

## The Law Quiz – Wall Exercise

Activity for training of teachers, school administrators and other school employees.

1. Hang the questions around the wall of a classroom
2. Give each student 14 sticky dots to “vote” with ... to put next to the answer they think is correct.
3. Go around the room and debrief, using the Law Quiz answer key to elaborate.

1. Students have the right to form a Gay Straight Alliance.
  - a. True, but only in schools in King County
  - b. True, but only in public schools in Washington State
  - c. True, in federally-funded public secondary schools with other non-curricular clubs anywhere in the U.S.
  - d. False

2. School districts in Washington State must ban bullying based on what real or perceived characteristics?
  - a. Race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and gender expression or identity
  - b. Race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, disability, and sexual orientation (but not gender expression and identity)

- c. Race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, and disability (but neither sexual orientation nor gender identity)
- d. None of the above; it is a local school board decision

3. Students in Washington State have a right to express their opinions about sexual orientation (pro or con) at school, unless their expression:
  - a. Physically harms a student or damages the student's property.
  - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education.

- c. Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment.
- d. Substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.
- e. A and C
- f. all of the above

4. By law, all school districts in Washington State must teach about sexual diversity (biological sex, gender identity & expression, sexual orientation).
  - a. True, in all grades
  - b. True, in secondary schools
  - c. True, in public secondary schools
  - d. False; it is a local school board decision

5. A public school may not discriminate against a student based on the student's gender nonconformity.
- a. True, in Washington State
  - b. True, in 12 other states but not in Washington
  - c. True, anywhere in the United States
  - d. A and C
  - e. None of the above

6. Do public school students have a legal right to participate in the Day of Silence?
  - a. Yes, in most circumstances. It's a matter of freedom of speech
  - b. No, unless the school approves the event in advance.
  - c. No, it's a disruption of the school environment

7. Does a school *have* to allow a student to take a same-gender date to prom?
- a. Yes, it's a matter of free speech and equal treatment under law
  - b. Maybe
  - c. No, a school can prohibit that as a matter of safety

8. Do students have a right to come out (to tell people they're LGBTQ)?
- a. Yes.
  - b. Yes, unless the school considers that unsafe
  - c. Only if they are at least eighteen.
  - d. No, it isn't a protected behavior

9. Do teachers have a legal right to come out to their students (to tell people they're LGBTQ)?
- a. Yes, it's federal law
  - b. Not legally, but many collective bargaining agreements have an "academic freedom" provision
  - c. Washington law probably allows a teacher to come out if it serves the students' needs.
  - d. B and C

10. Do students have a legal right to hold hands with their same-gender girlfriend or boyfriend at school?
- a. Yes, if heterosexual couples hold hands at school
  - b. No, there's no legal right to public displays of affection
  - c. No, but some districts' policies protect the right
  - d. A and B

11. Does a principal have a legal right to let parents know if a student comes out (as LGBTQ) at school?
- a. Yes, and parents have a right to know if their child is LGBTQ
  - b. Yes, under Washington State law, but not federal law
  - c. Probably not.
  - d. No, the student has a right to privacy.

12. Does a student have a legal right in Washington State to use the bathroom that conforms to their gender identity?

a. Probably

b. Yes, but only with parent or guardian written request

c. No

13. Is there a legal right to have graffiti about you or slurs about people of your race, religion, etc. removed from school property in a timely way?
- a. Yes, under Washington State law
  - b. Yes, if it is about them personally, but not if it disparages a class of people
  - c. No, but some districts provide that protection by policy

14. Do school employees have a legal responsibility to take action when they hear anti-LGBT slurs in the hallways or on the playground?
- a. In most circumstances, yes, under both state and federal law
  - b. Not federally, but in Washington State that's the law
  - c. No, but some districts provide that protection by policy