



The Convention on the Rights of the Child says...

Article 28 – Make education free and higher education accessible to all. Give children dignity in discipline. Encourage international cooperation to eliminate illiteracy and access to scientific and technical knowledge.

Article 29 – Education will develop individuality, respect for human rights, parents, and the environment.

**Also see UDHR Article 26*

Key Questions

- What does it mean to have the Right to Education?
- What areas of our city lack access to education, libraries, after-school programs, and related services?
- How does safety affect a student's access to education?
- Have budget cuts and teacher lay-offs affected local access to education?
- How is your access education compared to students in other parts of the world?

Facts and Figures

How does California rank compared to other states?

- **44 in K-12 spending per student** – \$2,546 less per student than the rest of the US.
- **50 in students per teacher** – 21.3 students per teacher in 2009-10 – 50% more than the US average.
- **46 in students per administrator** – 358 students per administrator in 2007-08 – 216 in the US.
- **49 in students per guidance counselor** – 809 students per counselor in 2007-08 – the US averaged 440.
- **50 in students per librarian** – 5,038 students per librarian in 2007-08 – the US averaged 809 students.
- **41 in graduation rate (62.7%)** – LAUSD was 22% below CA average (40.6%), 28% below US average.

Source: "Race to the Bottom? California's Support for Schools Lags the Nation." California Budget Project www.cbp.org.

Experience of Students in Los Angeles Schools

[Schwarzenegger's Budget Cuts Affect Inner-City Schools Most](#) – Associated Press June 28, 2010

[Budget cuts hurt Arts Education Plan](#) – The South Los Angeles Report April 2, 2010

[Not-so-free education](#) – LA Times October 07, 2010

[Court finds CA dumping interns on poor schools](#) – Associated Press September 28, 2010

Tent Activities and Outfitting Ideas

- Create a sample classroom using materials (notebooks, pencils, desk, chalkboard) and cut a portion out to show a lack of resources
- On a chalkboard write, "Your teacher today is Ms..., tomorrow is Mr..., the next day is..."
- Write the question on a blackboard, "What does the right to education mean."
- Post school reports showing the disparity between teacher-student ratios, libraries, spending, etc.

Further Resources

UCLA Institute for Democracy, Education and Access - <http://idea.gseis.ucla.edu>

A Department of Education School Report Cards - <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sa/>

LAUSD School Report Cards - www.lausd.k12.ca.us/reportcard

National Center for Education Statistics - <http://nces.ed.gov>

Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE) - <http://pace.berkeley.edu/>

Ed-Data - Fiscal, Demographic, and Performance Data on CA Schools - www.ed-data.k12.ca.us