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Bill 21 is a horrendous law that violates human rights and harms people who are already marginalized.

This Quebec law bans people from working as teachers, lawyers, police officers, and more from wearing religious symbols such as crosses, hijabs, turbans and yarmulkes.

This not only affects people currently

working in the public sector, but also the
)  English (Canada) *aspire to those careers.*

[Why It Matters](#) >

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Why Bill-21 is an Issue

This egregious rights violation unfairly targets people who express their faith through what they wear.

People should not be forced to make the choice between their religion, their identity and their profession. The government should not be allowed to impose their beliefs on the people of Quebec, nor should they be dictating to individuals what they can and cannot wear.

The women who choose to wear scarves, hats, and turbans should also have a [right to freedom of expression and religion](#), and to make their own choices without government interference, like all people in Canada.

Bill 21 harms immigrant and racialized

communities in particular.



Our Recent Work on Bill-21

The government of Quebec is banning Canadians working in those professions from wearing religious symbols such as crosses, hijabs, turbans and yarmulkes.

CCLA is here to defend the rights and freedoms of those living in Quebec and millions of others in Canada. Together with the National Council of Canadian Muslims and a young education student, we challenged the law in court.

The Quebec government is forcing their politics on all Quebecers by forcing people to dress contrary to their own private beliefs. This law discriminates against people currently working in the public sector, and the youth who aspire to those careers. These people are being mistreated by their provincial government, so we are fighting the government of Quebec in court.

CCLA is grateful for the support and pro bono contribution of our outstanding litigation team and their firm: David Grossman, Catherine McKenzie, Olga Redko, and Léa Charbonneau (IMK LLP).

“Our unwavering resolve to keep fighting for marginalized people in Canada, and our commitment to justice and equality, are why we urge everyone to stand together against the religious symbols ban. We can and must defeat this law,”

Noa Mendelsohn Aviv
CCLA's Director of Equality

The Timeline

2022

November 7, 2022

Hearing Begins at the Quebec Court of Appeal



2021

December 2, 2021

CCLA & NCCM File Factum (brief of legal arguments) Against Bill 21 in Quebec Court of Appeal



May 6, 2021

CCLA & NCCM Appealing Bill 21 Decision



April 20, 2021

BREAKING NEWS: Part of Bill 21 Struck Down



2020

November 23, 2020

Ongoing Trial



November 2, 2020

Trial Begins



2019

December 18, 2019

CCLA Applies to the Supreme Court



December 12, 2019

Decision: Court decides not to suspend Bill 21.



November 26, 2019

Appeal Hearing.



August 1, 2019

Hearing Successful



July 22, 2019

Application for Leave



July 18, 2019

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Decision: Suspension Denied | ∨ |
| July 2, 2019 | |
| Hearing | ∨ |
| June 17, 2019 | |
| Constitutional Challenge | ∨ |
| June 16, 2019 | |
| Bill 21 Passed | ∨ |

Materials & Documents

The Bill/Law ⊕

Judgments ⊕

Trial Schedules ⊕

Decisions ⊕

Applications, Appeals & Challenges ⊕



Latest Updates and Briefs



CCLA REACTS TO ACS-LÉGER STUDY ON EFFECTS



Remarques à l'occasion de l'anniversaire d'une

OF BILL 21

August 10, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2022 CCLA

REACTS TO ACS-LÉGER

STUDY ON EFFECTS OF

BILL...

hypocrisie – la loi 21

June 16, 2022

CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUPS

SEEK LEAVE TO APPEAL BILL

21 DECISION NCCM & CCLA

file an...



Join Us As We Stand Against Bill 21 and for Human Rights

February 24, 2022

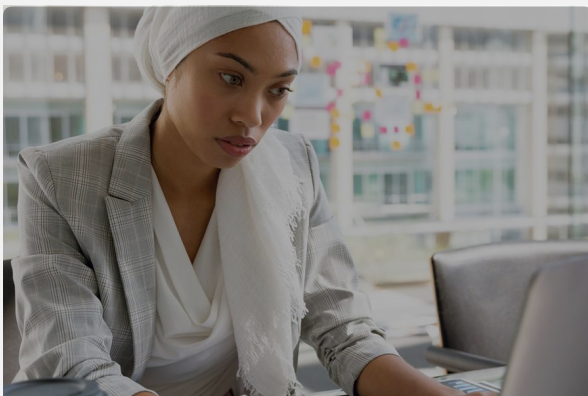
This is a critical moment.



CCLA & NCCM file factum against Bill 21 in Quebec Court of Appeal

December 9, 2021

CCLA filed legal submissions
against Bill 21 in the Quebec
Court of Appeal. In this...



CCLA & NCCM Appealing Bill 21 Decision



CCLA Remarks on Bill 21 Judgment by the Quebec

May 6, 2021

Superior Court

April 20, 2021

Today is judgment day on Bill 21. A complex decision was handed down by the...



Whose Religious Symbols Can Shine???

December 21, 2020

In this season of darkness, the festivals of light bringing warmth and cheer may be...



2020 Quebec Superior Court

December 20, 2019

Suspending Bill 21 is an urgent matter. We were before the Quebec Court of Appeal...



Seeking to Appeal Interim Decision on Bill 21

July 23, 2019

CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUPS



Fighting Quebec's Religious Symbol's Ban – As it Unfolds

June 19, 2019

SEEK LEAVE TO APPEAL BILL
21 DECISION NCCM & CCLA
file an...

CCLA is currently challenging
the discriminatory religious
symbols ban, Bill 21 in
Quebec alongside the...

CCLA In Court: Freedom of Religion

June 17, 2019

Bill 21 Constitutional
Challenge and Application for
Suspension of The Law



CCLA and NCCM's Application Regarding Quebec's Religious Symbols Ban

June 17, 2019

Bill 21, An Act Respecting the
Laicity of the State, passed in
the Quebec National...

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