

Equality: Are Some More Equal than Others?

Newsletter

Purpose:

This activity is to help you develop an in-depth understanding of the factors that contribute to the state of human rights and the role citizens play in the struggle.

Overview:

Students will work in groups to produce a publication designed to inform and persuade people to take an active role in improving the rights of people in a country of their choice.

Standards:

- Apply ideas, theories, and modes of historical inquiry to understand historical and contemporary developments in order to make informed decisions and take appropriate action concerning public policy issues.
- Evaluate the roles of citizens and their participation and involvement in civic projects.

Instructions:

Select a country for your newsletter and investigate human rights in the country you chose. Include the following:

- What is the history of human rights in the country?
- What have been some major accomplishments and/or setbacks?
- What issues are currently in the news?
- What people and organizations have been and/or are currently active in the struggle for human rights?
- Why should a person become involved in working for human rights in the country, and how would he or she go about doing that?

Collaborate to put together a newsletter that has the following components:

- Explanation of current issues in a historical context
- Description of people who have played a role in the human rights movement in the country, including such factors as personal characteristics and political and social conditions that contributed to their success
- Editorial to persuade readers to support the movement and information on how to get involved

Create a timeline for completing the newsletter by scheduling the following tasks:

- Find resources
- Assign tasks
- Set deadlines: taking notes, writing drafts of articles, editing and proofreading writing, and putting together final product