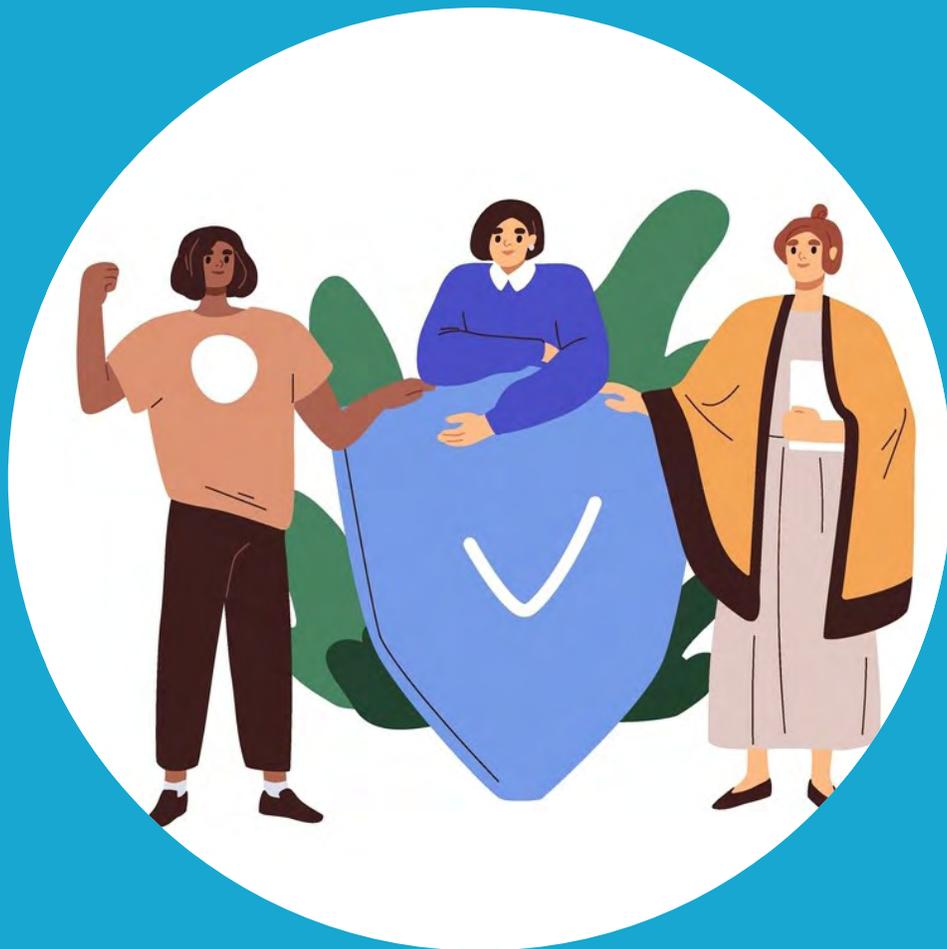


# A Look Through History: The Evolution of Abortion Rights

Teaching Guide





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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

##### August 2025 version

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# Presentation of the Activity

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<b>What you need to know</b>	In this activity, the students will learn about the right to abortion in Canada.
<b>Target audience</b>	Secondary Cycle One students.
<b>Summary</b>	<p>With their teacher, students learn about abortion and what abortion rules are in Quebec.</p> <p>Students complete a quiz on the laws governing abortion for individuals under the age of 18.</p> <p>This teaching guide provides a learning and assessment activity for teachers who wish to deepen their students' knowledge.</p>
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discover the current legal framework of the right to abortion.</li><li>• Understand how the laws regulate abortion for individuals under the age of 18.</li></ul>



<b>Knowledge and subject-specific competencies</b>	<p><b>Culture and Citizenship in Québec – Secondary II</b></p> <p>Studies Cultural Realities: Democracy and Social Order – Rights and Responsibilities.</p> <p>Specific concept (mandatory): Women’s Rights, Reproductive Rights.</p> <p><b>Competency 1: Studies cultural realities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analyzes social relations:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Characterizes relations between individuals, groups and institutions.</li><li>– Situates these relations in time and space.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Competency 2: Reflects on ethical questions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Examines a variety of points of view:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Considers points of view and experiences.</li><li>– Compares reference points.</li><li>– Contextualizes reference points.</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Duration</b>	<p>One period of 75 minutes.</p> <p>Possibility of a second period of 75 minutes to give more time for the activity and/or to complete the optional evaluation.</p>
<b>Material included</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One copy of the <b>Teaching Guide</b>,</li><li>• One copy of the <b>Student Workbook</b>,</li><li>• The <b>PowerPoint presentation</b>.</li></ul>
<b>Material to print</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Student Workbook</b> (one per student).</li></ul>



# Preparing the Activity

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## Become familiar with the Teaching Kit

- Read the **Student Workbook**, the **PowerPoint presentation** and this document (**Teaching Guide**).
- Print the material.

## Required material

- An interactive whiteboard or any other device to present the **PowerPoint Presentation**,
- The documents to print:
  - **Student Workbook** (one per student).

# Period 1 – Learn About the Right to Abortion

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## Defining concepts

- Define abortion with the students using slide 5.
- Define the right to abortion starting at slide 6.
- Present the right to abortion today.
- Ask students to complete the **Student Workbook** and correct its content.

25  
minutes

## Quiz on the right to abortion today

- Take the quiz provided in the **PowerPoint** (starting at slide 8) and share the correct answers.
- You can take the quiz as a group or divide the students in two teams and have them compete against each other.

35  
minutes



## Present additional resources and conclusion

- Share the additional resources presented on slide 12. These resources can also be found on page 4 of the **Student Workbook**.
- If you have enough time, you can read the resources in class with the students.

15  
minutes

## Period 2 – Evaluation

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In the following pages, we suggest an activity (pages 8 to 9) to evaluate the competency **Reflects on ethical questions** in Culture and Citizenship in Québec.

To encourage a deeper reflection, we recommend that the students be allowed to consult their notes during the evaluation.

Optional



# Evaluation 1 – The Right to Abortion

## Culture and Citizenship in Québec

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

10

1) Define what abortion is.

\_\_\_\_\_   
\_\_\_\_\_ 2

2) Define what is the right to abortion is.

\_\_\_\_\_   
\_\_\_\_\_ 2

3. Martine is pregnant. She wants to have an abortion. Does her partner have to agree before she can get an abortion? Justify your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_   
\_\_\_\_\_ 3

4. Jeanne is 36 years old. Claude is 17 years old. Camille is 13 years old.

a) Do they all have the right to get an abortion?

\_\_\_\_\_   
\_\_\_\_\_ 3

b) Does their age change their right to get an abortion? Justify your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Evaluation 1 – The Right to Abortion

## Culture and Citizenship in Québec



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group: \_\_\_\_\_

10

1) Define what abortion is.

*It is when someone chooses to end a pregnancy.*

2

2) Define what is the right to abortion is.

*The right to abortion is a right that allows women to make their own decisions about their bodies and pregnancies. It can also include the legal aspects (laws) that deal with abortion.*

2

3. Martine is pregnant. She wants to have an abortion. Does her partner have to agree before she can get an abortion? Justify your answer.

*Example of a correct answer: No. Martine does not need her partner to agree.*

*Anyone who wants to have an abortion can have one without giving a reason or asking for their partner's authorization.*

3

4. Jeanne is 36 years old. Claude is 17 years old. Camille is 13 years old.

a) Do they all have the right to get an abortion?

*Yes.*

3

b) Does their age change their right to get an abortion? Justify your answer.

*Example of a correct answer: Yes. Since Camille is under 14 years of age, she needs her parents' or tutors' authorization. Jeanne and Claude can decide on their own.*

## Your Opinion

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To better support you and create tools adapted to your needs, we want to hear about your experience and opinions.

Take this short survey by scanning the the QR code or by clicking the link.

It will take you less than 5 minutes.

Thank you for your participation!



[Link to the survey](#)

## Other Tools for You!

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Did you like this tool? We have more! Here's a list of the workshops and teaching guides we offer to help you teach key legal concepts.

You'll surely find what you're looking for!

### Workshops Given by Legal Experts

Our workshops are free, interactive, and introduce participants to the justice system. They are led by volunteer legal professionals. The goal of these workshops is to help young people develop legal skills. They offer knowledge and tools that are practical and useful in students' daily lives.

Now it's your turn! All that's left is to [register](#) to your account and request the workshop you're interested in!

- [READY, SET, INVEST!](#)

Students step into the shoes of an investor to reflect on legal and ethical business practices before making investment decisions.

- [WORKING: NOT AT ALL COSTS!](#)

Students become aware of harassment in the workplace through a quiz and scenarios. They also learn about possible remedies and resources they can turn to if they experience or witness harassment.



- **BEAT THE BUZZER!**

In this game, teams square off to answer questions about legal issues in the lives of 12-to-17-year-olds.

- **BULLYING: WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?**

Students learn about the legal aspects of bullying such as criminal law, sharing of intimate images, the right to control images of themselves and possible recourses. Students then take a position on these issues.

- **THE SMALL CLAIMS COURT IS IN SESSION!**

Students stage a mock civil trial between a consumer and a business. They discover the various players involved and experience what a trial is like in this court.

- **THE LAW: IT'S NOT LIKE IN THE MOVIES!**

By staging a mock criminal trial, students discover the roles of various players in the Quebec justice system, the different steps in a trial and basic criminal law concepts.

- **THE RULES OF THE GAME!**

In this game show activity, students debate legal issues affecting the lives of young adults: work, housing, consumer rights, the criminal justice system, and more.

- **OUR CONFLICT, OUR SOLUTION!**

Conflicts don't always end up in court with lawyers battling it out! In this scenario, groups of high school students who have a disagreement arrive at a win-win solution. This activity introduces students to mediation as an alternative method to prevent and resolve disputes.

- **PICK YOUR SIDE!**

Students take a position on issues that stimulate debate. They learn that the concept of justice evolves constantly and is shaped by the clash of ideas and changing societal values. Students then discuss why they chose one side over the other. The volunteer legal professional presents relevant legal information and encourages students to reflect on the issues raised.



## Our Teaching Guides: Ready-To-Use Resources

Our teaching guides can be used in a range of grades. They are of various lengths and activity types. Turnkey, they can be led by the teacher and are specifically adapted to secondary school students.

**Make your choice and download them free of charge.**

### Secondary – Cycle 1

- [ARE YOU OLD ENOUGH?](#)

Students learn which responsibilities and freedoms the law gives them according to their age.

- [THE INTERNET AND THE LAW](#)

This activity provides an overview of prohibited online activities and recommends solutions if a child is being harassed online.

- [THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM FOR TEENAGERS](#)

This activity explains how the criminal legal system often treats teenagers differently than adults.

### Secondary – Cycle 2

- [BIOETHICS: SAVIOUR BABIES](#)

This activity involves a class debate on two hot topics in biotechnology: the selection of human embryos and the use of a baby's tissues or organs to cure another person. Students then draft a bill on these topics.

- [DISCRIMINATION AT SCHOOL?](#)

This teaching tool lets students explore the themes of justice, tolerance and the accommodation of differences.

- [INSIDE THE COURTROOM: THE KEY PLAYERS AND STEPS OF A CRIMINAL TRIAL](#)

This activity explains the roles of people who play a part in a criminal trial, and the steps in the process.

- [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY](#)

Clear explanations about trademarks, copyrights, patents, and more!

- [LEGAL CAREERS](#)

This activity introduces students to a variety of jobs that involve the law.



- **A RIGHT TO PRIVACY**

This teaching tool gets students thinking about why privacy rights are protected. Activities include discussion questions and a writing exercise.

- **LEGAL CAREERS IN THE INDIGENOUS CONTEXT**

In this activity, students learn about the variety of law-related jobs. It was designed with the realities of Indigenous people in mind.

- **THE RIGHTS OF YOUTH**

Students step into the shoes of a judge, lawyer or social worker to write a persuasive or explanatory text on the rights of youth.

- **DON'T FIGHT, MEDIATE!**

Students are asked to take on specific roles in a simulated mediation session to resolve a conflict between two teens and their families.

- **UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT: WITNESS EXAMINATION AND CROSS EXAMINATION**

Students learn the basics of the criminal justice system, the steps involved in questioning witnesses and the role of each player in a criminal trial. Students then take part in a mock trial with the help of a script. This activity appeals to students' sense of justice. They will role-play, analyze a situation, take a position and formulate questions to get to the truth.

## CCQ: Resources for Teachers

### **TRAINING 101: CULTURE AND CITIZENSHIP IN QUEBEC, THE LEGAL CONCEPTS**

Follow our training session, which covers the legal concepts found in the new CCQ course, improve your understanding of general legal concepts, and increase your confidence to teach them!

### **TRAINING LEGAL CONCEPTS IN THE CCQ PROGRAM: SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL**

Listen to this hands-on training session. You'll get an overview of all the tools available to you. This will help you use them more easily and find all the resources you need.



## Videos: Legal Education

You can use these videos and tutorials when discussing legal concepts with your students:

- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : AGIR EN LIGNE](#) (Being online, French with English subtitles)
- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : PROCES SIMULE](#) (Mock criminal trial, French with English subtitles)
- [LE DROIT EN CLASSE : LE CONSENTEMENT](#) (Sexual consent, French with English subtitles)

## Order a Poster

These materials are great tools to reinforce the learning done in class. All that's left is to order them and display them:

<https://educaloi.gc.ca/en/order-educalois-products/>

- [AGE OF CONSENT TO SEXUAL ACTIVITIES](#)
- [CYBERBULLYING ... IT CAN BE A CRIME!](#)
- [WORKING: NOT AT ALL COSTS!](#)

## To Learn More

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Visit [legallifeskills.ca](http://legallifeskills.ca) for complete information about our workshops and teaching guides.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [scolaire@educaloi.gc.ca](mailto:scolaire@educaloi.gc.ca).