

Human Rights Day: suggested activities for your community brochure. December 10, 1952

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Human Rights Day

December 10, 1952

Suggested Activities for Your Community

Library of the University of Wisconsin

Bureau of Information and Program Services University Extension Division University of Wisconsin

SOME SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IN YOUR COMMUNITY*

How Municipal Authorities Celebrate the Day

1. Chief authority issues Human Rights Day Proclamation.

2. Council adopts Human Rights Day resolution.

3. Local educational authorities stimulate celebrations in schools.

4. Municipal government sponsors concert, public meetings, or study groups.

5. Municipal government sponsors broadcast of international, national, or local celebration.6. Municipal government sponsors exhibits in libraries, museums, public buildings, etc.

7. Municipal government sponsors film showing.

8. Municipal government calls on non-governmental organizations to co-operate in planning and executing celebration.

How Colleges and Universities Celebrate the Day

Sponsor public lectures by members of the faculty on historical and other aspects of the Declaration.

Sponsor student assemblies or university-wide ceremonies.

3. Sponsor student debating, essay, fine arts, dramatic, or musical contests on the theme of Human Rights.

4. Arrange Human Rights exhibits in college libraries.

5. Sponsor Human Rights broadcasts.

6. Sponsor student model meeting of Commission on Human Rights.

7. Publish Universal Declaration of Human Rights in college paper or periodical.

How Schools Celebrate the Day

1. Distribute text widely in the schools.

2. Arrange a pageant in which all schools in the community take part.

 Prepare several weeks in advance for celebration in the school, through class activities such as history, art, music.

4. Display posters and other exhibit material prepared by pupils.

5. Hold a school assembly, including music, reading all or part of the Declaration, talk by a teacher, reading of statements by national leaders.

Study text of the Declaration in higher classes. Each student selects one article and gives his own interpretation which is discussed by class.

7. In class, relate selected articles to history, literature, civics.

8. Study the connection between rights and duties, with examples drawn from pupils' experience.

9. In school assemblies or class work, show how the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies helps to establish conditions under which Human Rights can be widely achieved.

10. Sponsor intermural or interscholastic debating, essay, or poster contests.

How Non-Governmental Organizations Celebrate the Day

Hold special local or state meetings.

2. Reprint the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in organization journals.

- 3. Co-operate with government, UNESCO National Commissions, and U. N. Information Centers in national celebrations.
- 4. Join with other organizations in planning local activities, such as concerts, human rights institutes, conferences, or other special observances.

5. Prepare and release special press and radio material.

6. Organize public exhibitions, art competitions, essays, or debating contests.

7. Conduct community action projects or surveys.

^{*}Adopted from Human Rights Day, published by the United Nations and UNESCO

How Press, Radio, Television and Cinema Celebrate the Day

1. Press reproduces the text of the Declaration.

2.

Press reports celebrations.
Press prints editorials on Human Rights, photo 3. features, stories, and cartoons.

Radio broadcasts U.N. Headquarters celebrations. 4. 5. Radio broadcasts special U.N., UNESCO radio

documentaries and features.

6. Radio and television originate and broadcast feature programs.

7. Radio and television use Human Rights Day

spot announcements.

8. Cinemas show special Human Rights films.

SOME FACTS ABOUT UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Millions of copies have been circulated in 46 languages. It has had an acknowledged influence on the new constitutions of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Haiti, Indonesia, Syria, and Puerto Rica, and on projected legislation in Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. It appears as a standard of achievement for Japan in the Preamble to the Japanese Peace Treaty. It has been cited as a source of law in the International Court of Justice and in the courts of Austria, Netherlands, and the United States of America. Its definition of rights and freedoms are a vital part of the United Nations program for peace and of the work of UNESCO to raise the educational, scientific, and cultural standards of the world. But perhaps its most important effect has been on the thoughts and actions of individuals and organizations, creating new hope and inspiration.

^{*}Material for exhibits, posters, and study can be secured directly by writing United Nations, Lake Success, New York.