Scandals & Controversies

* Sometimes countries have boycotted or not been invited to the Olympics because of wars and political differences.
* Drugs which improve performance have been banned since 1967, but some competitors have continued to use them… and then been stripped of their medals.
* Women were banned from the Olympic teams of several countries until 2012.
* There have been protests about how indigenous people (the people who originally lived in a country) have been treated at several Olympic Games.
* South Africa was banned from 1964-1992 due to its racist laws, known as Apartheid.
* Most recently, Russia’s homophobic (anti-gay) laws caused boycotts and protests at the 2014 Winter Olympics.

