



# *Educator's Toolkit*

## FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) has several resources for educators and programs across all grade levels. The Educator's Toolkit highlights the resources TYLA has created for educators. Several of these resources meet Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards, include viewing guides and/or curriculum materials, and address important social issues that affect students of all grades. Each of these resources can be found at [www.tyla.org](http://www.tyla.org).

### General Resources

#### *Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.*



[Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.](http://teachsafe.tyla.org) is a dynamic multimedia website that provides an overview of legal issues and laws affecting education. The website presents information in an understandable, easy to use format across five broad categories: (1) teachers, (2) parents, (3) administration, (4) special education, and (5) social media. This resource addresses issues related to privacy, employment matters, discipline, bullying, special education processes, sexual misconduct, and other pertinent topics. *Teach Safe. Learn Safe. Be Safe.* is available at <http://teachsafe.tyla.org>.

#### *Educating Educators*



[Educating Educators](http://tyla.org/resource/educating-educators) is a guide designed to educate teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals about their rights, responsibilities, and legal obligations. This guide aids educators in fostering appropriate relationships with students, parents, and administrators and provides guidance concerning reporting obligations for child abuse and human trafficking. The guide also addresses the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), educators' rights and responsibilities under FERPA, and common legal pitfalls educators face. Printed copies of the guide are available from TYLA upon request, and a PDF version is available at [tyla.org/resource/educating-educators](http://tyla.org/resource/educating-educators).

# TEKS-Targeted Resources

## *Not In My Backyard!*



Targeted TEKS: E.5(F); E.9(F); E.9(K)

[\*Not in My Backyard\*](#) introduces students to fundamental principles of environmental law, public policy, and environmental state agency functions. Through role play, *Not in My Backyard* enables students to simulate the process of selecting a location for a landfill and navigating the regulations governing its operation.

## *Proud To Be An American*



Targeted TEKS: WH.19(B); USG.1(D); US.25(B)

Through animated and documentary-style videos, [\*Proud to Be an American\*](#) guides students through an exploration of the basic rights of American citizens. For elementary-aged students, there are two animated modules that discuss the rights and responsibilities of American citizens and the origins of the United States. For middle school and high school students, there are six modules that discuss the rights and responsibilities of American citizens through the stories of immigrants, scholars, a voting rights expert, and various elected officials. Also available are worksheets, games, essay prompts, and debate topics that allow students to explore these issues further. *Proud to Be an American* is available at [tyla.org/resource/proud-to-be-an-american](http://tyla.org/resource/proud-to-be-an-american).

## *They Had A Dream Too*



Targeted TEKS: US.9(A), (B), (C), (D), (F), (G), (H), (I), (J)

[\*They Had a Dream Too: Young Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement\*](#) is a multimedia, historical experience focused on educating 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students about heroes of the Civil Rights Movement. Through a 30-minute educational video, an extensive curriculum handout, and online resources including biographies and supplemental videos, students will learn about the achievements of notable young people who made a difference in the 1950s and 1960s when the struggle for civil rights was at its peak in the United States. *They Had a Dream Too: Young Leaders of the Civil Rights Movement* is a project designed to challenge and inspire students, and shape future leaders. This resource is available at [theyhadadreamtoo.org](http://theyhadadreamtoo.org).

## *Vote America!*



Targeted TEKS: US.8(F); US.9(A), (G)

The [\*Vote America! Honor the Fight, Exercise Your Right\*](#) project is a non-partisan public service project designed to educate students about the heroic efforts made to ensure equality and democracy for all. It is comprised of a video addressing the civil rights era, passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the 15<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The video is available at [tyla.org/resource/vote-america](http://tyla.org/resource/vote-america)

# Social Issues Resources for Students

## *End Bullying Now*



Targeted TEKS: § 115.32(b) – Health Education

[End Bullying Now](http://www.biggerthanbullies.com) is a comprehensive anti-bullying website that features stories about individuals who have endured bullying, including actors, athletes, notable business people, and students. *End Bullying Now* is geared toward kids, teens, and adults, provides resources for identifying and addressing bullying, and educates bullied individuals on their legal rights. This resource is available at [www.biggerthanbullies.com](http://www.biggerthanbullies.com).

## *Loves Me, Loves Me Not*



Targeted TEKS: § 115.32(b), Health Education

[Loves Me, Loves Me Not: Teen Dating Violence](#) is an insightful booklet on teen dating violence. The booklet addresses the signs of dating violence, types of dating violence, and tips for dating safety and reporting dating violence.

## *R U Safe? Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace*



Targeted TEKS: § 115.32(b), Health Education

[R U Safe? Protecting Yourself in Cyberspace](#) is designed to expose children and their parents to the dangers lurking online and the tools available to keep them safe. Through experts in law enforcement and children’s advocacy groups, viewers learn about topics including cyber bullying, social networking sites, chat rooms, “sexting,” and online predators.

## *The Choice*



Targeted TEKS: TAC § 115.32(b), 33(b), Health Education

[The Choice](#) is designed to help middle school and high school students make smart decisions. Through videos and written curriculum, *The Choice* engages students in conversations about the decisions individuals make and the consequences, both good and bad, associated with those decisions.

## *The Unconscious Truth*



Targeted TEKS: TAC Sections § 115.32(b), 115.33(b), Health Education

[The Unconscious Truth—The Physical and Legal Effects of Underage Binge Drinking](#) is a multi-media project created to educate students and parents about the dangers of binge drinking. By watching a series of videos and engaging in facilitated discussion, students and parents will learn about the signs of alcohol poisoning, the duties, if any, of the drinker’s friends, and the potential criminal and civil implications for those involved, including parents and bystanders. Viewers hear the stories of “Shelby,” “Hannah,” and the “Boys,” each of whom learn the dire consequences of their decisions to binge drink. There is an accompanying guide that helps facilitate candid conversations around this sensitive topic.

# Education Resources About Careers in Law

## *I Was The First*



Targeted TEKS: US.23(A), (D); USG.1(D), (F)

[I was the First. You can be a Lawyer too!](http://www.iwasthefirst.tyla.org) is a website that features videos about first generation lawyers who have made significant contributions in Texas and throughout the nation. Individuals featured in this resource include Alexander Hamilton, Hillary Clinton, John Adams, John Marshall, Sandra Day O'Connor, Sonia Sotomayor, and Thurgood Marshall. Each video also includes an accompanying viewing guide. This resource is available at [www.iwasthefirst.tyla.org](http://www.iwasthefirst.tyla.org).

## *What Do Lawyers Do?*



Targeted TEKS: TAC §§ 130.339 and 130.340, Forensic Science

[What Do Lawyers Do?](http://wld.tyla.org) is an interactive web-based project designed to educate high school students about what it takes to become a lawyer. The website is divided into three sections: life before law school, life during law school, and life after law school. *What Do Lawyers Do?* is available at [wld.tyla.org](http://wld.tyla.org).

## *You're Hired! Now What?*



Targeted TEKS: § 127.12(b)(3). Project Based Research Class

[You're Hired! Now What?](http://www.yourehirednowwhat.com) is a video program designed to teach students about rules governing discriminatory or unfair workplace environments. Through a series of vignettes, students will learn how to combat unfair treatment or harassment due to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or age. Other vignettes address issues such as retaliation in the workplace, worker's compensation claims for on-the-job accidents, wage and hour requirements, and the denial of reasonable workplace changes due to religious beliefs or disability.

## Coming Soon!

## *Your Voice Now!*



We're currently working on producing this year's new project, which will educate students, parents, educators, administrators, and the public on First Amendment issues in public schools. The project will feature an interactive, comprehensive website that we expect to be up and running this spring!