

“I have the right to live under a roof, to be warm but not too hot, not to be poor and to have just enough of what I need, not more.”

“I have the right to have enough food to eat and water to drink so that I can grow.”

“I have the right to a first name, a last name, a family that smiles at me, and a country that I can call my home.”

“I have the right to be cured with the best medicines that were ever invented.”

“I have the right to go to school without having to pay, so that I can learn how birds or planes or poppy seeds fly.”

“I have the same rights whether I am a girl or a boy. Boys and girls love to sing the same songs!”

“I have exactly the same right be respected, whether I am black or white, small or big, rich or poor, born here or somewhere else.”

“I have the right to be helped by my parents, my friends and my country... if my body doesn't work as well as other children's.”

“I have the right to be free from any kind of violence, and no one has the right to take advantage of me because I am a child. **No one.**”

“I have the right to go to school and to refuse to go to work. I'll choose a job when I've learned everything I want to know.”

“I have the right to be protected by adults and to be sheltered from disasters under a great big umbrella, whether there’s too much rain or because of other sad things.”

“I have the right never to experience the storm of war or the thunder of weapons. I am afraid of guided missiles and smart bombs.”

“I have the right to breathe clean air that’s as pure as the blue sky or a newborn polar bear cub.”

“I have the right to play, to create, to imagine, to make faces and to leap around... and also to have friends, because dancing alone isn’t very much fun.”

“I have the right to learn about friendship, peace, and respect for our planet and for each human being who lives on it, for each animal that inhabits it, for each plant that nourishes it.”

“I have the right to express myself completely freely- to say what I truly think about everything, even if it doesn't always please my dad, to say exactly how I feel, even if it doesn't always please my mom.”

“I have the right to all these rights just because I am a child, especially if I live in one of the 193 states in the world that have agreed to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.”

“When will all children everywhere
really have their
rights respected?”

Tomorrow?

The day after tomorrow?

In twenty years?”