

Human Rights are the Basic Standards without which we cannot live in dignity.

Human rights are the rights a person has simply because they are a human being.

To violate someone's human rights is to treat that person as though they are not a human being

Human Rights Principles:

- ❖ **Equality** (all humans have equal worth; none is superior or inferior, therefore, all human beings have the same rights).
- ❖ **Human Dignity** (human rights acknowledge, describe and protect the fundamental conditions of respect and freedom to which all people are entitled). *All persons are born free and equal in worth, dignity and rights.*
- ❖ **Non-Discrimination** (people must be protected us from the denial or violation of our rights based on any aspect of our identity—race, ethnicity, national origin, language, color, gender identity, class, status, ability, age, religion, sexual orientation, etc.)
- ❖ **Universality** (human rights are held equally by all people, in all regions, everywhere)
- ❖ **Inalienability** (human rights cannot be waived, taken or given away; we cannot lose these rights any more than you can cease being a human being; they are ours because we are human)
- ❖ **Indivisibility** (rights aren't prioritized as more/less important or non-essential; you can't be denied a right because it is "less important" or "non-essential." They cannot be divided or reduced; they work as an indivisible body of civil, social, political economic and cultural rights.
- ❖ **Interdependency** (the power of human rights is that they are interconnected and part of a complementary framework; they reinforce one another; the strength of one depends on the presence of the others. Your right to participate in government is affected by your right to express yourself, get an education, etc.)
- ❖ **Accountability/Responsibility** (human rights carry an obligation to uphold and protect the rights of both individuals and groups of people; ***By claiming these human rights, we also have to accept the [responsibility](#) not to infringe on the rights of others and to support those whose rights are abused or denied.***
- ❖ **States signers are accountable to one another to bring their laws and practices into compliance with the articles of the treaties they have ratified**