



Activity 3: A moving debate about Children's Rights in Ireland

Aim

To initiate discussion about Children's Rights in Ireland

Resource(s) required

Barnardos Factsheet

Time

70-80 minutes (double class)

Instructions

Divide the room up so that students can stand in three different corners named Agree, Disagree and Don't Know. Call out each of the statements (outlined below) in turn and have students move into the parts of the room which they agree with.

When students have placed themselves in their category ask them to spend eight minutes deciding among themselves why they either Agree, Disagree or Don't know about the statement. Then each of the three groups justifies the reasons for their answer. Continue through all statements.

- Most Children in Ireland know their Rights
- Children's Rights in Ireland are respected
- My voice can make a difference
- An education is not essential for a child to develop
- An unsafe upbringing does not affect a child in later life
- Poverty in Ireland does not affect me

Follow-up activity

Ask students to come up with five ways to influence and improve Children's Rights in Ireland. Direct the students to the [Advocacy section of the Barnardos website](#) for further information.

While this activity is designed to be facilitated by a teacher, Barnardos have a dedicated schools officer who can visit your school and run this activity together with our other [schools programmes](#). Contact John Wills on (01) 7080 470 or at john.wills@barnardos.ie.