

Activity 8: Human rights

Learning objectives

- To think about the human rights of people forced to flee.

Resources

- Activity Sheet: People forced to flee *Diamond 9* cards (one set of ten cards per group of young people)

Time required: 35 mins

- Ask your class what rights are. Take some answers, then explain that rights are about our values, what we believe is the fairest way to behave towards others. This activity is about the rights of people forced to flee their homes because of violence and persecution. These are often the most vulnerable of all people.
- Ask this question and lead a short discussion about it:
 - What do you think are the fundamental, or basic, human rights that everybody on earth – no matter where they are from or what they do – should have?

Quickly suggest a list of five fundamental or basic rights.

- Divide the class into groups. Give each group a set of cards showing the nine rights which many people believe that all people forced to flee should have, plus the tenth card, which leaves a space in which they can write their own idea.
- Tell the groups they are going to do a Diamond 9 ranking activity. Ask them to look at the cards, discuss the rights shown and agree among themselves which right is the most important and should be placed at the top of their diamond, in position “1” (see diagram below). They should then group the other rights in descending order of importance following the shape of a diamond.

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      1
     2 2
    3 3 3
   4 4
  5
  
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- Tell young people to discuss carefully where they place each card in their group’s Diamond 9. Say that they should be prepared to change their minds as well as stick up for what they believe to be true. Draw their attention to the tenth, incomplete, card. Tell them that if they think of a right that they feel is more important than the nine that are printed on the other cards, they can write it on the tenth card and discard one of the others.

- Lead a class discussion about the following questions:
 - Do people forced to flee enjoy the fundamental rights the groups identified? (If your young people have done Activity 6 in this topic area, tell them to think back to the issue tree they completed.)
 - What human rights do young people think are most important for people forced to flee (in other words, which rights did they put in positions 1 and 2 position on their Diamond 9, and why)?

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Activity Sheet
People forced to flee *Diamond 9* cards

<p>People forced to flee have the right to somewhere warm and dry to sleep at night.</p>	<p>People forced to flee have the right to cooked meals and water.</p>	<p>People forced to flee have the right to safety and security.</p>
<p>People forced to flee have the right to claim protection closer to where they're from, therefore reducing having to take dangerous journeys to places of safety.</p>	<p>Families forced to flee have the right to stay together. Separated families should be able to reunite with their family members.</p>	<p>People forced to flee have the right to medical treatment.</p>
<p>People forced to flee have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity by the police and other officials.</p>	<p>Children forced to flee have the right to education.</p>	<p>People forced to flee have the right to work and earn a living.</p>
	<p>People forced to flee...</p>	