



ARTICLE OF THE WEEK

INTRODUCING INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Frances introduces International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination



Click [here](#) to watch on YouTube

“Youth standing up against racism” is the 2021 theme of the **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** on 21st March.

It engages the public through **#FightRacism**, which aims to foster a global culture of tolerance, equality and anti-discrimination and calls on each and every one of us to stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes.

The **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** first started to recognise the day the police in Sharpeville, South Africa, opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid in 1960.

Since then the apartheid system in South Africa has been dismantled. And while progress has been made in many countries to abolish racist laws and practices, too many people all over the world still experience discrimination based on their race.

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RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS

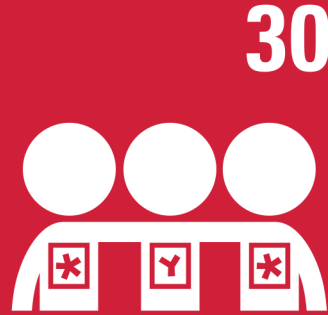
LINKED UNCRC ARTICLES



NO DISCRIMINATION



RESPECT FOR
CHILDREN'S VIEWS



MINORITY CULTURE,
LANGUAGE AND
RELIGION

There are three articles that provide a strong link this week:

Article 2 (non-discrimination)

The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

Article 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups)

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

EXPLORING INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION



Racism is unfair and unacceptable.

How should everyone be treated **equally** to eliminate racism?

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HOW MANY OF THESE DID YOU GET?

- Being treated with respect and dignity no matter who you are or where you come from.
- Being given the same chance to do well and succeed in life as everyone else.
- People stand up against racism if or when it occurs.
- People are interested in you and what makes you the person you are.
- You learn about different people's experiences of the world.
- To be allowed to join in and play with any other children you choose.
- To know that you matter as a person no matter who you are.
- In summary – to have all your rights met no matter who you are.

Did you get any of these? What other answers did you have?

WATCH THE FOLLOWING VIDEO OF A STORY. WHAT HAS THIS GOT TO DO WITH RACIAL DISCRIMINATION?



Do you know the book **'Shine'** by Sarah Asuquo?

Discuss as a class what the story means to you and what lessons other children could learn from Kai.

YOUR CHALLENGE...

21st March is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Look up the meaning of the words 'elimination', 'race' and 'discrimination'. Explain what the words mean to a member of your family or a teacher.

Look up Articles 2, 12 and 3. How do these rights help us to speak up against racism? Discuss this as a class.

HOW ELSE MIGHT WE EDUCATE OURSELVES ON THIS ISSUE?

Many celebrities have spoken about their own experiences of racism.

Research and write a short biography about someone famous who has overcome racism to succeed in their chosen career.

Some examples are: Michelle Obama, former First Lady of the US, Nadiya Hussain, Great British Bake Off winner, Marcus Rashford, England footballer.

Try to find somewhere to be quiet and still. Take a couple of minutes to think...

Every single human being is different.

- Why is this a good thing for each of us and for the world?
- How can we respect the differences we see in the people around us?

LET US PRAY

O God,
you created all people in your image.
We thank you for the amazing variety
of races and cultures in this world.
Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship,
and show us your presence
in everyone around us.

Through Christ our Lord,

Amen.