

## “Freedom of Expression”

Kaleigh Sullivan

July 20th, 2022

All people of the world must strive for freedom of expression, not as a project, not as a side endeavor, we must do this because it is our life's work. It must be indistinguishable from every effort made to bring peace, freedom, and justice to the world. Freedom of expression is the neverending key of righteous inclusion in the sight of past and current exclusion. It is a key moral that must thrive in everything we are and do, beginning with the leaders of our world and right down to the last person. It must live in our daily lives, from purchasing goods, to our companies, even down to our input in local and federal governments. Freedom of expression is a large canvas, it covers diversity, freedom, equality, inclusion, justice, along with every race, gender orientation, political view, and religious affiliation. It respects the young and old, rich or poor, nationality, and level of education. Freedom of expression brings diversity, justice, peace, freedom, and so much more to dwell in all of our lives.

In our world, freedom of expression means this right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers, (Equality and Human Rights Commission) which is only achieved by taking away the fear of prosecution by others, and the uplifting of the voices that are so often unrepresented and covered up by historical exclusion. As George Orwell said, “If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.” Freedom of expression means listening to people and voices that counteract set ideas and renderings that were installed without the thought of the current diversity and changes we now must learn to see.

By taking examples from so many inspiring voices from the past, such as John Tinker and his siblings, Mary Beth, Hope, and Paul, along with the support of their friend, Christopher Eckhart. John and others used their right of freedom of expression to voice their opinions of the Vietnam war to their peers, a constitutional right, and were prosecuted by the school system for doing so. By simply expressing their freedom of expression, they were persecuted for varying from the mainstream view of the Vietnam war. We can use their case as an inspiration and see how their use of freedom of expression has left a legacy of bravery and standing up for our freedoms, even when others are against us.

In our current world, freedom of expression means bringing people together in their differences and in their similarities, changing bias and preconception to peace, freedom, and justice as we bring back the truth and understanding that has been covered by centuries of misconception and historical exclusion of minorities and the misrepresented. “We must not be confused about what freedom is. Basic human rights are simple and easily understood: freedom of speech and a free press; freedom of religion and worship; freedom of assembly and the right of petition; the right of men to be secure in their homes and free from unreasonable search and seizure and from arbitrary arrest and punishment.” Eleanor Roosevelt was a fierce activist who fought for human rights. She reminds us that with freedom of expression, we are working to build a world that values peace, justice, and freedom, so that together, we can build a country that becomes the perfect America, so that each and every human has the opportunity to voice their opinion, the right to justice, freedom, and the overall right of peace.

Freedom of expression means that we are bringing together opinions and voices that are seldom heard in the midst of bigotry and bias. It means stopping the unjust tearing down of ideas

that contradict historical and short-sighted views, along with social exclusion of misrepresented communities who do not share the same views as others.

In our world, freedom of expression is not just an idea or saying, it is an undeniable right that each human must possess, as it gives each person peace, justice, and freedom. As we can learn to use and honor freedom of expression throughout our daily lives, the world will become a just, fair and peaceful place.

#### Sources

“Article 10: Freedom of Expression.” Article 10: Freedom of Expression | Equality and Human Rights Commission,

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/human-rights-act/article-10-freedom-expression>.

Findlaw's United States Supreme Court case and opinions. Findlaw. (n.d.). Retrieved August 1, 2022, from <https://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-supreme-court/393/503.html>

Eidenmuller, M. E. (n.d.). Eleanor Roosevelt. American rhetoric: Eleanor Roosevelt -- "The struggle for human rights". Retrieved August 1, 2022, from

<https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/eleanorroosevelt.htm>