**Age of Responsibility- Key Concepts: The Three “R’s”**

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| **Rites** | Customary rituals, practices, or procedures.  **Can be:** *formal or informal; personal, familial, cultural,*  *National, or international.*  Sometimes accompany or include legal rights, but legality is not required.  **“Rite of Passage” refers to a cultural milestone such as: graduating high school, that indicates maturity and passage into adulthood.** | **Examples:** |
| **Rights** | That which is due to anyone through legal claims, privileges, freedoms, etc.  *Many laws are based on moral or ethical principles, but being morally right does not guarantee legal protection.*  **Local, State, National and International governments all have the power to confer or revoke an individual’s rights.** | **Examples:** |
| **Responsibilities** | Obligations, accountabilities, awareness of the consequences for one’s actions.  *The World English Dictionary also defines responsibility as “the ability or authority to act or decide on one’s own, without supervision.*  **Responsibilities may be legal, personal, or both.** | **Examples:** |
| **Putting all three concepts together:** | | |