

## Human Rights

Human rights and social justice are rights that all human beings deserve and should have. They are like a set of rules or guidelines that state the way any and all human beings should be treated. No, matter their race, religion, skin colour, age, gender or background. No one should be discriminated against just because they look different or believe in something. Unfortunately, many people are looked at differently because of there race or religion. Everyone has the right to an education, to be free, have a family, own a house, have a nationality, and to just be treated equally. In this society sometimes, this is not the case and people are discriminated against and looked at differently.

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights Article 23: "The right to work, to a fair wage, and join a trade union" is abused in our community. There are many people unemployed not because they chose to be or lack the skills, but because they cannot find work because they have a different skin colour, or might wear a headscarf/turban. This discrimination against people is not what the human rights are promoting in Australia, but unfortunately still occurs. Also, Article 14: states that "everyone has the right to a nationality" to an individual background. Australia is a multicultural country and should have individual nationality.

People are discriminated against everyday from schools to the workforce and even in the bigger picture. Take the war between Lebanon and Israel they both have different religions and believe in different things. Both of them are as bad as each other because they are both stalemate. Think of all the innocent people who live in those countries, including many children. They are not being given this simple thing of a nationality and are being judged by what they believe in and follow. This is a major problem and needs to be taken under control. I am sure that if you have been out and seen someone that looked different, wether it be they have a different skin colour or were wearing a sari. Well these people are just the same as you and me they just have a different nationality.

Equal opportunity is also a big part of human rights and social justice. Treating people equally and providing all citizens with equal rights, no matter who they are. The United Nations Article 26: States, "everyone has the right to an education". Everyone should be able to attend school, or just get a basic education. School isn't just about learning your times tables and the alphabet, but to prepare yourself for the big wide word, and the work industry. No matter anyone's circumstances, everyone should have the right to basic education.

Women haven't always had the chance to take part in the government, and to vote. This was a big issue and many people fought for this right. This didn't show social justice and women were discriminated against. Luckily, now in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights Article 21: states, "Everyone has the right to take part in government". This relates to everyone including women. One day when I was looking after my baby

cousin, I took him for a walk. I was just minding my own business when I started to get these weird looks. One lady came up to me and said, "Is that your child?" At that moment, I realised that those people looking at me differently thought that my cousin was my own child and I felt my rights were abused. I was only 14 at the time and was shocked that people thought a person as young as I was would have a child. Now when I think back on it, I think they judged me due to the fact of stereotypes in society. Also, because of the recent outrage of teen pregnancy around the world.

Therefore, in Australia human rights have been declared but not in forced. If Australia wants to be a fair and balanced society, everyone including people of other religions, cultures or backgrounds must be educated on human rights. Australia has many freedoms including freedom of speech. We should use our voice to help people instead of discriminate against others.