The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa was signed into law by former President Nelson Mandela on 10 December 1996. Chapter 2 of the Constitution contains the Bill of Rights which provides for the following rights:

- **Equality**: Everyone is equal before the law and may not be unfairly discriminated against.
- **Human Dignity**: Everyone has inherent human dignity which must be respected.
- **Political Rights**: You may form a political party, run for office and vote for any party in free and fair elections.
- **Citizenship**: No citizen may be deprived of citizenship.
- **Freedom of Movement and Residence**: You have the right to enter and leave the republic at will.
- **Slavery, Servitude and Forced Labour**: You may not be subjected to slavery or forced labour.
- **Freedom and Security of the Person**: You have a right to be free from all forms of violence and not be detained without trial.
- **Life**: Everyone has the right to life.
- **Privacy**: Your right to privacy includes your body, home and possessions.
- **Freedom of Religion, Belief and Opinion**: You have the right to think, believe in and belong to a religion of your choice.
- **Arrested, Detained and Accused Persons**: When arrested for allegedly committing an offence, you have the right to remain silent, to be brought before a court within 48 hours and to legal representation.
- **Language and Culture**: You have the right to use the language of your choice and practise your own culture.
- **Health Care, Food, Water and Social Security**: You have the right to have access to health care, adequate food, water and social security.
- **Property**: No one may be deprived of property, except in terms of law of general application.
- **Housing**: You have the right to have access to adequate housing.
- **Children**: Every child has the right to a name, nationality and protection from abuse and exploitation.
- **Education**: You have the right to receive basic education in the official language of your choice where that education is reasonably practicable.
- **Labour Relations**: Every worker and employer has the right to organise and negotiate to further their aims.
- **Environment**: You have the right to live in a bio-diverse environment.
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- **Economic Activity**: Every person has the right to participate in the economic activity of their choice.
- **Assembly, Demonstration, Picket and Petition**: You have the right to peacefully assemble, demonstrate and protest.
- **Freedom of Expression**: You have the right to speak or express yourself on whatever you choose but hate speech is not allowed.
- **Access to Information**: You may access any information held by the State for the protection of your rights.
- **Freedom of Association**: You have the right to associate with anyone.
- **Freedom of Religion, Belief and Opinion**: You have the right to think, believe in and belong to a religion of your choice.
- **Access to Courts**: You have the right to resolve your legal disputes in a court or another impartial tribunal.
- **Freedom of Trade, Occupation and Profession**: You have the right to choose any legal trade or occupation freely.
- **Freedom of Religion, Belief and Opinion**: You have the right to think, believe in and belong to a religion of your choice.
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