

IDEA SPARK



**"UNDERSTANDING HOW
POLITICAL DECISIONS ARE
MADE IS CRITICAL TO
BEING AN INFORMED AND
ENGAGED CITIZEN."**

**ARE RELIGIOUS SYMBOL BANS IN
CANADA EXAMPLES OF STIFLING
RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION?**

**"SOCIAL JUSTICE
INITIATIVES CAN
TRANSFORM
INDIVIDUALS
AND SYSTEMS."**

**"BY ACTIVELY
SUPPRESSING THE
LIBERTY OF ITS
RELIGIOUS MINORITIES
AND MARGINALIZING THE
CHARTER'S EXPLICIT
PROTECTIONS IN THIS
REGARD, CANADA NO
LONGER QUALIFIES AS A
FREE COUNTRY"
(SMITH, 2019, PARA. 8).**

**"RELIGION CAN
POWERFULLY SHAPE
SOCIAL, POLITICAL,
LEGAL, AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
VALUES."**

**IS CANADA BECOMING
ANTI-RELIGIOUS?**

**"A SOCIETY'S LAWS AND LEGAL
FRAMEWORK AFFECT MANY
ASPECTS OF PEOPLE'S DAILY
LIVES."**



INSPIRE

"The Canadian Charter explicitly guarantees 'freedom of religion and conscience.' Guarantee, shmarantee. Canadian law is fast becoming intolerant to religious liberty by forcing its citizens to choose between their careers and their faith" ([Smith, 2019, para. 1](#)).



EXPLORE

For more information about the Quebec face covering ban:

- [Quebec's face-covering ban: Does Bill 62 violate religious freedom?](#) (2017), produced by CBC News. [10 minutes].
- [Freedom, Choice & the Niqab](#) (2019), produced by Canadian Civil Liberties Association [2 minutes].

For more information about the Quebec religious symbol ban:

- [Court challenge, protest greet day one of Quebec's anti-religious symbols law](#) (2019), news article published by CBC.
- [Critics denounce Quebec ban on religious symbols in public sector](#) (2019), news article published by Reuters.

EXPAND

Language Arts Curricular Competencies

"Identify bias, contradictions, distortions, and omissions" ([British Columbia Ministry of Education, 2018, p. 3](#)).

"Respond to text in personal, creative, and critical ways" ([British Columbia Ministry of Education, 2018, p. 3](#)).





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