

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
WATCH

# Standing Up for Human Rights

## What is Happening to Human Rights in the World



# Who We Are

HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
WATCH

We are called Human Rights Watch.

Human rights are rights that everyone has.

Like the right to:

- Be treated fairly and be safe
- Speak up and have a say
- Go to school and work
- Have a family and a place to live
- Use everything in the community, like transport, buildings and information



We work to make sure everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their human rights.

# What Is This Report About?



This report is about our human rights and what we found is happening to human rights in the world.

## Why Are Some People Against Human Rights?



Many people are worried or upset about things happening in the world, like:

- Problems with money and jobs
- People coming from other countries to live in their country
- Terrorism, where people use bombs and guns to kill people to make a point



Some leaders try to blame certain groups of people for these problems. For example, people from other countries or religions.



This puts those people's human rights in danger.

For example, people may believe what the leaders say and think bad things about those groups of people.



So this does not happen, it is important to help people know about human rights and why they are important for everyone.

## What Is Happening to Human Rights Now?

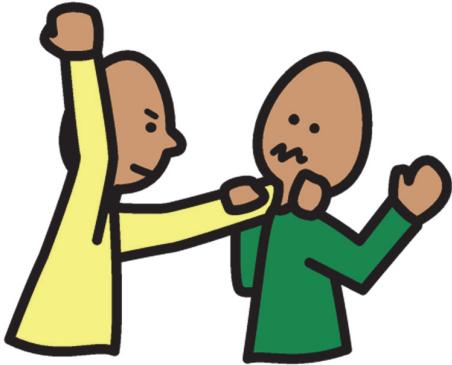


Many leaders in the world have done bad things to people and tried to stop them getting their human rights.



For example, there have been big human rights problems in countries including:

- Turkey
- Egypt
- Libya
- Russia
- China
- Yemen
- Burma



Many bad things have happened in these countries.

For example, many people have been hurt or killed in violence that leaders have started.



### **Yemen**

Saudi Arabia and other countries are in a war with a group of fighters in Yemen.

Many people in Yemen have been hurt, killed, or left without food and medicine because of this.

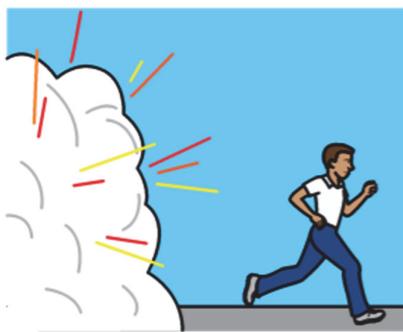
### **Burma**

The army in Burma started hurting and killing a group of Muslim people who live there.

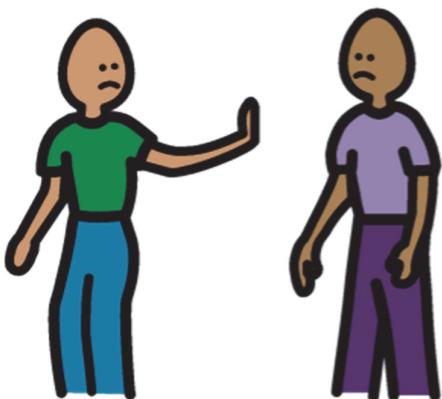
They did this because of a problem with a small group of Muslim fighters.



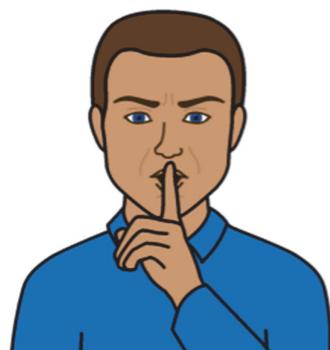
Now the army has killed and raped many Muslim people and burned their homes.



Refugees are people who are forced to leave their countries because of problems like war and violence.

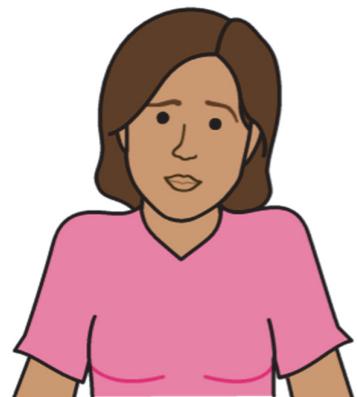
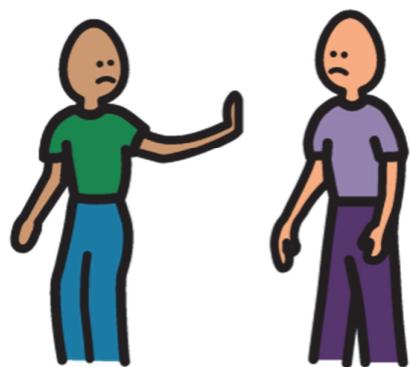


Many refugees have been sent back home to danger because leaders do not want them in their countries.



Leaders of some countries have also tried to:

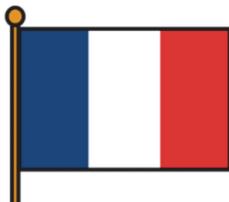
- Stop people speaking out against them
- Stop other countries and groups standing up to them
- Stop groups that help people with their human rights



Many bigger countries in the world have done nothing to stop these things happening.

# Standing Up for Human Rights

Many bad things have happened in the world. But many people in the world have also stood up for human rights.

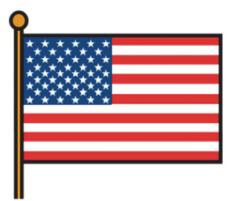


## France



The leader of France stood up for the rights of Muslim people and other people before he became leader.

People in France chose him to be leader. This means they stood up for human rights too.



## United States



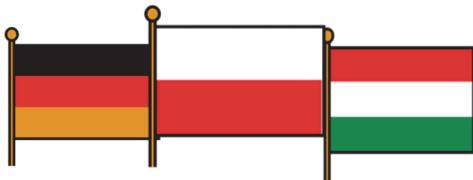
The leader of the United States has said bad things about many groups of people.

For example, people from Mexico, Muslim people and women.

And he has done things that go against people's human rights.



But many people in the United States have stood up against this. They said it is wrong.



## Germany, Poland and Hungary

Some leaders and groups in these countries have worked against human rights.



For example, the leader of Hungary tried to close a university because people at the university have different ideas to him.

But other people worked to stop this happening.



## Venezuela

The leader of Venezuela has caused big money problems in the country.

Now many people cannot get the food or medicine they need.

Many people in Venezuela got together to show they were unhappy with this.

Some people were badly hurt because they stood up for their rights.



## Africa



Some good things have happened for human rights in Africa.

For example, people got together to say they were unhappy with the leaders of Gambia and Zimbabwe.

These leaders did bad things for human rights. They are not leaders now.



The International Criminal Court decides if people have done very bad things.

For example, killing many men, women and children during a war.



Some leaders in Africa said they would stop being part of the International Criminal Court.

But only one country left in the end.



Many groups in Africa helped with this.

They told their governments to stay in the International Criminal Court.



## Smaller Countries Standing Up for Human Rights

Some smaller countries joined together to stand up for human rights.



The United Nations is an organization that can look into big human rights problems in the world.

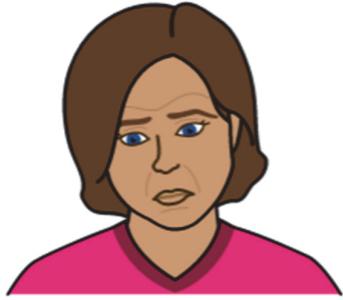


Some smaller countries got the United Nations to do something about problems in:

- Syria
- Yemen
- The Philippines



Smaller countries did this even when bigger countries did nothing or tried to stop it.



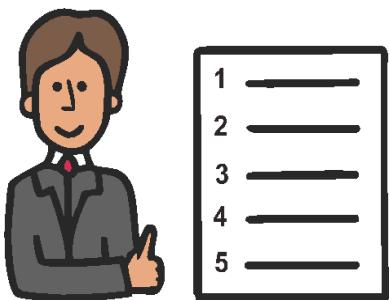
## The Rights of Women

Some leaders have worked against women's rights.



For example, Russia made it harder for women to get help from the police and courts if someone hurts them at home.

But many other countries have stood up for women's rights.



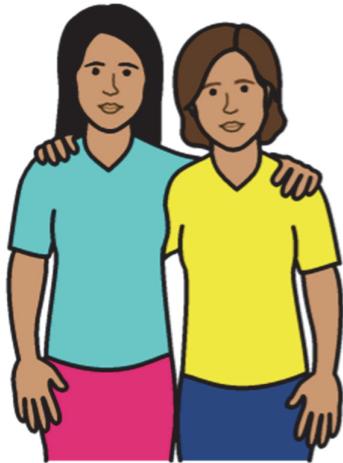
For example, some countries have:

- Started new projects and plans to help women and girls get their rights



- Made it illegal for people who rape women and girls to get away with it by getting married to them

## The Rights of LGBT People



LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender.

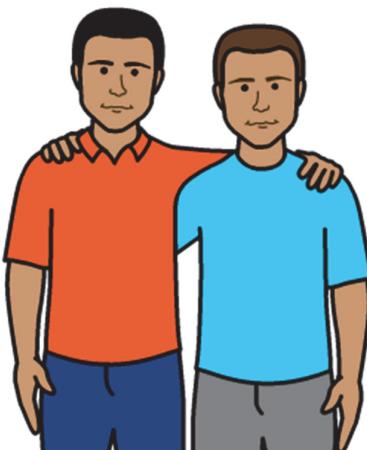
This is about lots of things, like:

- Who people may like or want a relationship with
- What gender people are (if people are a man, a woman or something else)



Many countries have done bad things to LGBT people.

For example, LGBT people in some countries have been arrested, hurt or killed because leaders think it is wrong to be an LGBT person.



But many people and countries have supported the rights of LGBT people.

For example, they have said that LGBT people have the right to get married if they want to.



There are still many problems for human rights in the world.



But many people and governments in the world have stood up for human rights.

This shows that the world still believes in human rights.

And that something can be done about leaders who work against human rights.