forced to work, and we should be kept safe from child trafficking and early marriage.

71% of all trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls. (Source: UN Women)

Discussion Prompts:

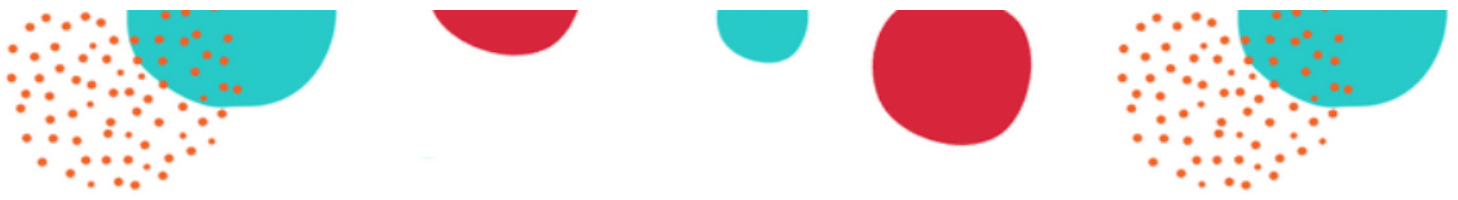
- What are ways girls are prevented from experiencing their childhood in our community?
- How can we advocate for girls in our community who have been exploited?



## **Resource:**

### **Five ways to boost your confidence**

1. Dress in something that makes you feel powerful and professional. Your inner confidence will radiate in the way you carry yourself as you're advocating for the Girls' Bill of Rights.
2. YOU are the expert in this situation. Your audience believes that you are knowledgeable and they do not know what you are planning to say. If you forget to say something or stumble over your words, the audience will not know. YOU are the one with the knowledge on the Girls' Bill of Rights.
3. If you're feeling nervous, remind yourself of the positive things that will happen from your advocacy. You are raising awareness about girls' rights in your community and sharing information on how others can take action. You're sparking change!
4. Strike a power pose! A power pose is meant to give you a confidence boost before any presentation. A power pose is any pose that you feel radiates power and confidence.
5. Think of the audience as one singular person and not as an entire group. A trick is to imagine that you are talking to one person in a private conversation.



## Resource: How to build your community

Power exists in numbers. That's why many social justice movements take time to develop a community that supports their cause. A strong and diverse community can help your Girls' Bill of Rights advocacy. It shows leaders and decision makers\* that there is tremendous community support and investment in the Girls' Bill of Rights.

*\*Decision makers: people that have authority, can influence policy, and are connected to others in power.*

Here are tips to build and sustain a community of supporters for the Girls' Bill of Rights:

- Create a clear and concise pitch in order to explain what the Girls' Bill of Rights is and why they should care. Include how it affects the people you are speaking to, and how people can join your community.
- Target organizations and clubs to amplify your message. Think about talking to school-based organizations, community service groups, faith-based communities, local leadership, LGBTQIA+\* associations, and sports organizations.
- Create an outreach plan to spread the word. Post flyers, share on social media (Whatsapp, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), connect with school officials, partner with other organizations, or host a table at school/community events in order to attract people to your cause and alert them to upcoming events and initiatives.
- Cultivate an online and in-person community with your coalition. Here are some common ways of doing this:
  - Online: Weekly newsletters, coalition meetings, frequent posts in WhatsApp or Facebook groups, using social media at large
  - In-person: coalition meetings, brainstorming over breakfast, tabling or going door-to-door to raise awareness, recreational activities (for example, ice cream social)

## Resource: Graphics



Artwork courtesy of **Louisa Cannell** (@louisacannell)



# THE GLOBAL #GirlsBillOfRights

written by girls, for girls

## ALL GIRLS HAVE THE RIGHT TO...

- 1 free, quality education
  - 2 equality
  - 3 involvement in decision-making & access to leadership positions
  - 4 documentation
  - 5 comprehensive sexual education & access to free, quality reproductive healthcare
  - 6 protection from harmful traditions and enjoyment of positive cultural practices
  - 7 safety from all forms of violence
  - 8 decision-making about their body & sexuality
  - 9 protection under the law without fear or unequal treatment
  - 10 freedom from exploitation
- 

#GirlsBillOfRights



**I'm ensuring  
girls' voices  
are respected  
and heard.  
You can too:  
[girlsbillofrights.org](http://girlsbillofrights.org)**



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advocate for  
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**I'm fighting for  
girls' rights.  
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Download these graphics and more at [girlsbillofrights.org/social-media](http://girlsbillofrights.org/social-media).



Thank you for taking action for girls everywhere.

**We want to hear about how YOU fought for girls' rights.**

Share your story with us at the link below to inspire others!

[girlsbillofrights.org/tellus](https://girlsbillofrights.org/tellus)