

Sketch of a lesson
Subject: Practical Philosophy

Author: Thomas Koch

Topic of the lesson:

Restriction of freedom by the example of smoking

Translation: Rolf Roew

Introductory remarks to the English version

In this pdf, only the sketch of the lesson is presented. The complete information can be found in the German pdf.

Sketch of the lesson “restriction of freedom“

phases	classroom activities	grouping and media
introduction 5 min	The topic of the lesson is briefly introduced. The students watch a short interview with Helmut Schmidt. In an open classroom talk the ambivalence of smoking is worked out.	classroom talk whiteboard
joint 2–3 min	The students answer the question why the doctors only advise Helmut Schmidt to quit smoking instead of explicitly obliging him to do so. Apart from that, the students are asked if the right to restricting one’s freedom is – like in this case – always limited to the same extent.	classroom talk
elaboration I 5–10 min	The students read out a worksheet and then work on it: Determine who is allowed to smoke and who isn’t. Justify your statements in keywords.	partner work worksheet
intermediate securing of results	The students present their results. The third example serves as a further opening to the problem of direct harm to others through smoking.	classroom talk
joint 2–3 min	The students are informed that they are now getting to know a well-known philosophical position that may be suitable to deliver an answer to the question under what conditions it is permitted to restrict someone’s (here a smoker’s) freedom.	classroom talk
elaboration II 10–15 min	The teacher reads out a text by Mill. The students analyse the text by John Stuart Mill “On Liberty”. Task: Examine, in how far an individual or society has the right to restrict someone’s freedom! (Refer to the text!)	individual work textbook, p. 96 worksheet

<p>securing the results 5 min</p>	<p>The results are summarized on the whiteboard. The students' presentations are put under the document camera.</p>	<p>classroom talk whiteboard document camera</p>
<p>transfer 5 min</p>	<p>With reference to the examples, the students take a position on Mill's considerations as to the conditions under which the freedom of the individual may be encroached upon. Optional: The students are given the example that their best friend is pregnant and smokes. Would they confront her? If so, how?</p>	<p>classroom talk</p>
<p>outlook</p>	<p>The teacher gives the perspective to examine the very pupil-oriented area of educational policy with regard to potential restrictions on freedom. As a further option, the area of freedom of opinion can be presented.</p>	<p>classroom talk</p>