

# IT'S THE LAW

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This dog is **not**  
**wearing**  
**a collar.** →

People ignore the law  
all the time, without  
even realizing it.



← **Littering** is a simple way  
to break the law.



When people ignore the law, it creates a dangerous situation for themselves and others.

← This man is **crossing against the light**. This is creating a dangerous situation.

Although you may think it is not a big deal if you draw on the side of a store or building, it is! Without permission of the owner, you are damaging his/her property.




← This is called **vandalism**. That means you deliberately damage or destroy other people's property. It's against the law!

Parking your car in a **no-standing zone** or **in front of a fire hydrant** is also against the law.



There are reminders everywhere, so why do people still break the law?

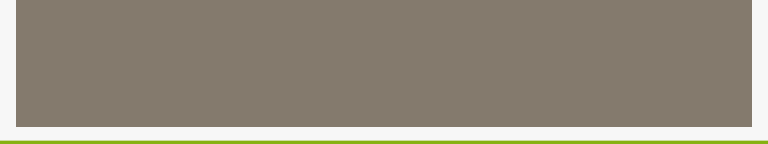




People ignore the law all the time, sometimes on purpose, sometimes by accident. There are so many ways to break the law, and each one of them is bad. When people break the law, it affects not only themselves but other people. For example, if you cross the street against the light, someone else on the curb may think it's okay to cross and may get hurt.

Breaking the law is wrong. The laws are written to keep us safe and by breaking them, we may be putting ourselves or others in danger. When you park your car in front of a fire hydrant, it's putting others in danger because if there was a fire in a nearby building, the firefighters would not have access to the fire hydrant. If someone smokes in the park, they are polluting the fresh air in the park. If you walk your dog without a leash, they could run out in traffic or bite someone and you wouldn't be able to hold them back. There are so many more laws, each one written for a reason, and by breaking the law it's like showing you don't care.

President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Ours is a government of liberty, by, through, and under the law. No man is above it, and no man is below it." He meant that everyone has to follow the law. Nobody is too good for the law (or "above" it). We need laws to keep us safe. [www.studyzone.org](http://www.studyzone.org) says, "Laws apply to everyone equally. A community needs laws. If there were no laws our lives would be very different." They're right. We need laws, and everyone has to follow the law. Next page →



In conclusion, laws are here for a reason, and people who break the law are putting themselves and others in danger. Laws are important. They're written to keep society safe. Next time you see a sign telling you not to litter or to curb your dog, don't ignore it because it's important to follow the law!