

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute 1996 Volume I: Multiculturalism and the Law

Justice Demands an End to Segregation, But It Does Not End

Guide for Curriculum Unit 96.01.04 by Joyce Bryant

The unit s main focus is on the civil rights issues of the nineteen-sixties. It will also focus on the school and some communities. It will focus on the definition of defining human rights including not only political and civil rights, but also social, economic, and cultural rights.

Civil rights freedoms and benefits are guaranteed to people by law or tradition. The term civil rights refers to guarantees by law of fair and equal treatment for all people, regardless of race, religion, ethnic origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, disabilities, or personal beliefs.

The term civil rights is often used interchangeably with the terms civil liberties and human rights. Together, these phrases refer to the natural desire of all people to achieve freedom, equality, and justice. They include such basic rights as freedom of speech, religion, and assembly; the right to take part in the political process; and the right to fair and equal treatment under the law. These rights are also protected against government interference. Civil rights and civil liberties are the cornerstones of a free society.

(Recommended for Language Arts and Social Studies, grades 7-8)

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