

RIGHTS IN PRACTICE

LESSON 7: IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

Lesson aim:

- To assist students to understand the application of the law through case studies.
- Enable students to identify rights and potential breaches in real situations.
- To provide students with information on where to get help if rights are breached.
- To outline the institutions and mechanisms for redress.

Learning objectives:

At the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- link their learning to real life situations by identifying potential problems in case studies;
- identify breaches of rights and how to resolve the situation;
- outline what should be done if their rights have been breached including where they can get support and advice; and
- list the institutions and mechanism for redress and resolution.

Lesson outline:

Ensure students have copies of all the legislation contained in this resource. Additional information can be downloaded from www.unionconnect.ie or www.employmentrights.ie

Give students **Worksheet 7** to read through and complete.

Students group activity: Exploitation in the workplace (Drama)

Ask students to write a drama based on what they have learned and know about the workplace. The drama should outline clearly the problem/issue faced

in the workplace, what can be done, who can help and how it should be addressed. It should contain a number of roles such as a) worker(s), b) supervisor(s) c) workplace representative, d) management representative, e) others such as trade union officials etc.

When each drama is completed, it should then be acted out in front of the entire class who will be asked to observe the drama. Students observing each drama should be asked to answer the following:

1. What were the issues involved in this situation?
2. Is this situation legal? Please explain.
3. What would you do in this situation?
4. Who would you go to for help?
5. What would make this workplace better?
6. How would you go about making those changes?

Optional student activity: Field trip

The Employment Appeals Tribunal hears cases that are open to the public. Schools often arrange to have a class attend a public hearing with an introductory talk by tribunal personnel prior to the hearing. Before arranging the field trip students should be asked to prepare a set of questions which they would like to ask on the visit to the tribunal.

Students should then request a visit by writing directly to the Employment Appeals Tribunal. Further detail on this is available on the Youth Connect website www.youth-connect.ie

There are additional worksheets numbered 8 to 11 at the back of this module. It is recommended that these activities are used to reinforce the learning from this module and should only be attempted after completing an activity from each of the seven lessons in this module.

Additional lesson plans and worksheets can be downloaded from the teachers' area on the YouthConnect website www.youth-connect.ie