If you believe your constitutional rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with the ACLU of Texas online at aclutx.org or with the Texas Civil Rights Project online at texascivilrightsp.org.

If you have questions about the school discipline process, contact Texas Appleseed at info@texasappleseed.net.

**CAN I ORGANIZE A PROTEST IN SCHOOL?**

Yes. The First Amendment protects your right to express your political views at school. You can organize a peaceful, orderly protest during school hours, but you must comply with school rules about protest signs and other materials. Your school can limit activity that is disruptive to the school's educational mission or that interferes with school operations.

**CAN MY SCHOOL PLACE ANY LIMITS ON MY RIGHT TO EXPRESS MYSELF?**

Yes. Schools can regulate speech for two reasons: (1) to impose reasonable rules to regulate the time, place and manner of speech, and (2) to impose reasonable “content-neutral” rules limiting certain categories of speech when they have a good reason, for example, to maintain order or discipline. Check out your school code of conduct for information on the school’s rules for student expression.

**CAN I EXPRESS MY POLITICAL VIEWS AT SCHOOL?**

Yes. The First Amendment protects your right to express your political views at school. You can organize a peaceful, orderly protest during school hours, but you must comply with school rules about protest signs and other materials. Your school can limit activity that is disruptive to the school’s educational mission or that interferes with school operations.

**CAN I BE PUNISHED FOR PARTICIPATING IN A WALKOUT?**

Yes. The law requires you to attend school, and your school has policies about the consequences of missing school without permission. It’s important to make informed decisions about exercising your rights.

**OUR VOICES ARE AMONG THE MOST POWERFUL TOOLS WE HAVE, BUT EXERCISING OUR FREE SPEECH RIGHTS CAN ALSO INVOLVE RISKS.**

You may be acting within your rights, but you may have to defend your actions in school or even go to court. And, when your speech is exercised during an act of civil disobedience, your speech can carry consequences.