

Be ready. I got side tracked and probably went a little bit too much of course.

I am 15 and turn 16 on August 14. So until then I have to get around with less rights than my peers. I thought a creative way to talk about 2 rights and compare them with the rights you get when you're 16 and how the lack of rights I have as a 15 year old may affect my daily life in the sense of being left out from activities that my friends could do of which I could not.

Preamble: Before we get into this dilemma of me having less rights than that of my peers I need to start off by saying that it never really had me worried or got me thinking. However the more I began to write about it (as seen below) I noticed how it does in fact have an impact on my life, I just never really picked up on it. The more I discovered rights that I was previously ignorant of, the more I was intrigued by this assignment and curious to know exactly what I can and cannot do.

### Drinks

So I previously knew that I as a 15 year old could not legally buy Alcohol based drinks and of course also knew that you can when you are 16.

Strangely enough this is probably the law I have the least of my problems with. This law makes sense and is known by everyone. This law has very little room for cheating and frankly no one will blame you for not drinking before you are 16 because they all remember waiting for that magic number (16) themselves. Yes there's the occasional awkward moments where you're sitting in the corner and watching all your friends enjoying a glass of beer and all you can do is feel left out and like you are the only child in the room. But I normally easily avoid these types of situations by just not attending such gatherings, even though there is nothing wrong with being the odd one out.

### Outings

This is where things get a little bit tricky. To be very honest I always knew that up to a certain age there was some kind of curfew but I never paid much attention to it. I'm sure every law/right has its own merit and I don't want to sit here and pretend like I know what I'm talking about when it comes to law or determining whether laws are just or not. But personally I can say that this never made much sense to me and that's probably why I ignored it. As a 15 year old you can only be out until 22:00 but as a 16 year old you can be out until 24:00. I feel like this should be the parents choice and they should set the curfew, not the government. Parents can't control whether their kids buy beer when they're out, that's why it should be illegal up to a certain age, however a parent can tell their kids when to be home and when they can leave. The parents have a way better understanding of their kids maturity level and can determine how long their kids are able to be out a lot better than whatever the law has to say. I don't doubt that the law makes sense. I just don't think it has any real consequence and applies to me. ( Maybe the circumstances change when you live in a big city like Berlin where the nightlife is more dangerous, but I wouldn't know.)

So strictly speaking if there was a movie that ended at 23:00 i would be the only one who couldn't join. This actually happened before and while i did ignore it the cinema didn't and I wasn't allowed in the movie. This was quite embarrassing and looking back I think I probably should have not gone in the first place but it was worth a shot since it didn't have any real lasting consequences.