



Teacher Resource

Hate Speech laws

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN High story as a class and record the main points of discussion.

Students will then respond to the following:

1. Describe what the new hate speech laws are and what they aim to achieve.
2. Do you think these laws are necessary? Why or why not?
3. What is freedom of speech?
4. Should there be limitations to freedom of speech? Give reasons for your answer.

EPISODE 1

4th February 2026

KEY LEARNING

Students will discuss the new hate speech laws passed by Parliament, including why we have laws in Australia and freedom of speech.

CURRICULUM

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 7 \(v8.4\)](#)

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 8 \(v8.4\) - 1](#)

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 8 \(v8.4\) - 2](#)

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 7 \(v9.0\)](#)

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 8 \(v9.0\)](#)

[Civics and Citizenship – Year 10 \(v9.0\)](#)

[History – Year 10 \(v9.0\)](#)

Activities

- As a class, debate whether you agree or disagree with the new hate speech laws. You may use BTN High's [School Debating](#) story as a guide on how debates work.
- In groups, discuss the importance of freedom of speech.
- Research how laws are made in Australia. Present your findings to the class in an informative and entertaining way (i.e. PowerPoint, video presentation, poster).