Freedom Forum
Film Activity  KS2-4

KS1/2 Curriculum links:

Citizenship Unit 1 – Taking part- developing skills of communication and participation
Citizenship Unit 2 – Choices
Citizenship Unit 5 – Living in a diverse world
Citizenship Unit 7 - Children's rights - human rights

KS3 Curriculum links:

Citizenship Unit 3 - Human rights
Citizenship Unit 4 – Britain a diverse society?

KS4 Curriculum links:

Citizenship Unit 1 - Human rights
Citizenship Unit 3 - Challenging racism and discrimination

Activity Time: 30-40 mins for each film and discussion

-This activity could be combined with the Human Rights Activity, downloadable from the Global Citizens – Make an Impact! Learning Journey
Objectives

To engage pupils in discussion and debate about human rights, racism and discrimination in Britain today. To promote an interest in, and an understanding of, people from different cultural and religious backgrounds.

Overview

In this activity, two Freedom Forum films from Wilberforce House Museum’s Contemporary Galleries are used to stimulate class discussion of racism, human rights and religious discrimination. The films ask the following questions:

• Should freedom of speech be restricted to prevent racism?
• Should everyone have the right to wear religious symbols at school and work?

This activity enables pupils to develop skills in participation and communication, as well as developing an enquiring and analytical mind.

Preparation

• Download the Freedom Forum films / project them onto a whiteboard
• You may like to download the transcripts of the films for your own information
• Print out a copy of the KS2 or KS3/4 Teacher’s Discussion Notes (both below)

Activity Content

• Using the appropriate Teacher’s Discussion Notes, prepare your class to watch the film
• Introduce your chosen film and play to the class
• Using the appropriate Teacher’s Discussion Notes, hold either a discussion or a debate with the class
Freedom Forum
Film Activity

KS2 Teacher’s Discussion Notes

Film Theme: Should freedom of speech be restricted to prevent racism?

Before watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

• What is racism?

• Why do you think racism happens?

• What do we mean when we say that someone has “freedom”?

• What do we mean when we say that someone has “freedom of speech”?

• Do you think it is a good thing, that we have freedom of speech as citizens of (people living in) the UK?

• What about when that freedom of speech means that people can bully or upset others?

• Should you have the right to say what you want, even if it would upset someone?

After watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

• Now that you have watched the film, do you think that we should have the right to say what we want, even if what we say is racist?

• Should we stop people from saying what they want to say, if they are being racist? Or do we need to make sure that everyone has the right to say what they like?
Freedom Forum
Film Activity

KS2 Teacher’s Discussion Notes

Film Theme:  *Should everyone have the right to wear religious symbols at school and work?*

**Before** watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

- What kind of things do some people wear to show that they are religious? How many things can you think of?
- Do we allow pupils and Teachers / adults to wear these religious symbols at our school?
- Why? / Why not? –What do you think the reasons are?

**After** watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

- After watching the film, do you think that pupils and Teachers / adults should be allowed to wear religious symbols at our school?
- Why? / Why not?
- Should there be any conditions? For example, people should be allowed to wear some symbols of religion and not others?
Freedom Forum
Film Activity

KS3/4 Teacher’s Discussion Notes

Film Theme:  *Should freedom of speech be restricted to prevent racism?*

**Before** watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

- What is racism?
- Why do you think racism happens?
- What do we mean by “freedom of speech”?
- Is freedom of speech a human right?
- If so- do you think that it is an important one? How important would you rank it?
- Should people have the right to say what they want to, even if it what they say is racist?

**After** watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

- Now that you have watched the film, do you think that we should have the right to say what we want, even if what we say is racist?
- Should people be stopped from saying anything racist? – How could this be achieved?
- Do we need to make sure that everyone has the right to freedom of speech?
- Should there be conditions- for example some things may be acceptable to say, and others not? – What kind of problems could arise from this?
Freedom Forum
Film Activity

KS3/4 Teacher’s Discussion Notes

Film Theme: Should everyone have the right to wear religious symbols at school and work?

Before watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

• What kind of religious symbols do people wear?

• Do we allow pupils and Teachers / adults to wear these religious symbols at our school?

• Why? / Why not? – What are the reasons?

• Do you agree with this?

After watching the film, discuss the following with your class:

• After watching the film, do you think that pupils and Teachers / adults should be allowed to wear religious symbols at our school?

• Why? / Why not? – How could this be achieved?

• Can you think of any examples where wearing religious symbols would definitely be inappropriate?

• Can you think of any examples where wearing religious symbols would be more appropriate?

• Should there be any conditions for wearing religious symbols? For example, people should be allowed to wear some symbols of religion and not others? – What problems could arise from this?