

SCHOOLS GUIDE: SUPPORTING STUDENT ACTIVISTS

WHAT IS STUDENT ACTIVISM?

Work by students to cause political, environmental, economic, or social change. A protected First Amendment Right.



STUDENTS ARE HURTING

Students are constantly exposed to the daily atrocities that are egregious in Palestine and may have personal connection via family, history, and shared culture, or a humanitarian connection. They feel helpless and want an avenue to channel their outrage in a productive way to create change in governments, institutions, and media.

“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”-MANDELA

We have always taught our students to stand up against injustice and to be leaders. We, as educators, are responsible for allowing and teaching students how to use their rights effectively.

ARE PROTESTS INHERENTLY DISRUPTIVE?

Without a doubt! In fact, their effectiveness as protests hinges on this very disruption. By affording students a secure space to express their dissent, we not only empower them but also ensure their protection.

WILL THEIR ACTIVISM MAKE SOME PEOPLE FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE?

Absolutely! Challenging authority, governments and the public to take action inevitably make people uncomfortable. Yet, it is our job to facilitate a safe environment for our students to do so.

STUDENT LED INITIATIVES EXAMPLES:

- Teach-ins
- Walk-outs
- Day of solidarity (Wearing certain apparel)
- Hanging Signage/Posters
- Conducting petitions and surveys
- Boycotts
- Protests/Rallies



HOW TO SUPPORT?

Have an open mind. Do not try to diminish their cause or come in with preconceived notions about what they are standing for.

- Listen to what they are advocating for and respond accordingly.
- Stand up in support of your student activists who may be facing and resisting instances of bullying or harassment

CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR ACTIVISM.

- Create a healthy space for discourse.
- Allow students to wear apparel to show their solidarity.
- Guide and Support: Invite students to discuss any potential activism work they wish to enact with you.
- Teach students their First Amendment Rights and how to be safe during any form of protest.

Student Activist: School Resources

Articles on youth activism:

Student Affairs Educators Supporting Student Activism



Making Space for youth activism



Making Space for Youth Activism

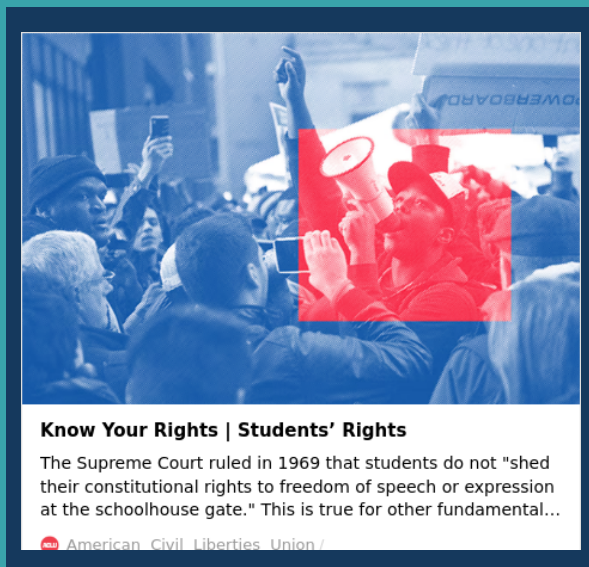
Schools can be safe environments for students to explore ways to improve the world and the communities they live in.

Teach For America

Tips for Teachers and Parents

<https://www.loyola.edu/school-education/blog/2019/supporting-student-activism>

Know Your Rights

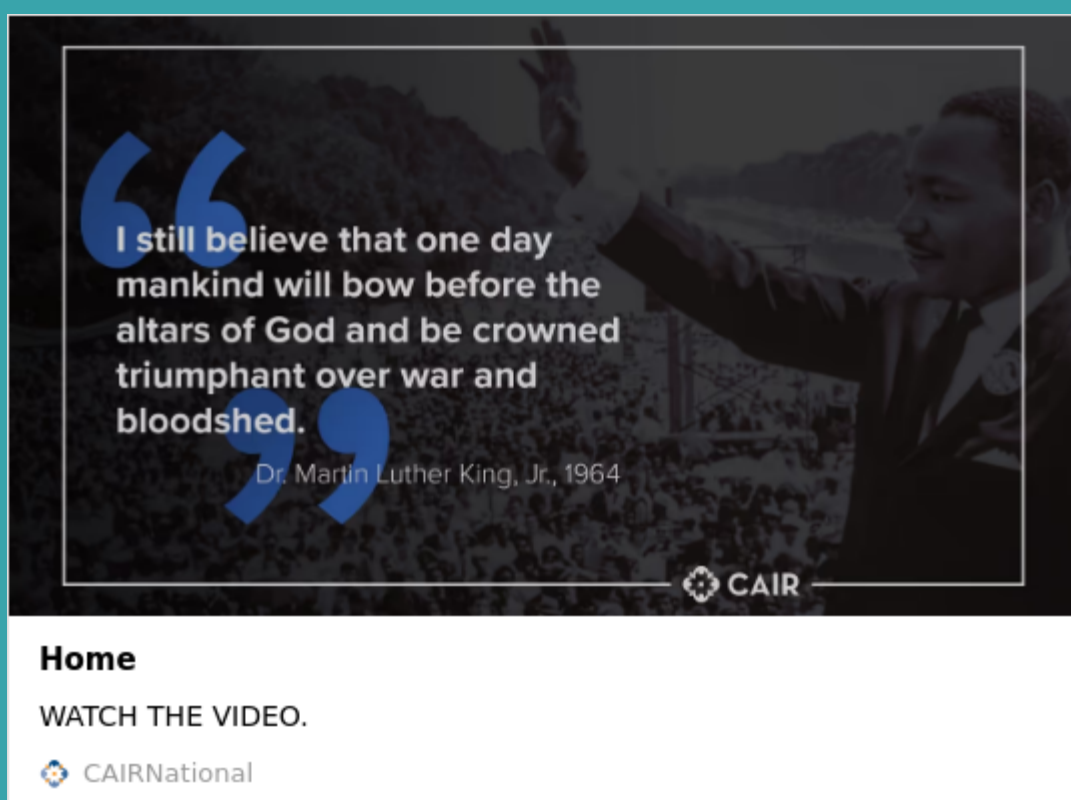


20 Teen Activists Who Inspire Us To Do More Good



Organizations for Support

CAIR



TEACHING WHILE MUSLIM



TEACHING WHILE MUSLIM

Teaching While Muslim

Just a few Muslim-American teachers thinking aloud about our experiences, our students, and the need for a more socially just education system

Teaching While Muslim

PALESTINIAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

PALESTINIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Our mission is to sustain and strengthen ties to Palestinian heritage while empowering the success and well being of the entire community.

PALESTINIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER