

You Have Rights!

Let's learn about them





About D.R.P.I. Canada

Disability Rights Promotion International - Canada has published this booklet. "D.R.P.I. Canada" is a short way of saying Disability Rights Promotion International Canada.

D.R.P.I. Canada is a project based at York University in Toronto, Canada, that works with people with disabilities, their organizations, universities, government officials and other people and groups who are interested in promoting the human rights of people with disabilities and collecting information about times when the rights of people with disabilities are not respected.

About this booklet

This booklet is part of a project that helps people to know more about their human rights - especially, economic, social and cultural rights. The Department of Canadian Heritage of the Government of Canada helped D.R.P.I. Canada to publish this booklet.

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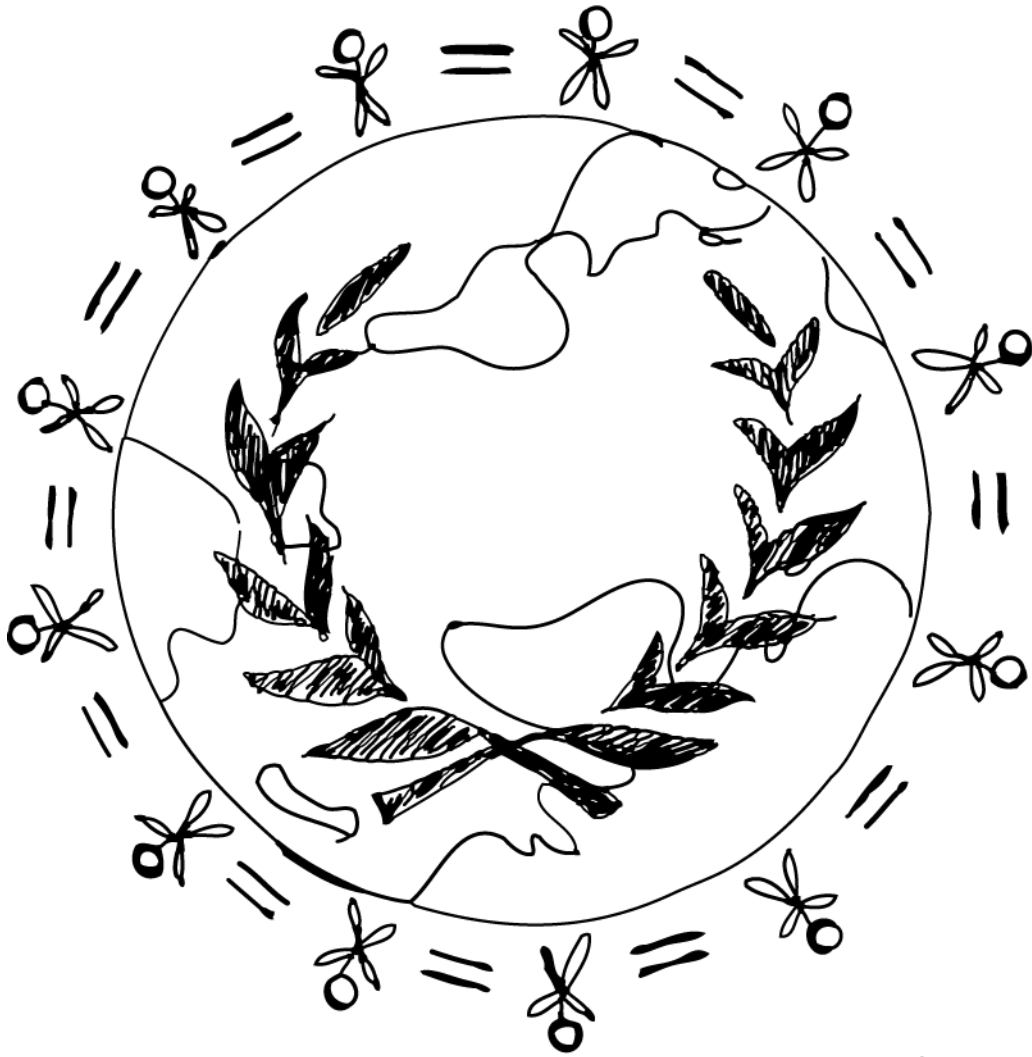
Introduction

Human rights are rights that belong to people.
Human rights are the most important rights.

This booklet tells you about your human rights. It looks closely at certain types of rights including rights that make sure you have enough money to live, rights that make sure you can participate in your community and rights that allow you to live according to your own beliefs and customs.

It is important for you to know about your rights.

You have the right to complain when your rights are not respected.



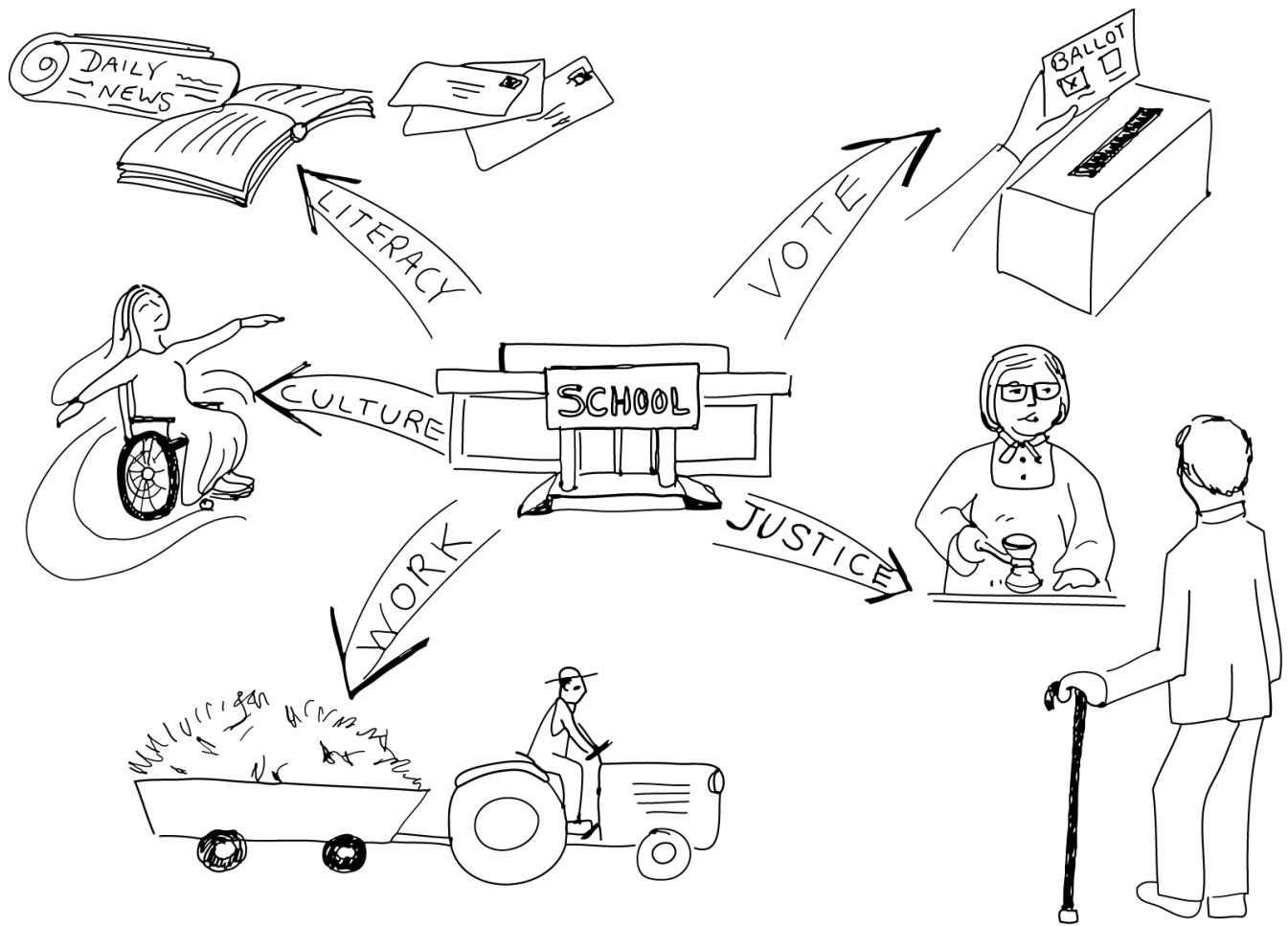
Everyone has human rights and everyone has these rights equally. No one is more important than anyone else.

You Have Rights!



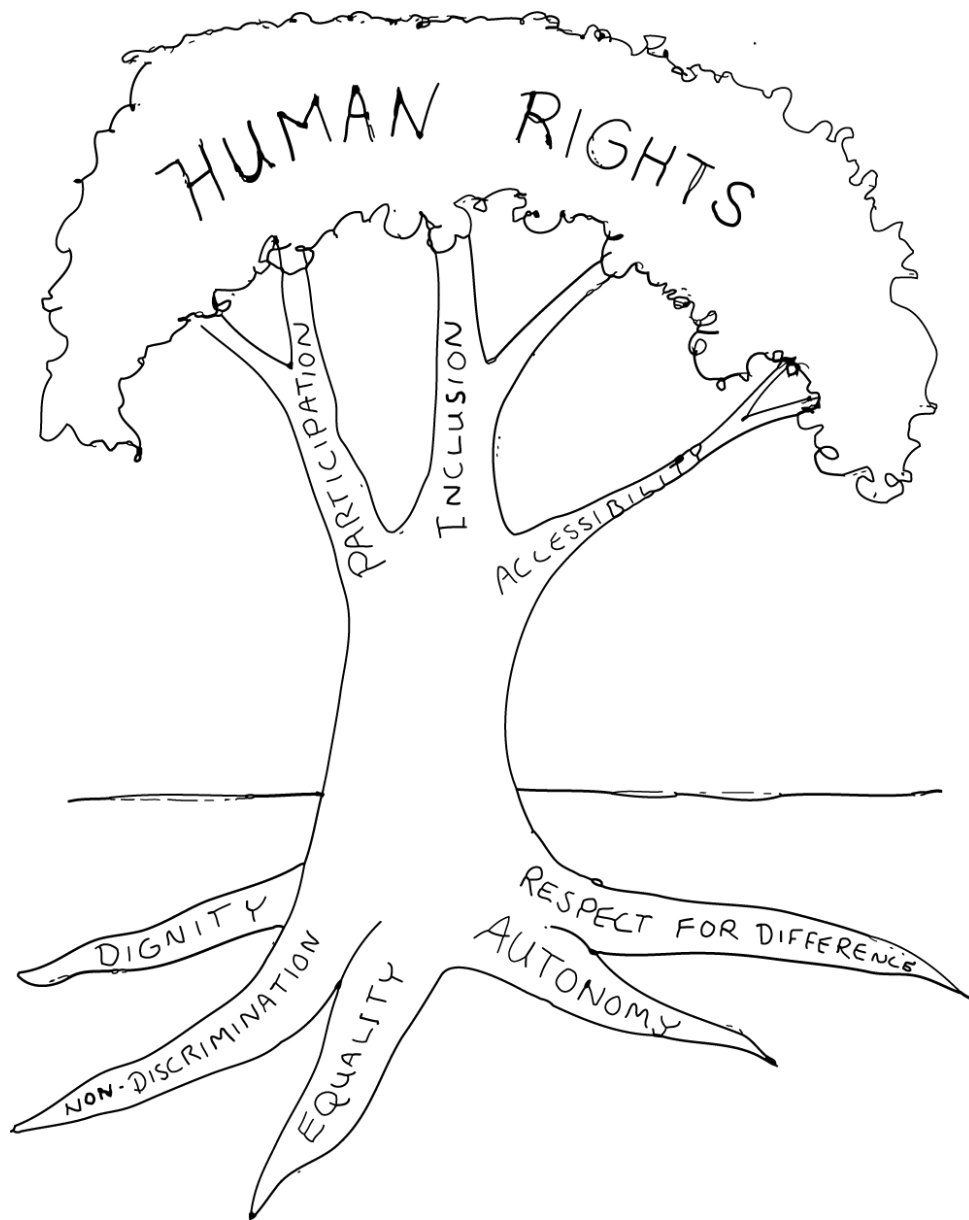
People with disabilities have human rights just like everyone else.

You Have Rights!



All rights are important and all rights must be respected. No one can take any of your rights away from you.

Rights work together. When one of your rights is respected, it helps you to have the other rights respected. For example, if you go to school, it will be easier for you to find a job, vote in an election, find out what is going on in the world and get help when you need it.



Human rights explain how people should be treated. Your human rights help you to be treated in five ways:

1. Dignity
2. Autonomy
3. Non-Discrimination & Equality
4. Participation, Inclusion & Accessibility
5. Respect for Difference

You Have Rights!

DIGNITY

Human rights make sure that you are treated with respect.

AUTONOMY

Human rights make sure that you can make your own decisions. If you need help to make your own decisions, you have the right to get that help. Anyone who helps you to make decisions should only give you the help that you need. They should let you make the final decision and should not take over.

NON-DISCRIMINATION & EQUALITY

Human rights make sure that you are treated in the same way as everyone else. No one can treat you badly because you have a disability or for any other reason.

PARTICIPATION, INCLUSION & ACCESSIBILITY

Human rights make sure that you are able to take part in the things that you want to take part in and that you are included in your community. Human rights make sure that you are able to do things without barriers getting in your way. You have the right to any extra help that you need to be able to do things that other people can do.

RESPECT FOR DIFFERENCE

Human rights make sure that everyone treats each other with respect even though there are things that make people different from each other. Human rights celebrate the differences between people.

Economic Rights

Economic rights make sure that all people have the money and other resources they need to live.



You have the right to earn money through a job that you choose. You have the right to work in the community. You have the right to be paid a fair amount, to be kept safe and to join a union if you want to. No one can say that you cannot have a job because you have a disability.

You Have Rights!

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You have the right to own property like a house or apartment and to look after it yourself. You have the right to have your own money and decide how you want to use it.

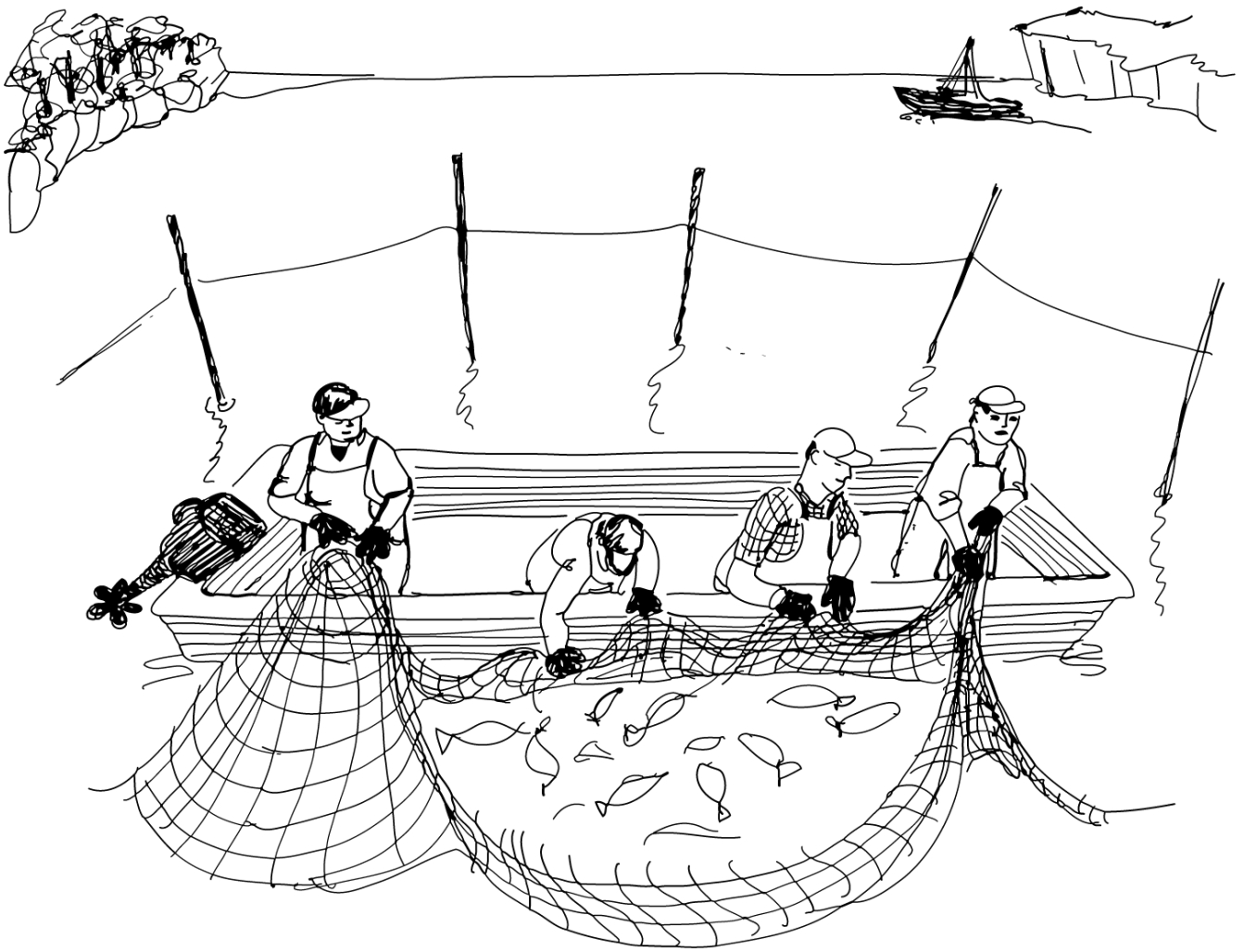
You Have Rights!



If you do not get money from work or if you do not make enough money in your job to pay for the things you need to live, you have the right to get help from government programs.

You Have Rights!

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You have the right to get training so that you can learn how to do a job.

Social Rights

Social rights make sure that all people are able to take part in things that involve other people or their community.

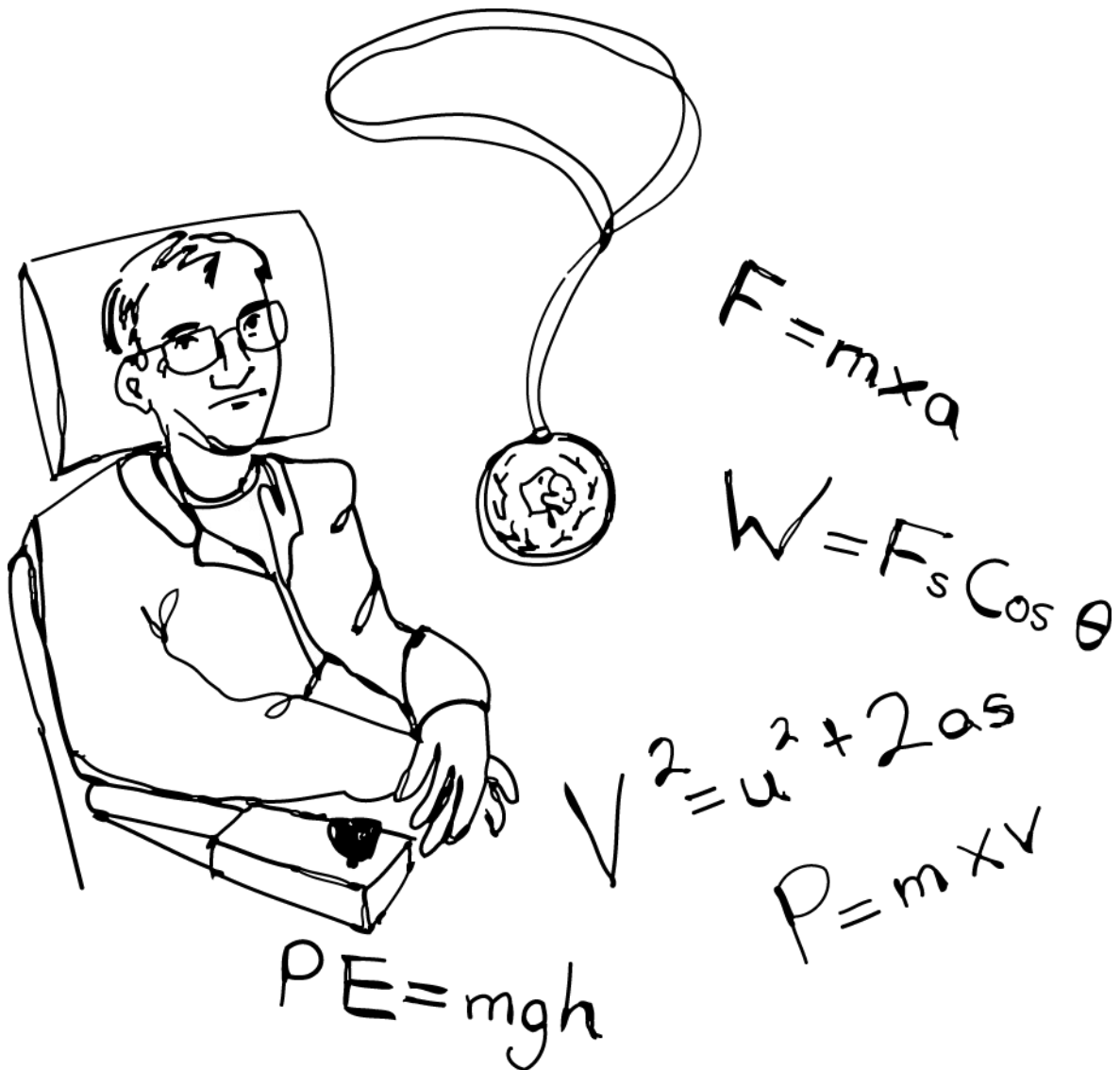


You have the right to the things you need to live. This means having healthy food, clean water and good clothing. It also means having a safe place to live that you can afford. You have the right to be safe in any emergency like a fire in a building or a snowstorm.



You have the right to choose where you want to live and who you want to live with.

You have the right to take part in the community. This means that you have the right to get into buildings, use transportation systems, go shopping and be involved in all of the other activities that are part of living in a community. If there are things that stop you from taking part like having to climb stairs to get on a bus or not having signs that are easy to read in a shopping mall, these barriers must be removed. If you need help in order to live, for example, someone to help you to use the bathroom, you have the right to get that help.



You have the right to go to school with everyone else. You have the right to have teachers that can communicate with you and to get extra help if you need it to learn things. You have the right to keep learning things all through your life if you want to.



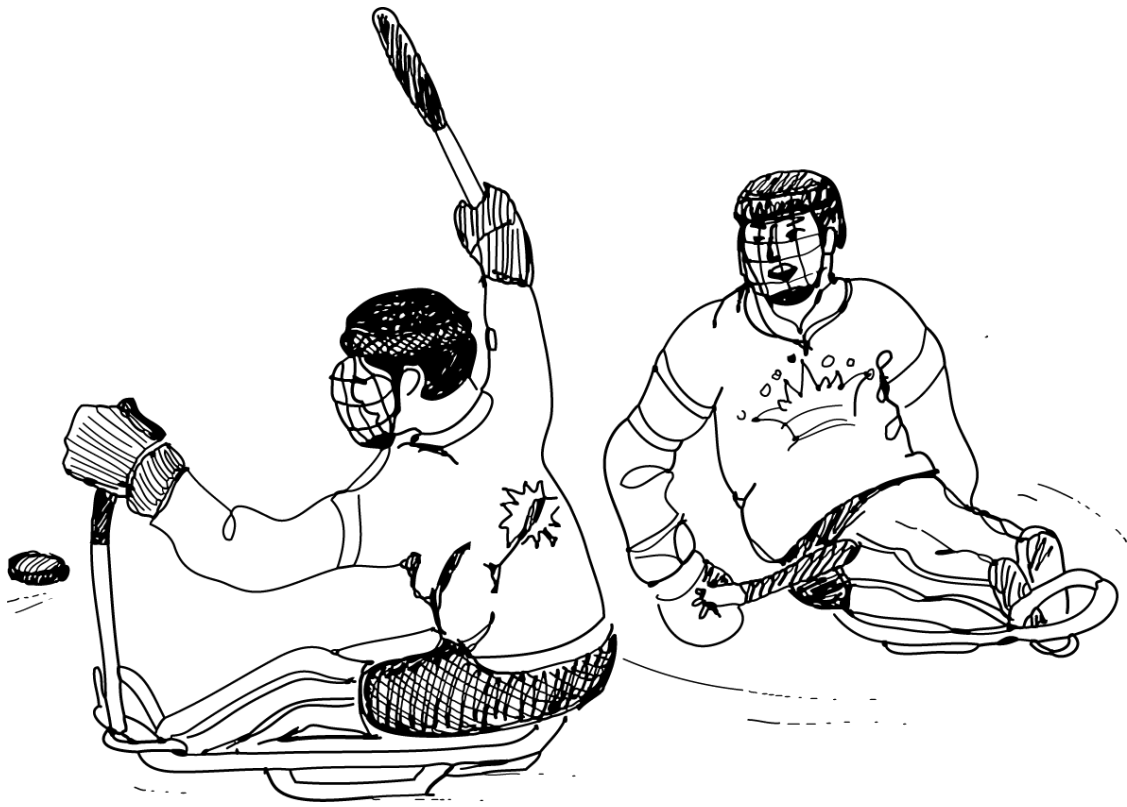
You have the right to the best possible health and to the things you need to stay healthy including doctors, medicines, treatments and devices along with the keeping active and eating healthy food. You have the right to choose your own doctor, ask any questions that you want and make your own decisions about your health care.



You have the right to marry who you want and to choose to have children.

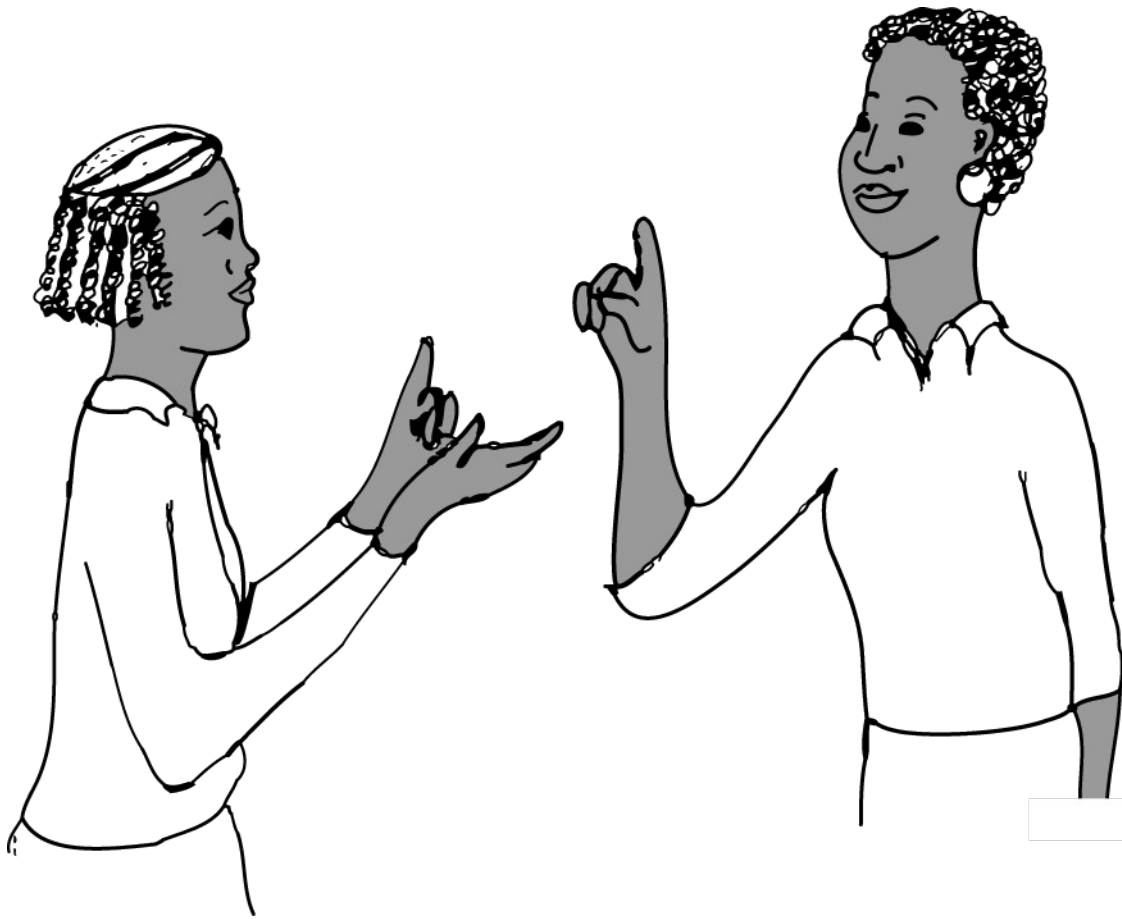
Cultural Rights

Cultural rights make sure that everyone has a chance to live according to the beliefs and customs of the social group that they belong to.



You have the right to take part in and to create your own culture, including sports, music, theatre and other activities and events.





You have the right to communicate using your own language, including sign language. You also have the right to receive information in a way that you can use it. This could include receiving documents in Braille, being able to read websites using a screen reader or having someone describe what the actors are doing during a television show.



You have the right to know what the media is saying on the internet, television, radio, newspapers and magazines. You have the right to have the media respect your rights and dignity and to promote a positive image of disability and persons with disabilities. You also have the right to create your own media reports.

You Have Rights!



You have the right to enjoy the good things that come from the discovery of new technologies and inventions. This includes being able to use new technology like the internet and computer programs and having your needs considered when technology and inventions are developed.

You Have Rights!



It is important to know if people's rights are being respected. When rights are not respected, action must be taken to improve the situation.

Monitoring human rights involves collecting information and writing reports about the times when rights are respected and the times when rights are not respected. Monitoring involves calling for changes to improve the situation of people with disabilities.

You Have Rights!



People with disabilities have the same right as everyone else. These rights must be respected and protected.

The voices of people with disabilities must be heard when their rights are being talked about. "Nothing about us without us!"