

# Wikipedia: Can We Trust It?

Testing the Reliability of  
Wikipedia

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# Why is this Important?

“You should never use Wikipedia as a source, it’s not reliable.”

Every student has heard this quote from a teacher or professor. From a young age we are told that the articles one reads on Wikipedia can be and probably have been altered to state incorrect facts.

In reality, Wikipedia is not all that bad. Through this program you will learn the ins and outs of Wikipedia and all it has to offer.

# Why is this important?

Here is what this program will focus on when it comes to Wikipedia articles:

- What it takes for a person to edit the articles.
- How one can investigate the reliability of an article
- Comparing the differences between unlocked articles and locked articles.

# Part One:

Wikipedia, What is it?



**WIKIPEDIA**  
*The Free Encyclopedia*

# Background

- Wikipedia was launched on January 15, 2001.
- It was founded by Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger and it combined the Hawaiian word of “quick” with Encyclopedia.

# Wikipedia in General

- As wikipedia says: it is “The free encyclopedia that anyone can edit.”
- As of May 2014 there were 73,251 active editors.
- And a total 23,167,175 accounts, while the number is just increasing.
- English Wikipedia has over 4.6 million articles that are being edited daily.

# Terms of Use

Part of Wikipedia's mission is to:

- Empower and engage people to develop their educational thinking
- Either publish their articles for a free license or dedicate it to the public
- Publish the content effectively and globally for free

# Terms of Use

According to Wikipedia, users are free to:

- Read and print their articles
- Share and reuse the articles under free and open licenses
- Edit and contribute to its websites and projects



# Terms of Use

These are the conditions users must follow when using Wikipedia:

- Take responsibility for editing articles
- Be civil and do not harass other users
- Do not violate copyright and other laws
- Do not hurt Wikipedia's technology base
- Must agree to the Terms of Use and applicable community policies

# Terms of Use

Users must understand that:

- License their contributions and edits to Wikipedia's sites and projects under a free license, unless contributing to a public domain
- They should not ask for professional advice

# Privacy Policy

## Wikimedia's Privacy Policy covers:

- Major sites
- User pages
- Discussion pages
- Noteboards
- Blogs
- Application Program Interfaces
- Mobile sites
- Applications
- Emails
- SMS
- Notifications sent to users from Wikipedia

# Privacy Policy

Protecting Wikipedia and its users:

- Wikipedia may disclose necessary information to:
  - Enforce or examine potential violations of the Wikimedia Foundation or other community-based policies
  - Protect the organization, employees, public, etc.
  - Prevent serious body injury or death to an individual

# PART TWO:

## Unlocked Articles: Edits and Reliability



# Editing

Who can edit Wikipedia articles?

Anyone can edit wikipedia articles as long as they have an account. Hundreds of thousands of people have accounts and can edit any unlocked article without that much hassle.

# Steps To Edit Wikipedia Articles

- 1) Create an account
- 2) Go to the Talk page and tell others what you want to put
- 3) Read what others are saying about your edit
- 4) Go to the edit page and edit what you think is necessary.

# 1) Create an Account

W Create account - Wikipedi x

https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:UserLogin&returnto=Civil+and+political+rights&returntoquery=action%3Dedit&type=signup

Special page Search Search Wikipedia [alt-shift-f]

**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

Main page  
Contents  
Featured content  
Current events  
Random article  
Donate to Wikipedia  
Wikimedia Shop

Interaction  
Help  
About Wikipedia  
Community portal  
Recent changes  
Contact page

Tools  
Upload file  
Special pages  
Printable version

Languages

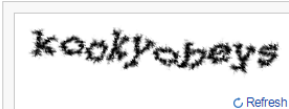
## Create account

Username [\(help me choose\)](#)

Password

Confirm password




Email address (optional)

Security check  
  
[Refresh](#)

[Can't see the image? Request an account](#)

**Create your account**

**Wikipedia is made by people like you.**

-  743,766,624 edits
-  4,650,974 articles
-  134,271 recent contributors



# 2) Go to the Talk page and tell others what you want to put.

The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for "Civil and political rights". The "Talk" tab is circled in red. The article text includes a definition of civil and political rights, a list of rights, and a table of contents. The table of contents lists: 1 History, 2 Protection of rights, 3 Other rights, 4 Civil rights movements, and 5 Problems and analysis.

Article **Talk**

## Civil and political rights

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*"Civil rights" redirects here. For other uses, see Civil rights (disambiguation).*

**Civil and political rights** are a class of rights that protect individuals' freedom from infringement by governments, social organizations, and private individuals, and which ensure one's ability to participate in the civil and political life of the society and state without discrimination or repression.

Civil rights include the ensuring of peoples' physical and mental integrity, life and safety; protection from discrimination on grounds such as race, gender, national origin, colour, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, or disability;<sup>[1][2]</sup> and individual rights such as privacy, the freedoms of thought and conscience, speech and expression, religion, the press, assembly and movement.

Political rights include *natural justice* (procedural fairness) in law, such as the rights of the accused, including the right to a fair trial; due process; the right to seek redress or a legal remedy; and rights of participation in civil society and politics such as freedom of association, the right to assemble, the right to petition, the right of self-defense, and the right to vote.

Civil and political rights form the original and main part of international human rights.<sup>[4]</sup> They comprise the first portion of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (with economic, social and cultural rights comprising the second portion). The theory of three generations of human rights considers this group of rights to be "first-generation rights", and the theory of negative and positive rights considers them to be generally negative rights.

### Contents

- 1 History
- 2 Protection of rights
- 3 Other rights
- 4 Civil rights movements
- 5 Problems and analysis

The screenshot shows the talk page for "Civil and political rights". The title "Civil and political rights" is highlighted with a red box. The page contains several discussion threads, including a proposal to rename the article and a discussion about merging it with "Natural rights".

## Civil and political rights

I would like to propose that this article be renamed to **Civil and political rights** (which currently redirects here) and refocused to cover the sort of rights legislated upon by documents such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This would be in juxtaposition to the article on Economic, social and cultural rights, which in turn covers the sort of rights legislated upon by document such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. For use of "civil rights" in juxtaposition to human rights or natural rights, we should direct people to the article on legal rights; and likewise for use of "civil rights" in the sense of rights granted by civil law (as in Germany, etc), we should direct people to that article. Thoughts? -Pforrest (talk) 08:16, 30 September 2008 (UTC)

No, I would not merge this. Because people who have to do research projects (me) or write about it need a specific article JUST for civil liberties. --unsigned comment

What I would do is try to splice the article and make Civil and political rights not merge to this specific article. --unsigned comment

I disagree, they should not be merged. Civil and political rights do not necessarily overlap, as is seen in the difference between liberal autocracy and illiberal democracy. The right to vote is a political liberty, the right to not be oppressed (or whatever) is a (much more fundamental) civil liberty. -Douwe 4:44, 5 November 2008 (GMT+7) —Preceding unsigned comment added by 118.107.192.22 (talk)

I should point out that the proposed merger already happened last month, since nobody had commented on it in a timely manner. -Pforrest (talk) 22:35, 4 November 2008 (UTC)

This is merger absurd as I see the merge as a clear attempt by the natural rights side of the argument to use their perspective to negate the argument for civil rights. It is inherently political and an overt attempt to dominate a definition; it is not in keeping with NPOV. If I have to, I will put forward a proposal to have them split. Let's work to make this page right. --Edunoramus (talk) 13:09, 28 August 2010 (UTC)

Where are you finding anything to do with natural rights in this article? Natural rights are not opposed to civil rights as the term is used in this article; see further replies to your other comments below for more. --Pforrest (talk) 19:32, 28 August 2010 (UTC)

## Muslim women in Quebec

The new local law in Quebec preventing a muslim women wearing Niqab (covering her face except the eyes) from getting any government service - is or is not against human rights and Canadian constitution?

## Civil Rights and Sexual Orientation

# 3) Read what others are saying about your edit

## Civil and political rights [\[edit\]](#)

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## Muslim women in Quebec [\[edit\]](#)

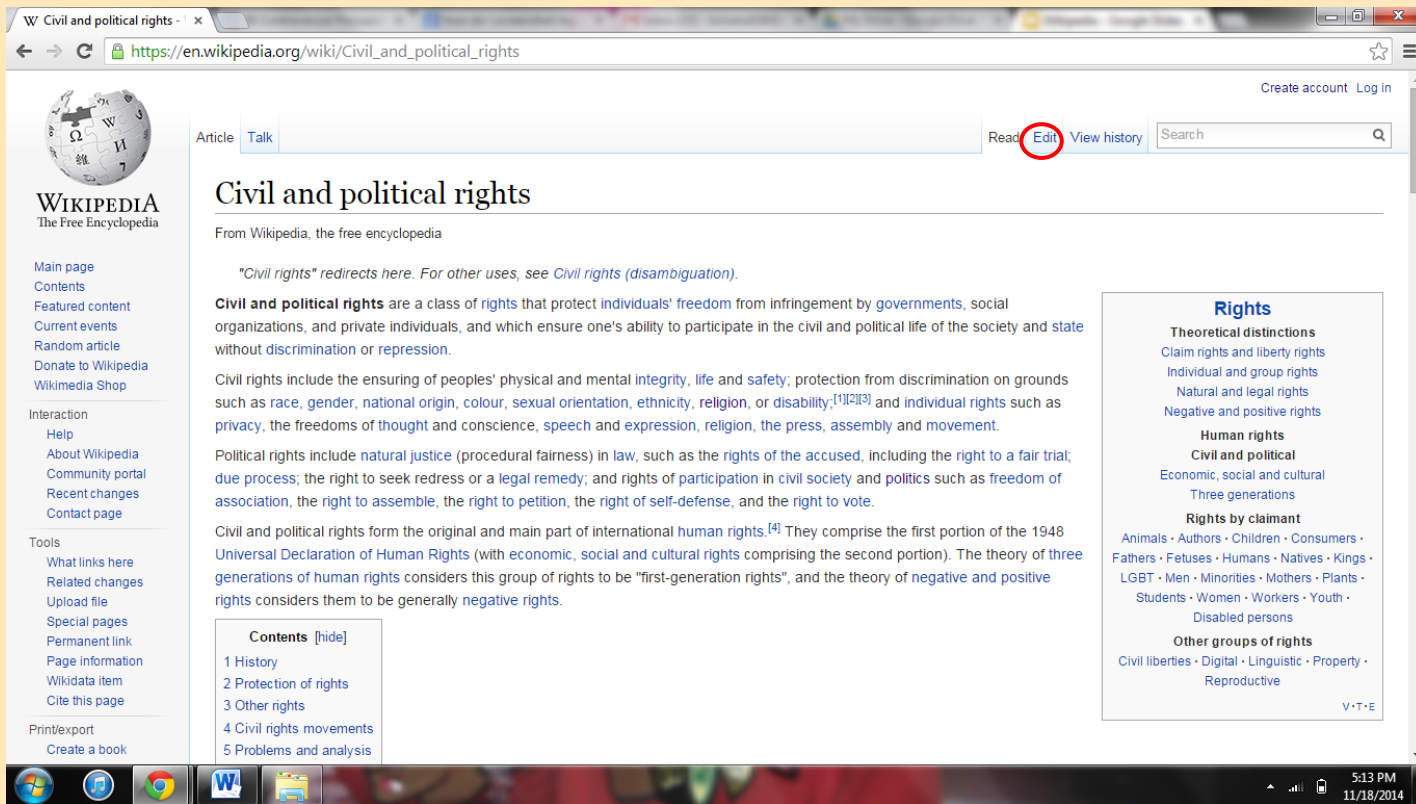
The new local law in Quebec preventing a muslim women wearing Niqab (covering her face except the eyes) from getting any government service - is or is not against human rights and Canadian constitution?

## Civil Rights and Sexual Orientation [\[edit\]](#)




5:10 PM  
11/18/2014

# 4) Go to the edit page, and edit as you think is necessary



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Wikipedia article for "Civil and political rights". The address bar shows the URL [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil\\_and\\_political\\_rights](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_and_political_rights). The page title is "Civil and political rights". The "Edit" button is circled in red. The page content includes a summary, a redirect notice, and several paragraphs of text. A sidebar on the right contains a "Rights" section with various sub-sections.

Wikipedia logo:  WIKIPEDIA The Free Encyclopedia

Navigation: [Main page](#), [Contents](#), [Featured content](#), [Current events](#), [Random article](#), [Donate to Wikipedia](#), [Wikimedia Shop](#)

Interaction: [Help](#), [About Wikipedia](#), [Community portal](#), [Recent changes](#), [Contact page](#)

Tools: [What links here](#), [Related changes](#), [Upload file](#), [Special pages](#), [Permanent link](#), [Page information](#), [Wikidata item](#), [Cite this page](#)

Print/export: [Print/export](#), [Create a book](#)

Article: [Read](#) **Edit** [View history](#)

## Civil and political rights

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*"Civil rights" redirects here. For other uses, see [Civil rights \(disambiguation\)](#).*

**Civil and political rights** are a class of rights that protect individuals' freedom from infringement by governments, social organizations, and private individuals, and which ensure one's ability to participate in the civil and political life of the society and state without discrimination or repression.

Civil rights include the ensuring of peoples' physical and mental integrity, life and safety; protection from discrimination on grounds such as race, gender, national origin, colour, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, or disability;<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> and individual rights such as privacy, the freedoms of thought and conscience, speech and expression, religion, the press, assembly and movement.

Political rights include natural justice (procedural fairness) in law, such as the rights of the accused, including the right to a fair trial; due process; the right to seek redress or a legal remedy; and rights of participation in civil society and politics such as freedom of association, the right to assemble, the right to petition, the right of self-defense, and the right to vote.

Civil and political rights form the original and main part of international human rights.<sup>[4]</sup> They comprise the first portion of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (with economic, social and cultural rights comprising the second portion). The theory of three generations of human rights considers this group of rights to be "first-generation rights", and the theory of negative and positive rights considers them to be generally negative rights.

**Contents** [hide]

- History
- Protection of rights
- Other rights
- Civil rights movements
- Problems and analysis

### Rights

**Theoretical distinctions**

- Claim rights and liberty rights
- Individual and group rights
- Natural and legal rights
- Negative and positive rights

**Human rights**

**Civil and political**

- Economic, social and cultural
- Three generations

**Rights by claimant**

- Animals · Authors · Children · Consumers · Fathers · Fetuses · Humans · Natives · Kings · LGBT · Men · Minorities · Mothers · Plants · Students · Women · Workers · Youth · Disabled persons

**Other groups of rights**

- Civil liberties · Digital · Linguistic · Property · Reproductive

V · T · E

# What it looks like when you're editing



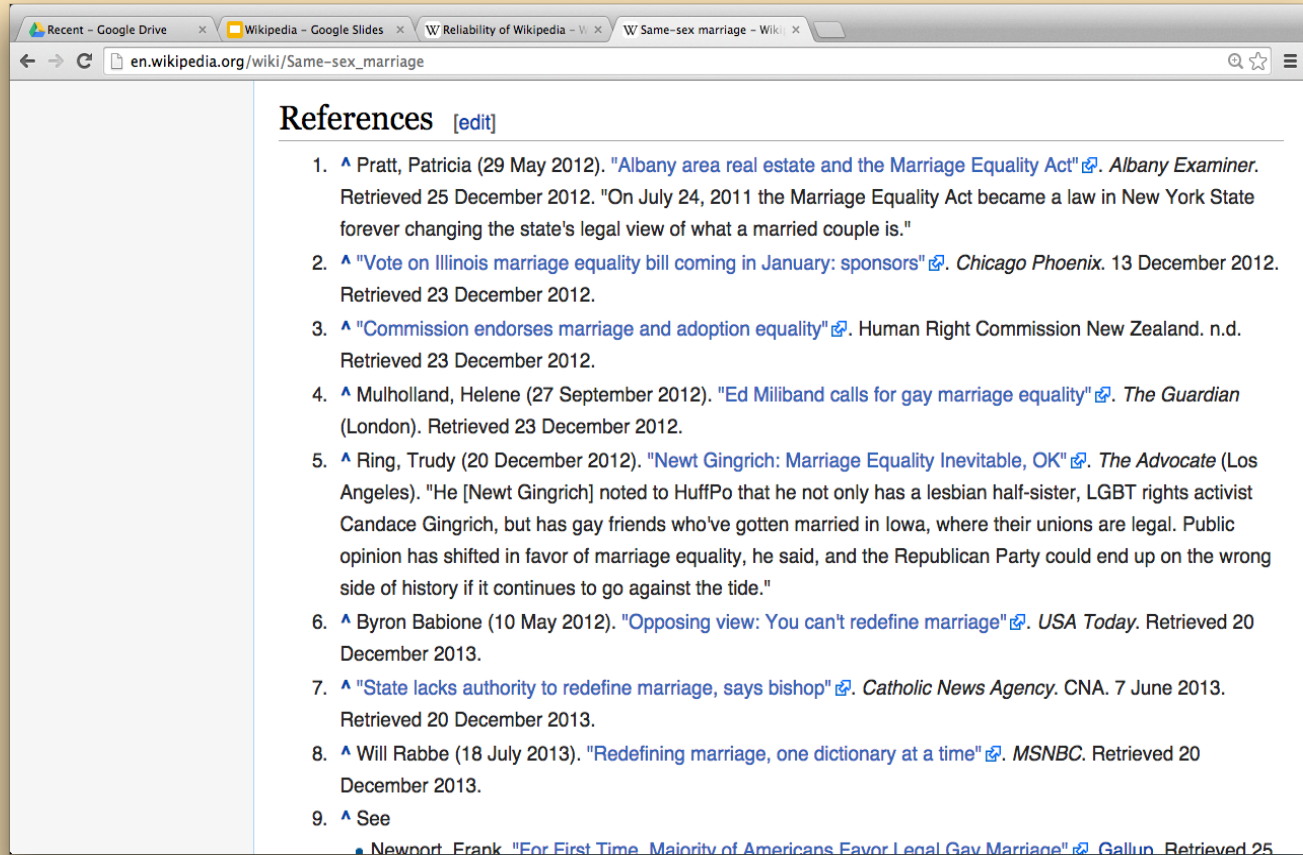
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Civil_and_political_rights&action=edit`. The page title is "Editing Civil and political rights". The left sidebar contains navigation links such as "Main page", "Contents", "Featured content", "Current events", "Random article", "Donate to Wikipedia", "Wikimedia Shop", "Interaction", "Help", "About Wikipedia", "Community portal", "Recent changes", "Contact page", "Tools", "What links here", "Related changes", "Upload file", "Special pages", "Page information", and "Languages". The main content area has a red border around the editing text, which includes a template callout `{Rights |Human}}` and several paragraphs of text with various Wikipedia-style markup like `[[right]]`, `[[individual]]`, `[[political freedom|freedom]]`, `[[government]]`, `[[State (polity)|state]]`, `[[discrimination]]`, `[[Political repression|repression]]`, `[[Race (human classification)|race]]`, `[[gender]]`, `[[national origin]]`, `[[human skin color|colour]]`, `[[sexual orientation]]`, `[[ethnicity]]`, `[[religion]]`, `[[disability]]`, `[[civil rights]]`, `[[LGBT]]`, `[[natural justice]]`, `[[procedural fairness]]`, `[[law]]`, `[[rights of the accused]]`, `[[right to a fair trial]]`, `[[due process]]`, `[[right to seek redress or a legal remedy]]`, `[[Participation (decision making)|participation]]`, `[[civil society]]`, `[[politics]]`, `[[freedom of association]]`, `[[right to assemble]]`, `[[right to petition]]`, `[[right of self-defense]]`, and `[[Suffrage|right to vote]]`. The text also includes a reference to Paul Sieghart and "The Lawful".

# Locked articles

- While there are locked articles. It is a different process to be able to edit those.
- This will be discussed later in the program.

# Reliability of an Unlocked Article

- First look to see how many references the article has.
- Located at the end of the article.
- The more references an article has the more ways to check the facts within the article.



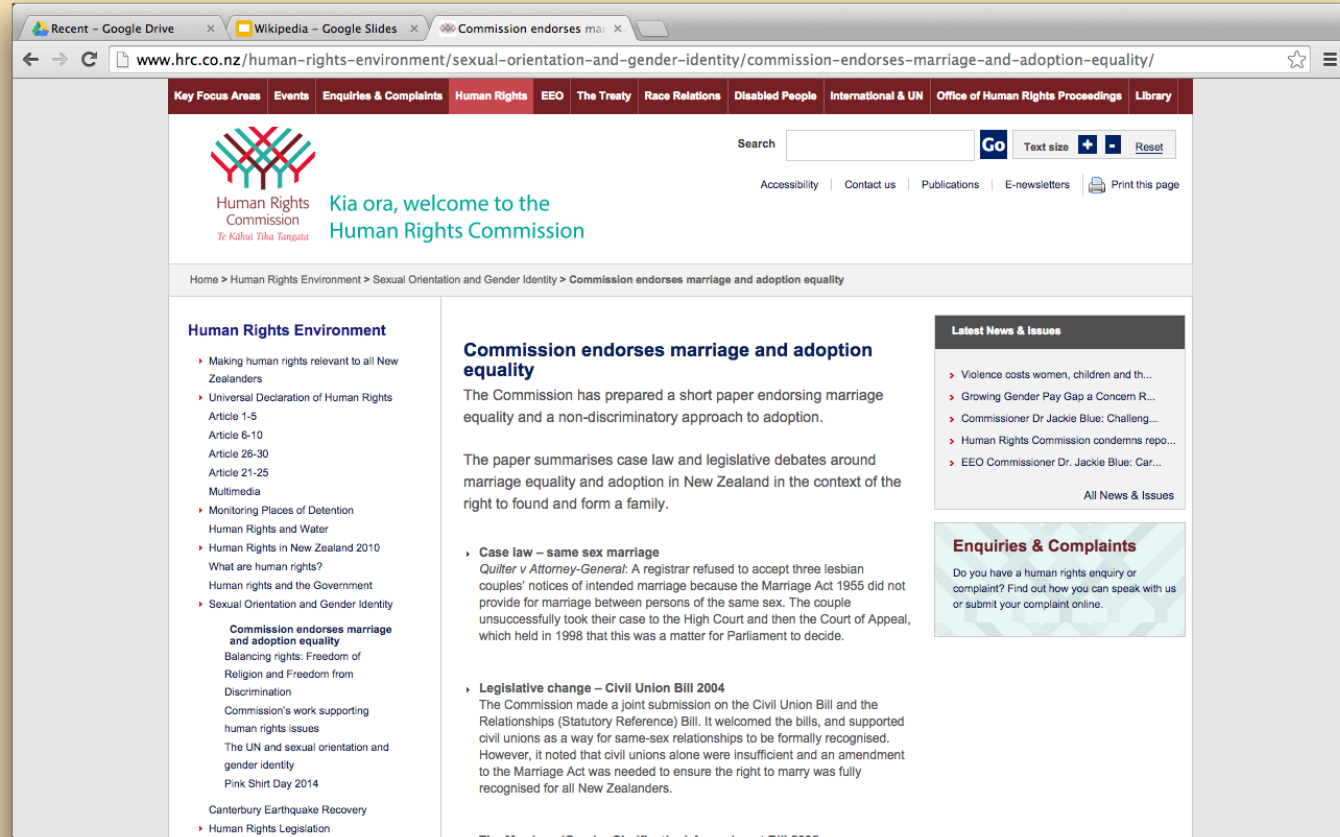
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage`. The page displays the 'References' section of the article, which contains a list of nine citations. The citations are numbered 1 through 9 and include the author, date, title, and source of the reference. The browser's address bar and several open tabs are visible at the top of the window.

## References [\[edit\]](#)

1. <sup>▲</sup> Pratt, Patricia (29 May 2012). "Albany area real estate and the Marriage Equality Act" [↗](#). *Albany Examiner*. Retrieved 25 December 2012. "On July 24, 2011 the Marriage Equality Act became a law in New York State forever changing the state's legal view of what a married couple is."
2. <sup>▲</sup> "Vote on Illinois marriage equality bill coming in January: sponsors" [↗](#). *Chicago Phoenix*. 13 December 2012. Retrieved 23 December 2012.
3. <sup>▲</sup> "Commission endorses marriage and adoption equality" [↗](#). Human Right Commission New Zealand. n.d. Retrieved 23 December 2012.
4. <sup>▲</sup> Mulholland, Helene (27 September 2012). "Ed Miliband calls for gay marriage equality" [↗](#). *The Guardian* (London). Retrieved 23 December 2012.
5. <sup>▲</sup> Ring, Trudy (20 December 2012). "Newt Gingrich: Marriage Equality Inevitable, OK" [↗](#). *The Advocate* (Los Angeles). "He [Newt Gingrich] noted to HuffPo that he not only has a lesbian half-sister, LGBT rights activist Candace Gingrich, but has gay friends who've gotten married in Iowa, where their unions are legal. Public opinion has shifted in favor of marriage equality, he said, and the Republican Party could end up on the wrong side of history if it continues to go against the tide."
6. <sup>▲</sup> Byron Babione (10 May 2012). "Opposing view: You can't redefine marriage" [↗](#). *USA Today*. Retrieved 20 December 2013.
7. <sup>▲</sup> "State lacks authority to redefine marriage, says bishop" [↗](#). *Catholic News Agency*. CNA. 7 June 2013. Retrieved 20 December 2013.
8. <sup>▲</sup> Will Rabbe (18 July 2013). "Redefining marriage, one dictionary at a time" [↗](#). *MSNBC*. Retrieved 20 December 2013.
9. <sup>▲</sup> See  
● Newport, Frank "For First Time, Majority of Americans Favor Legal Gay Marriage" [↗](#). *Gallup*. Retrieved 25

# Look Through References

- Click on the references and check the sources added.
- If sources comes from a well known organization or publication then reference and facts can be trusted.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.hrc.co.nz/human-rights-environment/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity/commission-endorses-marriage-and-adoption-equality/](http://www.hrc.co.nz/human-rights-environment/sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity/commission-endorses-marriage-and-adoption-equality/). The page features the Human Rights Commission logo and navigation menu. The main content area is titled "Commission endorses marriage and adoption equality" and includes a search bar, accessibility links, and a sidebar with "Human Rights Environment" and "Latest News & Issues".

**Human Rights Environment**

- ▶ Making human rights relevant to all New Zealanders
- ▶ Universal Declaration of Human Rights
  - Article 1-5
  - Article 6-10
  - Article 26-30
  - Article 21-25
  - Multimedia
- ▶ Monitoring Places of Detention
  - Human Rights and Water
- ▶ Human Rights in New Zealand 2010
  - What are human rights?
  - Human rights and the Government
- ▶ Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
  - Commission endorses marriage and adoption equality**
    - Balancing rights: Freedom of Religion and Freedom from Discrimination
    - Commission's work supporting human rights issues
    - The UN and sexual orientation and gender identity
    - Pink Shirt Day 2014
  - Canterbury Earthquake Recovery
  - ▶ Human Rights Legislation

**Commission endorses marriage and adoption equality**

The Commission has prepared a short paper endorsing marriage equality and a non-discriminatory approach to adoption.

The paper summarises case law and legislative debates around marriage equality and adoption in New Zealand in the context of the right to found and form a family.

- ▶ **Case law – same sex marriage**
  - Quilter v Attorney-General*: A registrar refused to accept three lesbian couples' notices of intended marriage because the Marriage Act 1955 did not provide for marriage between persons of the same sex. The couple unsuccessfully took their case to the High Court and then the Court of Appeal, which held in 1998 that this was a matter for Parliament to decide.
- ▶ **Legislative change – Civil Union Bill 2004**
  - The Commission made a joint submission on the Civil Union Bill and the Relationships (Statutory Reference) Bill. It welcomed the bills, and supported civil unions as a way for same-sex relationships to be formally recognised. However, it noted that civil unions alone were insufficient and an amendment to the Marriage Act was needed to ensure the right to marry was fully recognised for all New Zealanders.

**Latest News & Issues**

- ▶ Violence costs women, children and th...
- ▶ Growing Gender Pay Gap a Concern R...
- ▶ Commissioner Dr Jackie Blue: Challeng...
- ▶ Human Rights Commission condemns repo...
- ▶ EEO Commissioner Dr. Jackie Blue: Car...

**Enquiries & Complaints**

Do you have a human rights enquiry or complaint? Find out how you can speak with us or submit your complaint online.



# Look at Recent Changes

- On left hand side click on “Recent changes”
- This can help with finding if the writers are a reliable source.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex\\_marriage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage). The page title is "Same-sex marriage". Below the title, it says "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". A red text box contains the message: *"Marriage equality" redirects here. For other uses, see Marriage equality (disambiguation).*

The main text begins: **Same-sex marriage** (also known as **gay marriage**) is **marriage** between two people of the same sex. Legal recognition of same-sex marriage or the possibility to perform a same-sex marriage is sometimes referred to as **marriage equality** or **equal marriage**, particularly by supporters.<sup>[1][2][3][4][5]</sup> The legalization of same-sex marriage is

On the right side of the page, there is a table titled "Legal status of same-sex relationships". The table has a header "Marriage" and a "[hide]" link. The table lists countries and their legal status:

Legal status of same-sex relationships	
Marriage	[hide]
Argentina	South Africa
Belgium	Spain
Brazil	Sweden
Canada	United Kingdom:
Denmark:	· England and Wales
· Denmark proper	· Scotland*
France	United States:

At the bottom left of the browser window, the URL [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:RecentChanges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:RecentChanges) is visible.



# Recent Changes

- Once pull up, the Recent Changes will be found in list form.
- Click on “Contribs”

WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

**Recent changes**

Track the most recent changes to the wiki on this page.

**This page:** Discuss this page – What does this page mean? Recent changes for: [Featured articles](#) – [Good articles](#) – [Living people](#)

**Utilities:** [RC patrol](#) – [New pages](#) – [New editors' contribs](#) – [IPs' contribs](#) – [Mobile contribs](#) – [Cleanup](#) – [Vandalism](#) – [Deletion](#) – [RFC](#) – [Backlogs](#)

**About us:** [Introduction/FAQ/Policy](#) – [Stats](#) – [News](#) – [Milestones](#) – [Village pump](#) – [Mailing lists](#) – [Chat](#) – [Wikipedia Signpost](#)

Recent changes options

Show last **50** | [100](#) | [250](#) | [500](#) changes in last 1 | [3](#) | [7](#) | [14](#) | [30](#) days

[Hide minor edits](#) | [Show bots](#) | [Hide anonymous users](#) | [Hide registered users](#) | [Hide my edits](#) | [Show Wikidata](#)

Show new changes starting from 17:14, 17 November 2014

Namespace:   Invert selection  Associated namespace

Tag filter:

**Legend:** [\(help\)](#) [\[collapse\]](#)

- N** This edit created a new page (also see list of new pages)
- m** This is a minor edit
- b** This edit was performed by a bot
- D** Wikidata edit
- ±123** The page size changed by this number of bytes

**17 November 2014**

- [\(diff | hist\)](#) . . [Paul Harvey \(actor\)](#); 17:14 . . (0) . . [Koplimek \(talk | contribs\)](#) (*→Partial filmography: update*)
- [\(diff | hist\)](#) . . [Russell Martin](#); 17:14 . . (+53) . . [71.224.74.137 \(talk\)](#) (*Tags: Mobile app edit, Mobile edit*)
- [\(diff | hist\)](#) . . [m 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team \(United States\)](#); 17:14 . . (+1) . . [Mikeofv \(talk | contribs\)](#)
- [\(diff | hist\)](#) . . [Arnprior District High School](#); 17:14 . . (+43) . . [Mindmatrix \(talk | contribs\)](#) (*added Category:1876 establishments in Canada using HotCat*)
- [\(diff | hist\)](#) . . [Category:Head-mounted displays](#); 17:14 . . (+319) . . [Veikk0.ma \(talk | contribs\)](#) (*Added description and templates.*)
- [\(Block log\): 17:14](#) — [Master of Puppets \(talk | contribs\)](#) blocked [Billybbjoe9+10=21 \(talk | contribs\)](#) (account creation blocked) with an expiry time of

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:Contributions/Koplimek

# Not so Reliable Contribution...

- Look to see what other wiki pages they are adding information too.
- For example, this editor has edited Gay marriage and football teams. Could this be a sign that this article is not reliable?

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:Contributions/ProKro`. The page title is "User contributions" and it includes a search box and various filters. The main content area displays a list of contributions:

- (newest | oldest) View (newer 50 | older 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)
- 17:14, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+3) .. m Flare **(current)**
- 17:14, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+38) .. m Flare (→*Flares and football*)
- 17:05, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-1) .. m Croatia national football team (→*Current squad*) **(current)**
- 17:02, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-3) .. m Croatia national football team (*No source for ARG-CRO attendance, clean-up, style.*)
- 15:30, 16 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-9) .. m Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (→*Reception*)
- 17:56, 14 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+2) .. m Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (→*Episodes: Style*)
- 17:55, 14 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-191) .. m Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (→*Episodes*)
- 15:11, 14 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (0) .. m Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2 (*Undid revision 633049796 by 50.130.124.158 (talk) - the songs' page clearly says "Noise"*) **(current)**
- 15:10, 14 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+1) .. m Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2 (*"female characters" will suffice*)

# Maybe a more reliable source....

- Maybe Justin Trottier the canadian association for equality spokesman is more related to Gay marriage.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:Contributions/Fyddlestix`. The page title is "User contributions" and it is for the user "Fyddlestix". The page includes a search box for contributions and a list of recent edits. The list shows contributions from 2014, with the most recent being on November 17, 2014.

**User contributions** Help:User contributions

For **Fyddlestix** (talk | block log | uploads | logs | filter log)

Search for contributions

Show contributions of new accounts only  
 User:

Namespace:   Invert selection  Associated namespace

Tag filter:

Only show edits that are latest revisions  Only show edits that are page creations

From year (and earlier):  From month (and earlier):

- 17:14, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+7) .. Justin Trottier **(current)**
- 17:13, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+192) .. Justin Trottier
- 17:07, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+384) .. Talk:Justin Trottier (→Article changes) **(current)**
- 16:57, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+2,565) .. Justin Trottier (→Canadian Centre for Men and Families)
- 15:35, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+93) .. Talk:Justin Trottier
- 15:35, 17 November 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+237) .. Talk:Justin Trottier (→Article changes)
- 21:11, 30 July 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-4) .. m Realignment plan (grammar fix, "the Israel")
- 22:33, 28 July 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+11) .. m Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 (grammar fix)
- 16:06, 7 February 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+14) .. Talk:Minimum wage in the United States (→Prior Law Section)
- 14:40, 7 February 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+92) .. Talk:Minimum wage in the United States (→Prior Law Section)
- 14:40, 7 February 2014 (diff | hist) .. (+351) .. Talk:Minimum wage in the United States (→Prior Law Section)
- 14:20, 7 February 2014 (diff | hist) .. (-322) .. Talk:Minimum wage in the United States

# Downside to looking up Contributions.

- There is no way to find what the writer/editor added or took away for the web page.
- The only information given about the writer is their wikipedia username.
- There is no way to looking up the people that edited the page and as a result there is no way to find their credentials.

# PART THREE

## Locked Articles: Edits and Reliability



# New Lock System

Wikipedia has come up with a new lock system that protects articles from being edited by any person who has an account with Wikipedia. This part of the program will explain the lock system and the different features that come along with it. It will also discuss the editing process for locked article and the ins and outs of access to editing. The final slide will present an analysis of the reliability of these locked articles.

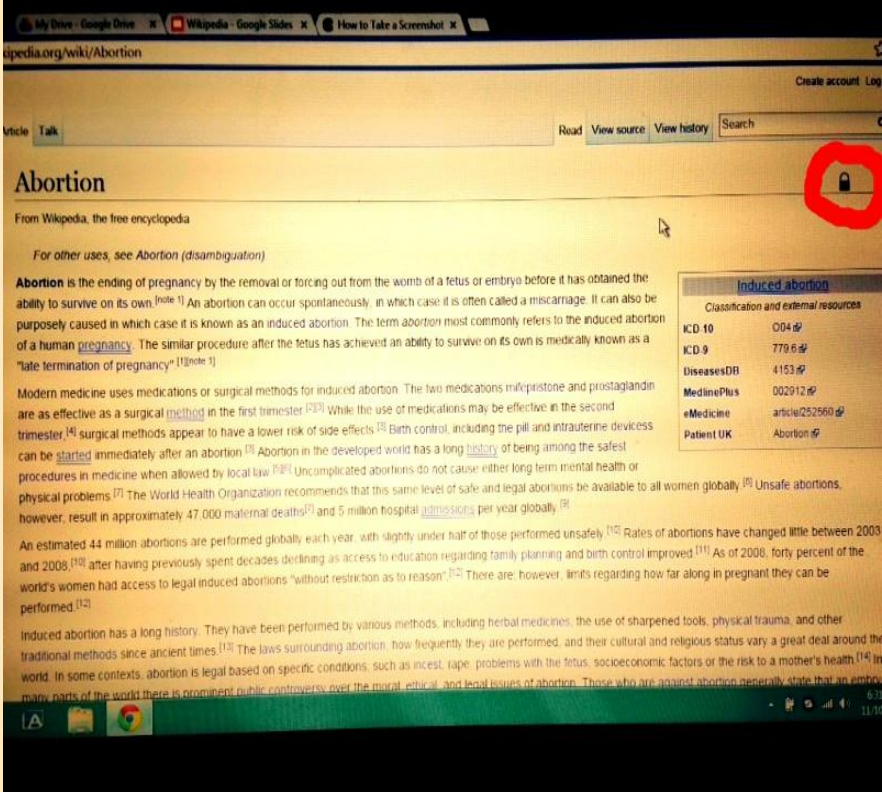
First, follow to this link to the Abortion article on Wikipedia which will be used as this portions example article:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abortion>

# How Can One Find Out What Each Lock Means?

- For example: If one was to google a topic, for this presentation Abortion is the topic of choice, and look to the right hand side under the search bar than one can figure out if the article is locked.
- The lock may range in color which differentiates what kind of protection the lock has.
- If one clicks on the lock then Wikipedia will take them to the Wikipedia Protection Policy Page.

Can also follow this link: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Protection\\_policy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Protection_policy)



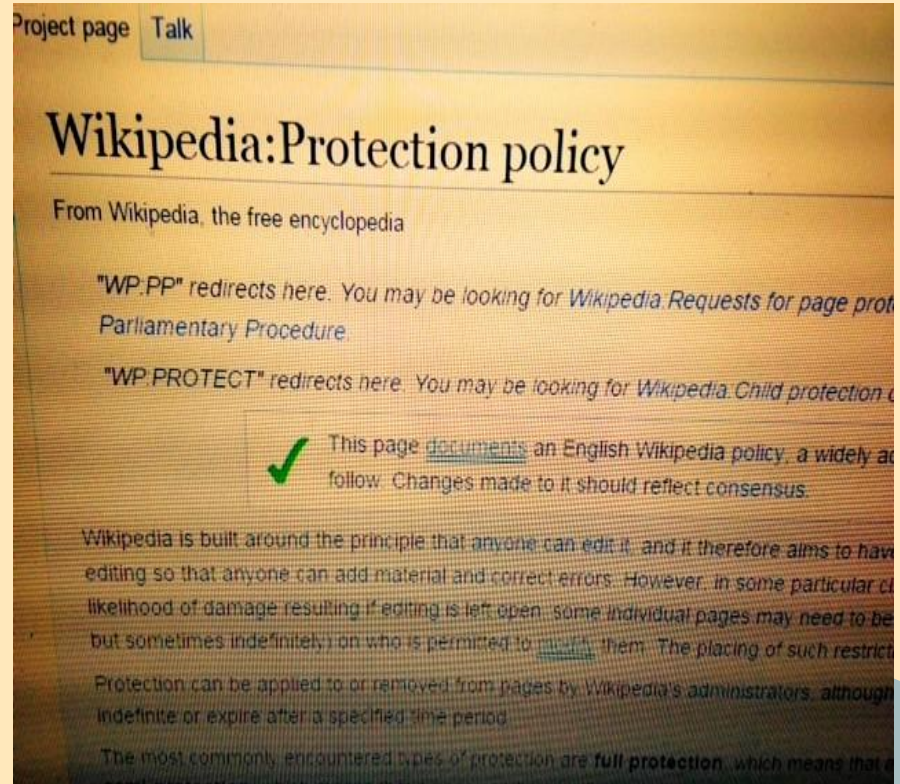
The screenshot shows the Wikipedia article for 'Abortion'. In the top right corner, there is a red padlock icon, which indicates that the article is protected. The article text discusses the definition of abortion, its history, and its legal status in various countries. A table titled 'Induced abortion' is visible on the right side of the page, listing various codes and their corresponding values.

Induced abortion	
Classification and external resources	
ICD-10	004 <a href="#">#</a>
ICD-9	778.6 <a href="#">#</a>
DiseasesDB	4153 <a href="#">#</a>
MedlinePlus	002912 <a href="#">#</a>
eMedicine	article/252560 <a href="#">#</a>
Patient UK	Abortion <a href="#">#</a>



# Wikipedia Protection Policy

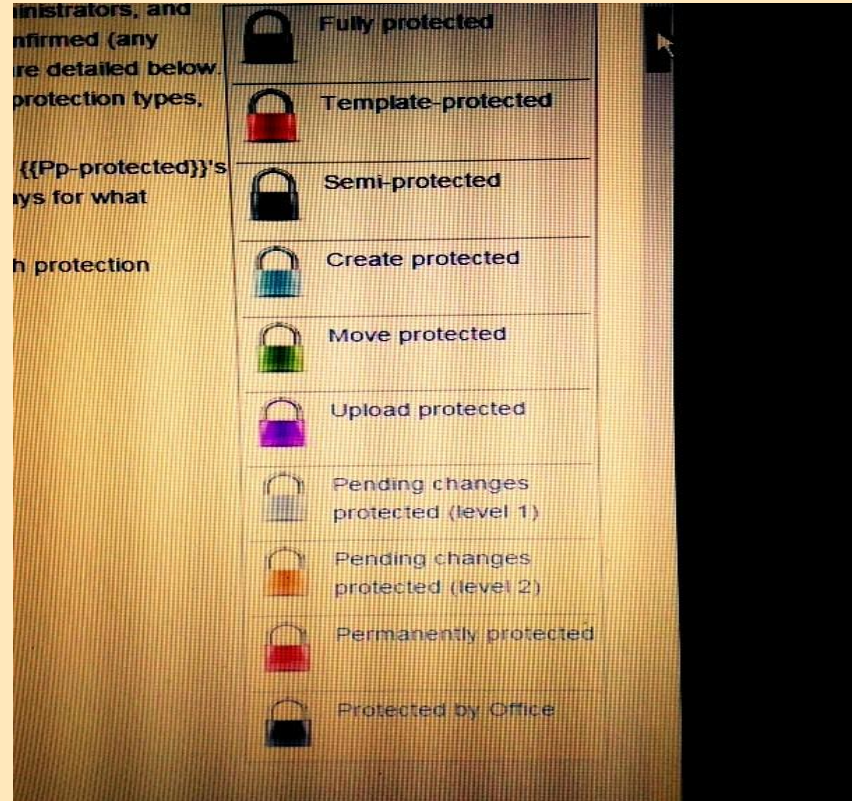
- When one clicks on the lock, Wikipedia will automatically take a researcher to the description of the lock which was presented on the article.
- One should scroll back up to the top of the page and read through the whole protection policy to fully understand the locking system as a whole.
- On this page, Wikipedia explains that while having an open edit policy that policy can also be very risky. In order to protect the information posted from vandalism Wikipedia has decide to protect some articles.





# Locks, Locks, and More Locks!

- Along the side the Protection Policy description all of the locks are display.
- One can then click on any of the locks and see a description of the lock.
- The descriptions include: what the lock protects, who can edit/what the requirements of editors are, how long each lock will exists on an article, and Wikipedia also presents tips on how to not vandalise articles.



# Short Explanations of Each Lock

## Wikipedia's Short Overview of Each Lock:

- **Full protection** prevents editing by everyone except [administrators](#). Fully protected media files cannot be overwritten by new uploads.
- **Semi-protection** prevents editing by unregistered contributors and contributors with accounts that are not [confirmed](#).
- **Creation protection** prevents a page (normally a previously [deleted](#) one) from being recreated (also known as "salting").
- **Move protection** protects the page solely from [renaming/moving](#).
- **Upload protection** prevents new versions of a file from being [uploaded](#) except by [administrators](#), but it does not prevent editing the file's description page.
- **Pending-changes protection** means edits by unregistered and new contributors are not visible to readers who are not logged in, until the edits are approved by a [reviewer](#) or administrator.

These short explanations can be found on the [Protection Policy Page](#)\*

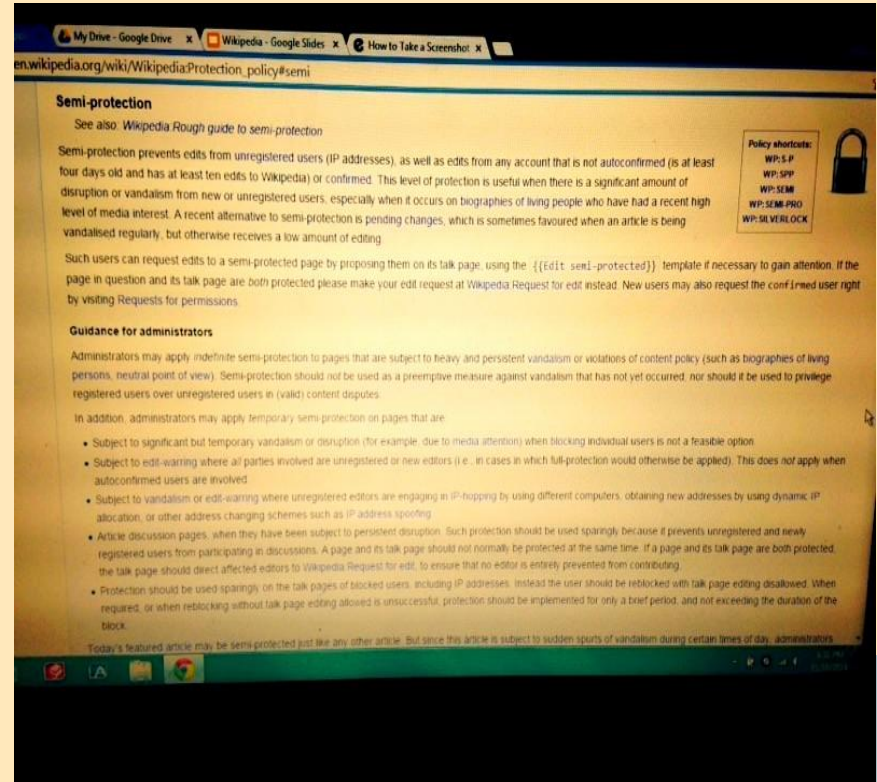
# More Detailed Explanation of Each Lock

- The further down the page there is a comparison table that includes all the locks created by Wikipedia.
- This table shows who can edit articles that have certain locks.
- This graph can allow a person to visually see what each lock protects and who can exactly edit under each lock.

	Unregistered, New	Autoconfirmed, Confirmed	Reviewer	Administrator	Appropriate for*
No protection	can edit. changes go live** immediately, no acceptance required				The vast majority of pages
Pending changes level 1 protection	can edit. changes will go live after being accepted by a reviewer	can edit. changes go live immediately (if no previous pending changes remain to be accepted)	can edit. changes go live immediately,*** can accept pending changes		Infrequently edited articles that are experiencing high levels of vandalism or BLP violations from unregistered and new users
Semi-protection	cannot edit		can edit. changes go live immediately, no acceptance required		Articles experiencing high levels of vandalism or edit warring from unregistered and new users, and for some highly visible templates and modules
Pending changes level 2 protection	can edit. changes will go live after being accepted by a reviewer		can edit. changes go live immediately, can accept pending changes		No consensus for use on the English Wikipedia per WP:PC2012/RFC 1
Pending changes level 2 with Semi-protection	cannot edit	can edit. changes will go live after being accepted by a reviewer	can edit. changes go live immediately, can accept pending changes		No consensus for use on the English Wikipedia per WP:PC2012/RFC 1
Template protection	cannot edit	can edit. changes go live immediately, no acceptance required	cannot edit	can edit. changes go live immediately, no acceptance required	High-use templates and modules
Full protection		cannot edit		can edit. changes go live immediately, no acceptance required	Articles experiencing persistent vandalism or edit warring from autoconfirmed accounts, and for critically important templates and modules

# Most Popular Lock: Semi-Lock

- The Semi-Lock is one of the more common locks used by Wikipedia.
- As stated by Wikipedia under the description of the Semi-Lock, “This level of protection is useful when there is a significant amount of disruption or vandalism from new or unregistered users, especially when it occurs on biographies of living people who have had a recent high level of media interest”
- The description also includes how a person can go about getting permission to edit a Semi-Locked article.
- For example, other articles that are also locked include: Ebola, Gay Rights, World War II, and many political figures.





# Who Can Edit Locked Articles and How Difficult is it to Do So?

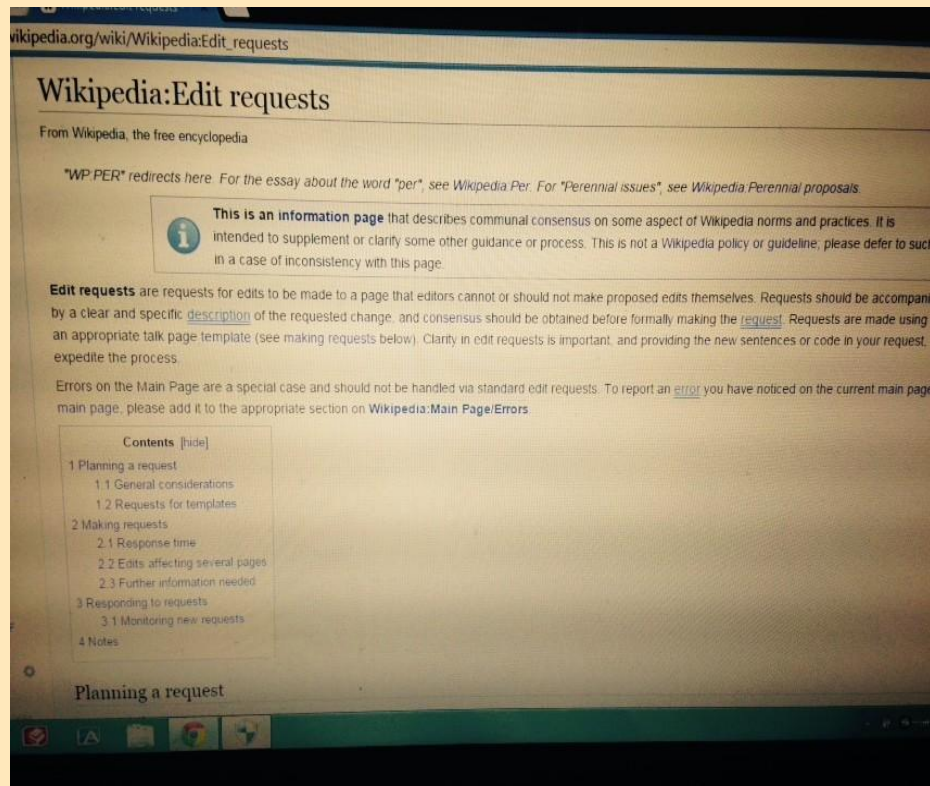
## Wikipedia: Request to Edit Form

- In the description of the Semi-Lock, there is a sentence that describes how a person can go about editing a semi-locked article:

“If the page in question and its talk page are *both* protected please make your edit request at Wikipedia:Request for edit instead”

- One can click on the highlighted portion and Wikipedia will take the researcher to the Wikipedia: Edit Request page to learn how to edit locked articles.

Follow this link: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Edit\\_requests](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Edit_requests)



# Who Can Edit Locked Articles and How Difficult is it to Do So?

- If one continues to scroll down the page, there is a section dedicated to edit requests.
- In order for a person to edit an article they must meet certain criteria.
- In general, the criteria for editing is the same across the board (the only exception is Template edits).
- The second bullet point in the criteria may be the most important one of them all; it asks the potential editor to give a specific piece of evidence that they wish to edit AND they have to write a short paragraph explain why and how they want to edit that piece of evidence.
- Through this description, one can also learn that an Administrator will review their request before the editor is able to edit.

## General considerations

Edit requests for articles should meet four basic [criteria](#). Edit requests for templates should meet these as well as for templates below. Before requesting an edit, please consider the following points:

1. **Is an edit request necessary?** If the protection on a page is of short duration or is about to expire, consider yourself. If the page is semi-protected and you are nearing the threshold to edit such pages yourself (10 edits you can do it yourself).
2. **Is the request specific?** Any edit request *must* be accompanied by a *detailed* and *specific* description of what or phrases should be replaced, and what they should be replaced with.
3. **Is the request sensible?** It is sensible to perform basic tidying such as ensuring all references are properly flows correctly after the text is changed.
4. **Is the request controversial?** Edit requests for fully protected pages must be handled by an administrator. uncontroversial improvements (correcting typos or grammar, formatting references, etc. in articles, or improvements supported by a consensus of editors, usually on the protected page's talkpage. Please *do not* add the `{{edit request}}` change, as it clutters up the relevant edit request category with unactionable requests. If consensus is required on sooner, please indicate a clear consensus rather than requiring the admin to read pages of discussion.

Responding editors may decline to make any edit, and are especially likely to reject edits that are controversial, *viola*. There is a forum at [Wikipedia:Requests for page protection](#) to discuss significant or controversial edits to protected pages.

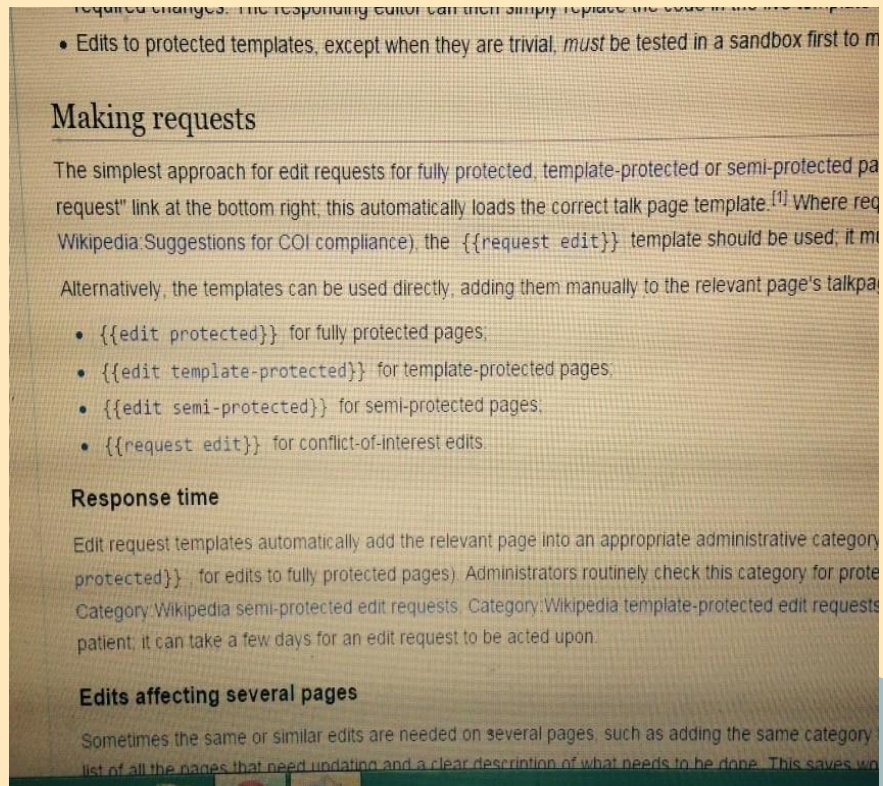
## Requests for templates

If you are requesting a complex change to a template, place the required code on the template's sandbox copy. This is a live template. Instead of pasting the code on the talk page, which can affect its readability, just place a link to the /sandbox page.

- As above, clearly indicate which lines of code need to be changed, or (ideally) provide a link or diff to a sandbox with the required changes. The responding editor can then simply replace the code in the live template with the code from the sandbox.
- Edits to protected templates, except when they are trivial, *must* be tested in a sandbox first to make sure that they

# Who Can Edit Locked Articles and How Difficult is it to Do So?

- Further down the page, one can find templates for requests to edit articles that fall under different locks.
- A potential editor can then click on the corresponding request page to the lock on the article, and then request to edit an article.
- Below this section Wikipedia explains the response time to a request. It may take a few days for a edit to be approved.



# General Conclusions of Locked Articles

- So what are some general conclusions that can be made about Wikipedia locked articles?
  - Articles that are locked could be argued as more reliable. Since individuals have to submit a report on what they wish to edit and have it approved it limits the amount of useless information that can be put on these articles.
  - The different locks protect different components of the articles which helps make each component of the article to be just as reliable.



# PART FOUR

## THE CONCLUSION



# Conclusions from this Presentation

What can one learn from this program?

- Anyone with a Wikipedia account can edit articles without hassle if the articles are UNLOCKED.
- If a user wants to edit a LOCKED article, he or she must get approval first since it is a different process
- When using references, the more an article has, the more ways to check the facts within the article
- Also make sure the reference is from a credible source
- It is good to understand all the different “lock levels”

# Thoughts from a Monmouth College Professor

If one still needs some convincing after going through this whole program, here are some thoughts from a Monmouth College History Professor who also looked through this program!

“I really like this presentation--I learned some important information about Wikipedia!”

“I now know more about how an article is created and edited. I also did not know about the lock features, and the way that edits are reviewed by other users.”