

Your Right to Education:

A handbook for refugees and displaced communities

USER GUIDE



The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children created ***Your Right to Education: A handbook for refugees and displaced communities*** to raise awareness of everyone's right to education. The handbook uses drawings that readers at all levels can understand.

We hope that you will share *Your Right to Education* with **children, young people and adults** in your community to help them better understand the right to education, how it fits with other human rights and the benefits that education may bring. We also hope that *Your Right to Education* will serve as a tool to discuss these issues in depth and to encourage action to expand and improve education in displaced communities.

Who should get a copy of *Your Right to Education*?

- **Children, young people and adults, including:**
 - Camp education committee members
 - Community leaders or elders
 - Teachers
 - Parents
 - Parent-Teacher Associations
 - Peer educators
 - Youth groups



How can **children and young people** use *Your Right to Education*?

- **Read *Your Right to Education* with a group of children and discuss the images and ideas presented in the book. Children can color in the pictures. You can use these discussion questions:**
 - What rights do all people have? How are these rights connected to your right to education?
 - How do you think some of the characters in these illustrations overcame the challenges they faced? How did getting an education improve their lives and communities?
 - What do you think would help you and your friends achieve your right to education?
- **Choose one of the illustrations in this book, and write, tell or act out a story about the characters.**
- **Draw pictures illustrating the important themes in this book as they relate to your experiences.** For example, draw pictures to illustrate your dream for the future and how education will help you to achieve them.
- **Perform a role-play or skit in which you explain the right to education to someone else in your community.**

How can adults and young people use *Your Right to Education*?

- **Hold a discussion about the ideas presented in *Your Right to Education*, and connect these ideas to issues in your own community. Questions you can discuss include:**
 - Who in our community doesn't know that all children have a right to education? What actions can we take to increase their awareness and understanding of these rights?
 - Do children in our community enjoy the seven freedoms upholding a right to education? Which children do? Which do not? What can we do to protect those freedoms?
 - What can we do to support schooling and learning so that we all enjoy the benefits of an educated community?
- **Develop activities and plans to support education in your community.**
- **Practice sharing these ideas with others through role-playing a conversation** with a person who is less familiar with these concepts. Help him or her to better understand them.
- **Discuss the right to education in community meetings**, to make sure that leaders, community groups and others understand the connection between education and other basic rights and community needs.
- **Create a poster campaign to promote awareness of the right to education.** Design slogans and images that are relevant to the issues in your own community. Hang posters in public spaces that are visited by children, young people and adults.

You can find more ideas for activities to share *Your Right to Education* at: http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/right_to_ed_activities.pdf

Your Right to Education is the second in a series of tools that the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children and Pearson Foundation developed to improve access to quality education for displaced communities. The first book, *Right to Education during Displacement: A resource for organizations working with refugees and internally displaced persons*, is available at http://www.womenscommission.org/pdf/right_to_ed.pdf.

To order additional copies or share suggestions on how to improve these handbooks, please email: info@womenscommission.org or send a letter to: Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, 122 East 42nd Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10168, USA.

