

**Civics Definition Tools**  
**Delaware Social Studies Benchmarks**

**Civics 3a (Grades 6-8):**

*Students will understand that civil rights secure political freedom while property rights secure economic freedom and that both are essential protections for United States citizens.*

**Civil Rights** – rights belonging to a citizen or member of society regardless of race, sex, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or national origin; equal treatment under the law. Policies designed to protect people against arbitrary or discriminatory treatment by government officials or individuals.

<b>Civil Rights</b>		
<i>Sample Right</i>	<i>How does this right secure political freedom?</i>	<i>Why is this right an essential protection for U.S. citizens?</i>
Equal opportunity		
Equal access		
Equal treatment		

**Civics 3a (Grades 6-8):**

*Students will understand that civil rights secure political freedom while property rights secure economic freedom and that both are essential protections for United States citizens.*

**Economic Freedom** - the freedom to own, use, and dispose of property as one chooses, with heavy emphasis on the security of ownership. Since property is considered central to life, well-being, and the pursuit of happiness, there is no true liberty without economic freedom according to the philosophy that inspired the standard.

<b>Property Rights</b>		
<i>Sample Right</i>	<i>How does this right secure economic freedom?</i>	<i>Why is this right an essential protection for U.S. citizens?</i>
To own property (e.g., one's own house).		
To use property as one chooses.		
To dispose of property as one chooses.		