

Two-minute mini-dramas



DRAMA

Annotated scenarios for facilitators

On these pages you can find the scenarios proposed for the '[Two-minute FORB mini-dramas](#)' exercise on page 71. Each scenario includes three violations of FORB and there are five scenarios to choose from.

Scenario: On the street and at work

A woman is on her way to work. She is wearing clothes that reflect her minority religious identity. A passerby starts to harass her because of what she is wearing. No one helps her. She sees a police officer and calls for help. The harasser runs off but the police officer does not help in any way. She gets to her office and is met by a junior colleague who is celebrating his promotion. Once again, she has not been considered for promotion.

CHARACTERS

Essential characters: woman, harasser, police officer, passerby, colleague

Additional characters: additional colleagues and passersby

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

This case focuses on harassment and discrimination based on a person's religious identity and the failure of the authorities to do anything about it.

- Social hostilities: harassment/hate crime.
- Government failure to protect: the police officer does not help.
- Social hostilities: discrimination – glass ceiling for minorities at work.

Scenario: Places of worship

A religious minority group has bought a piece of land and has received permission from the authorities to build a place of worship. They start building, but the building site is regularly vandalised. They contact the police and the local authorities, who claim to be able to do nothing about it. They finally get the place built, but every time people go there to worship, they face harassment and heckling from members of the majority community.

CHARACTERS

Essential characters: two minority group members, police officer, local authority representative, two majority group members

Additional characters: additional minority and majority group members

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

This case focuses on social hostilities based on religion and on the failure of authorities to do anything about it.

- Social hostilities: vandalism of the building site.
- Government failure to protect: authorities take no action.
- Social hostilities: harassment outside the place of worship.

Scenario: FORB in school

A 12 year old boy from a minority community goes to a government run primary school and today is a normal school day. The day begins with prayers in the majority religious tradition, in which he is required to take part. After the prayers, he goes to a history lesson where the teacher reads from a textbook that speaks about the boy's minority religious community in derogatory terms. In the break after the lesson, his classmates bully him because of his religious identity and exclude him from their games.

CHARACTERS

Essential characters: boy, a teacher to hold prayers/the history lesson, two classmates
Additional characters: additional teachers and classmates

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

This case focuses on institutionalised violations of FORB carried out by state actors (the educational body that approves textbooks, the school, the teacher) and how this contributes to social hostilities.

- Government violations: forced participation in prayers of the majority religion.
- Government violations: discriminatory texts in schoolbooks.
- Social hostilities: bullying by classmates.

Scenario: FORB in the family

A 17 year old girl wants to go to university to train to become a teacher. Her parents are refusing to allow this. Instead, they want her to marry to protect the family's honour. They argue that their religion does not promote education for girls, as the role of wives is to be in the home. The girl does not agree with these beliefs and wants to take her own decisions. Afraid of being forcibly married, she runs away to stay with an older female friend in a different town. Her family reports her missing to the police. When they find her, the police return her to her parents against her will. The following day she is married to a man she has not met and is not allowed to leave her home.

CHARACTERS

Essential characters: girl, her mother and father, friend, police officer, girl's husband
Additional characters: additional family members, people attending the wedding, additional police officers

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

This case highlights the intersections between women's rights and FORB.

- Social hostilities (violations in the family): refusal to allow education of daughter. This is a violation of the daughter's right to education. It is also a violation of her right to decide for herself what she believes (e.g., about God's views on girls' education) and to act accordingly. In this way, it is a violation of her right to education and of her right to FORB.

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

- Government failure to protect: police return girl to her parents against her will and despite her being vulnerable to forced marriage.
- Social hostilities (violations in the family): forced marriage and restricted freedom of movement.

NOTE

According to international law, parents have the right to bring their children up in accordance with their beliefs, but parents should also respect the growing capacity of the child to take decisions for themselves regarding religion or belief (and other aspects of life).

Scenario: Speaking up – corruption and violence

A female university student at a state-run university reports sexual harassment by a professor to the student newspaper. A student journalist interviews the university principal about the case. The university wants to cover up the story, so they spread a rumour on social media saying the student journalist has criticised religious beliefs and religious leaders. A violent mob gathers to demonstrate at the university, accusing the student journalist and newspaper of blasphemy. The university use this as an excuse to shut down the student newspaper. The police arrest the journalist on suspicion of blasphemy.

CHARACTERS

Essential characters: student, journalist, university principal, two members of the mob, police officer

Additional characters: members of the mob

VIOLATIONS IN THIS SCENARIO

This example highlights intersections between freedom of expression, association and FORB and the links between violations of human rights and corruption.

- Government violations: use of religious accusations by (state-owned) university to cover up a crime.
- Social hostilities: violent mob.
- Government violations: police arrest the student journalist.

Additionally, shutting down the student newspaper is a violation of the rights to freedom of association and expression.