

Word of the Month: FREEDOM

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Tick all the civil liberties a citizen in a democracy should have:

a. access to free education



b. access to a national healthcare system



c. access to social services for children and the elderly



d. freedom of movement within their country and in other countries



e. freedom of speech without inciting hatred or public disorder



f. the right to vote for the political party of their choice



g. the right to impose their beliefs on other people under the threat of violence



My Religion is Kindness



2. What should a good citizen do? Complete the sentences with the words below.

- a. _____ other people regardless of their origin or social background.
- b. _____ all people equally, regardless of the colour of their skin.
- c. _____ other people's beliefs, without imposing your own.
- d. _____ about problems and encourage social interaction with minority groups.
- e. _____ conflict in a non-violent way, with peaceful protests.

Treat Talk Resolve Respect Accept

3. Peaceful protest. What can you do? Complete the gaps.

In some countries citizens are denied their civil _____. Their freedom of movement, freedom of expression and _____ of speech is restricted or monitored. People are often imprisoned or killed for defending their religious or social _____. Sometimes, this causes _____ to erupt in those countries with ordinary people protesting against the government or ruling regime. Citizens go out onto the streets with placards and demand their civil rights. Clashes with the police or military or opposing groups sometimes result in more deaths. Great leaders like Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr were against violent _____. They believed that the best way to obtain peace was through peaceful methods. Peaceful methods include _____, rallies and petitions as well as strikes. It can take longer to get results but it prevents more violence spreading.

protest liberties marches freedom beliefs violence

4. What would you like to protest against? Complete the placard.

Teacher's Notes

1. Open a discussion on what civil liberties people living in a modern democracy can expect to benefit from.

- a. access to free education ✓
- b. access to a national healthcare system ✓
- c. access to social services for children and the elderly ✓
- d. freedom of movement within their country and in other countries ✓
- e. freedom of speech without inciting hatred or public disorder ✓
- f. the right to vote for the political party of their choice ✓
- g. the right to impose their beliefs on other people under the threat of violence ✗

2. What should a good citizen do? Complete the sentences with the words below.

Ask the students what they can do to contribute to the smooth running of a democratic society.

- a. **Respect** other people regardless of their origin or social background.
- b. **Treat** all people equally, regardless of the colour of their skin.
- c. **Accept** other people's beliefs, without imposing your own.
- d. **Talk** about problems and encourage social interaction with minority groups.
- e. **Resolve** conflict in a non-violent way, with peaceful protests.

3. Peaceful protest. What can you do? Complete the gaps.

In some countries citizens are denied their civil **liberties**. Their freedom of movement, freedom of expression and **freedom** of speech is restricted or monitored. People are often imprisoned or killed for defending their religious or social **beliefs**. Sometimes, this causes **violence** to erupt in those countries with ordinary people protesting against the government or ruling regime. Citizens go out onto the streets with placards and demand their civil rights. Clashes with the police or military or opposing groups sometimes results in more deaths. Great leaders like Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr were against violent **protest**. They believed that the best way to obtain peace was through peaceful methods. Peaceful methods include **marches**, rallies and petitions as well as strikes. It can take longer to get results but it prevents more violence spreading.

4. What would you like to protest against? Complete the placard.

Ask the students to work in groups about what they think is wrong with modern society. They can then do their placards individually.