

Educaloi's  
workshops



# Teacher's activity guide



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Éducaloï is a non-profit organization whose mission is to inform Quebecers of their rights and responsibilities by providing legal information in everyday language.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

This *Teacher's Guide* contains legal information up to date as of July 2020. The information in this guide is not meant to be a legal opinion.

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# Introduction

## The Program

Éducaloi's workshops for schools give you the chance to have a legal professional (lawyer, notary, judge, etc.) visit your class free of charge to offer an introductory law workshop.

## Objectives

The workshops help high school students understand the court system, laws and democratic institutions. They also help students develop the ability to recognize the legal dimensions of real-life situations. The program gives you ready made activities that are a perfect fit for the Broad Area of Learning "Citizenship and Community Life".

These workshops are currently offered by our volunteers:

<b>The Law: It's Not Like in the Movies!</b>	Through a mock court trial, students learn about the various actors in the Quebec legal system and the steps in a trial. A legal expert will accompany students in an interactive experience that will take them to the heart of a courtroom.	Secondary 1
<b>Beat the Buzzer!</b>	A game show activity about justice and how the law plays a role in the daily lives of 12-17 year-olds.	Secondary 2
<b>The Small Claims Court Is in Session!</b>	Students stage a mock trial between a consumer and a business. They discover the purpose of the small claims court, how it works, the players involved and their roles.	Secondary 3

<b>Pick Your Side!</b>	In this activity, students must take a position on several issues that will stimulate debate. They will see for themselves that the concept of “justice” evolves constantly and is shaped by the clash of ideas and changing societal values.	Secondary 4
<b>Ready, Set, Invest!</b>	Students step into the shoes of an investor to reflect on ethical business practices. They learn about corporate law, how businesses are structured and operate, and much more.	Secondary 5
<b>The Rules of the Game!</b>	In this game, students answer questions about legal issues in the lives of young adults, such as housing, work, consumer rights and the criminal justice system.	Students aged 16- 25

The pages that follow give more details on each workshop.

If you have suggestions or questions, contact us at [scolaire@educaloi.qc.ca](mailto:scolaire@educaloi.qc.ca)

# Pick Your Side!

Secondary 4  
Teacher's Guide

# Information About the Workshop

Pick Your Side!



## What You Need to Know

<b>Duration:</b>	About 60 minutes
<b>Level:</b>	Secondary 3 and 4
<b>Required Materials (teacher):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Computer, screen and projector</li><li>• Red and green cards (optional)</li></ul>
<b>Subjects:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History and Citizenship Education</li><li>• Ethics and Religious Culture</li><li>• English Language Arts</li></ul>
<b>Broad Areas of Learning:</b>	<p><b>Citizenship and Community Life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promotion of the rules of social conduct and democratic institutions</li><li>• Contribution to a culture of peace</li></ul> <p><b>Career Planning and Entrepreneurship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge of the working world, the nature and demands of roles in society, and of trades and occupations</li></ul>

Debate

# Running the Workshop

Pick Your Side!



## 1. Presentation of the Activity (5 minutes)

Rearrange the classroom, moving desks to the sides of the room so the students can move around the classroom easily. If you think this would be difficult, you can ask students to raise a green card if they agree or a red one if they disagree. Make sure that the teacher has the necessary material with them. If not, you can also ask students to give a thumbs-up if they agree, or a thumbs-down if not.

Variant: In order to create a good environment for debate, ask the students to move their desks to the side of the room and come to the center of the class to show whether they agree or disagree. It's important to mention that everyone's opinions should be listened to with respect.

## 2. Let the Debate Begin! (50 minutes)

- The students stand in the middle of the classroom. The volunteer legal professional reads the statements aloud and the students move to either side of the classroom depending on whether they are for (right side) or against (left side) the statement.

Here are examples of debate topics:

- › **For or against:** It is less serious to threaten someone on the Internet than to threaten that person at school.
- › **For or against:** Someone who is legally a “minor” (under 18 years old) should not be allowed to go out with someone who is legally an adult (18 and over).
- › **For or against:** Teenagers should not be allowed to have plastic surgery.
- Next, there is a debate during which students are asked to explain why they chose one side or the other.
- The volunteer legal professional then shares legal information relating to debate topic.

## 3. Conclusion (5 - 10 minutes)

Question period and comments