

# VOICE

**Violence-prevention Outcomes in Civic Education**

Summer Institute  
for  
4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers

*Application*

August 7-11, 2000  
Chicago, Illinois

*This is a program of the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago.  
It is supported by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention.  
Grant # 95-JS-FX-0015*



## Program Description

Since 1996 VOICE has supplemented 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade social studies and reinforced reading and math skills. Developed and piloted at Elementary Schools in Chicago and in District U-46 (Elgin, Illinois and surrounding communities), VOICE incorporates conflict resolution, law-related education, and service learning to help students develop a deeper understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the three branches of government.

VOICE involves teams of attorneys to work with the students; a field experience; interactive lessons which emphasize critical thinking, written and oral communication; and projects which contribute to the well-being of the school and highlight quality student work.

In Illinois, the VOICE curriculum meets 13 of the Learning Standards of the Illinois State Board of Education. Teachers will be given ample time at this summer institute to work with CRFC staff and each other to align the VOICE curriculum with their own state standards.

## Program Benefits

A two year independent evaluation of the VOICE program showed that participating students:

- learned more about the U.S. Constitution and government than non-participating students,
- improved their Iowa Test of Basic Skills Scores,
- had a better understanding of how to help others solve problems,
- had fewer problems with discipline and fighting.

## Participant Benefits

- Five day summer institute.
- Lodging (sharing a room) and per diem from August 7-11.
- Coach airfare to and from Chicago up to \$400 round trip.
- A set of lessons.
- \$200.00 for teachers outside Chicago who complete evaluation materials provided by CRFC entitled “report for feedback.”
- \$350.00 for Chicago teachers who complete the “report for feedback” and attend two follow-up evaluation/feedback seminars (each seminar will be one day).
- Up to 30 clock/contact hours available toward Continuing Education Units or Continuing Professional Development Units.

## Application Procedure

- Complete the Applicant Information and Agreement Forms.
- Have the Application Agreement co-signed by your principal.
- Have the Application Agreement co-signed by state LRE coordinator (applicants outside Illinois).
- Include Registration Fee of \$100 payable to the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago.
- Return the Application Packet with payment **ASAP but no later than June 15, 2000**, to:  
Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago  
407 South Dearborn Street, Suite 1700  
Chicago, Illinois 60605-1119

## Applicant Information

All applications must be complete, with payment, in order to be considered. A maximum of 20 participants will be accepted. All applicants will be notified regarding acceptance by June 30, 2000 at which time fees are nonrefundable. Registration fees will be refunded to applicants who are not accepted to the program.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Email \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

School Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ School Fax \_\_\_\_\_

School Email \_\_\_\_\_

How many social studies classes will you teach next year? \_\_\_\_\_ What grade(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you use (1=not used; 2=rarely; 3=occasionally; 4=frequently; 5=daily):

- \_\_\_\_\_ Cooperative Learning?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Peer Mediation?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Service Learning/Community Service?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Outside Resource People/Volunteers?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Performance Assessment?

What are **three** things you want your class to know or be able to do as a result of teaching social studies? (use additional paper if necessary)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant Agreement

*Applicant agrees to:*

- Attend all the training sessions.
- Use the lessons as well as community resource people.
- Participate in the evaluation of the project by completing the “report for feedback.”
- Participate in two follow-up seminars (Chicago area teachers only).
- Conduct an awareness session for teachers in your school and for teachers at a larger conference.

We agree to the terms stated above:

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

State Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_