



**So,  
You're  
18**

**Now . . .**

**A Survival Guide for Young Adults:  
Rights and Responsibilities**

A public information product of the  
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# SO, YOU'RE *18* NOW

A Survival Guide for Young Adults: Rights and Responsibilities

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# Introduction

This booklet is designed to give you some basic information on the new rights and responsibilities you have when you turn 18 years old and become an adult in the eyes of the law.

As an adult, you have many new rights, including the right to:

- vote in public elections
- hold a public office
- rent an apartment in your own name
- buy a car in your own name
- get credit in your own name
- get married without your parents' consent
- get medical treatment without your parents' consent
- join the military without your parents' consent.

In addition to your new rights, you also have many new responsibilities, including:

- registering for the draft (if you are male)
- your own support (your parents are no longer required to support you)
- paying back any money that you borrow
- accidents or injuries you cause
- your actions as an adult (juvenile law no longer applies to you)
- jury duty, if called to serve on a jury.

This booklet will provide brief answers to some of the questions that you may have about your rights and responsibilities as an adult. It may not answer all of your questions. For more information, turn to the "Resources" section in the back of this booklet.

