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## Canada's Kangaroo Courts challenged for violating traditional freedoms

CALGARY: The Canadian Constitution Foundation (CCF) today released *Kangaroo Courts?*, a paper highlighting human rights tribunal decisions which conflict with the fundamental freedoms that Canadians have traditionally enjoyed.

*Kangaroo Courts?* includes 31 summaries of human rights cases which show the conflict between the new "human rights" and Canadians' traditional freedoms, including:

- freedom of expression
- freedom of religion
- freedom of association

*Kangaroo Courts?* examines the differences between Canada's human rights tribunals and real courts, such as procedural fairness, costs consequences, and the use of truth as a defence.

The list of Canadians who have faced, or who are currently facing, human rights prosecutions for peacefully expressing their opinions is long and diverse, including:

- media outlets
- journalists
- religious leaders
- comedians
- politicians, including Mayors and MPs
- teachers

In Canada in 2008, human rights commissions order religious individuals and organizations to publicly repudiate elements of their faith, and to cease acting upon their deeply-held convictions.

Human rights commissions, by way of penalties or by way of the prosecution process, have also penalized businesses for:

- refusing to allow the smoking of marijuana in front of business premises
- removing alcoholic and drug-abusing employees from "safety-sensitive" positions until the employee has demonstrated a sufficient measure of sobriety
- refusing cross-dressing men and pre-operative transsexuals to use the women's washrooms

*Kangaroo Courts?* is posted at [www.CanadianConstitutionFoundation.ca](http://www.CanadianConstitutionFoundation.ca).

The Canadian Constitution Foundation is a registered charity, independent and non-partisan, with a mission to defend the constitutional freedoms of Canadians through education and public interest litigation.

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