

Name Arjuna Kirupakaran

Age as of August 10, 22 : 12 Years Old

Name of School West Babylon High School

Grade Level : 7th Grade

How Freedom of Speech Can Change The World  
By Arjuna Kirupakaran

Freedom of speech. A fundamental right for all human beings. About as vital to a woman as food and water. Surprisingly, it's a highly debated topic. Some think it's unjust, creates a sort of mob mentality, and incites violence within people, while others think it's the reason the United States of America blossomed into such a strong, fair country and a safe place for people to live and raise their families. And I wholeheartedly support free speech because it is the sole reason America is a role model country. Free speech is what legendary activists like Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. made a difference in history and shaped our world. Free speech is how women got the right to vote.

and the respect they deserved. Free speech African Americans challenged hate and made their children grew up in a more equal world. Because of free speech, we can express ourselves freely without limitations or government interference. Because of free speech, we can speak our minds. Because of free speech, we can practice any religion. Because of free speech, we can influence the choices of government by peaceful protest or petition. Because of free speech, we can choose leaders and government members who proudly represent the "American

A reason that supports that claim is free speech is robustly linked to prosperity and success in this country. Think about America. Our tradition of free speech may have led us to be the most prosperous country in the world. Why is that? Freedom of Speech by Voltaire. Long Fa, free speech is inextricably linked to prosperity because prosperity comes from new ideas, and new ideas thrive only in a strong society in which there is no suppression, meaning great ideas flourish if

they aren't concealed or restrained by the  
It's quite easy of to extremely loved ideas that  
once contentious—for example, that all idea  
children, regardless of race and religion, should  
same educational opportunities. Thanks to our  
of free speech, forward-looking ideas reshaped  
society for the better. Personally, to add that  
really want you to think deeply about this  
have the freedom to loudly speak without no limitations  
government interference, all children, regardless  
and religion, have the opportunity to get  
education and one day grow up to become  
neurosurgeons, lawyers, scientists, and even  
president of our great nation.

Another reason that supports my claim is  
speech promotes equal treatment to minority groups  
minority group is a culturally, ethnically, or  
distinct group that coexists with but is sub  
more dominant social groups, the minority  
groups are African Americans, American Indian

Alaska Natives, Asians and Islanders, and Hispanics. The more dominant social group non-Hispanic whites. According to Why is Freedom of Speech Important in a Democracy? Eleanor Brooks, minority groups are harshly underrepresented in government and their opinions are neglected. Those belonging to the dominant social group campaigning, peaceful protest and speaking out about the issues faced by their communities. Members of minority groups can gain widespread support for their cause. This is their ability to influence public agenda-setting and end to crack human rights abuses. This is a really important topic that people should be discussing more. If countries had a strong tolerance for free speech, regardless of social group, could influence government's choices for the better. They could promote racial equality and a safer, better world for everyone where things like racism and the favoring of the dominant group was a thing of the past.

Another reason that supports my claim is tolerance for free speech is needed for advancement and innovation in a country. A country can only stand and move on with a strong sense of free speech. According to *Why is Freedom of Speech a Democracy?* by Eleanor Brooks, we all want to become more and fair better for everyone, but to happen, societies need to encourage and in freedom of expression. Authoritarian governments who suppress the criticism opinions of citizens and withhold public interest information deny us the right to make informed and well thought decisions. Hiding important information causes issues to fester and deteriorate. This slows down progress and finding a solution much more difficult when the truth finally comes to light. We have actual evidence that shows what happens when the government mutes the voice of their citizens. Some time ago a Chinese doctor desperately attempted to warn the community about a fatal virus known as COVID-19.

But the government accused him of "spreading lies" and ordered the doctor to "stop making false comments". This lethal slip up had the effect of delaying the introduction of measures to combat Covid-19, which resulted in a global pandemic and billions of deaths that could have been easily avoided if the government didn't mute the desperate plea of a man who wanted to look out for his country. This just makes my blood boil. Because of this, I spent nearly 2 years of education with my friends. Lives were lost at the blink of an eye in countries entirely collapsed. House prices skyrocketed and all essential items faced a shortage. Americans faced unemployment and economic issues. All because a country didn't tolerate free speech. This atrocious event has strongly proven the need to have a strong tolerance for free speech and the need to encourage and invigorate freedom of expression.

In conclusion, free speech has been proven to be the foundation for a good society. Free speech

nancial prosperity, it promotes equal treatment for minority groups and it is necessary for change and innovation. Some people will try to convince you that it incites violence in people and causes riots, but that happened at Lee Zeldin's campaign speech. People say that it offends people and is important to get government information. But there is more good in that speech than bad. A great example of how the internet has largely impacted us is the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which lasted from Dec 5, 1955 - Dec 21, 1955 and began on December 1, 1955, when Rosa Parks, now widely known as one of the great leaders of the Modern Civil Rights Movement, bravely refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. If any white passenger would have simply shrugged and decided to take another bus seat. But this was not a time where Jim Crow Laws were basic. The white passenger and the bus driver immediately called the police and, in a split second, Parks was taken away in handcuffs. This protest enraged many. People then decided to protest and boycott the buses. This led to a massive chain

in the US, called boycotts, and then, after  
of protesting and getting to work, church  
less convenient way, the U.S. Supreme Court  
that segregation on public buses is unconsti  
Another example is the March on Washington  
occurred on August 28, 1963. On that his  
quarter million people led by American civil activists  
rights advocate Martin Luther King Jr. rallied in  
Washington, D.C. to end segregation, fair  
wages, economic justice, voting rights, educat  
long overdue civil rights. It was where Mart  
Luther King Jr. recited a his "I Have a Dream" speech and  
touched the hearts of people around the  
march was very successful in stressing the  
of J.F.K to initiate federal civil rights bill in  
Congress. Both of these events have greatly p  
free speech has brought us to great place  
is the reason why we can vote and spe  
government limitations. Free speech is the reason why  
can protest and campaign for good support. a Free  
speech is the reason why America is such  
strong country. Free speech is the reason



speaking out loud and let our voice be heard  
government so it can become stronger and  
ever ~~free~~ speech is how we make a new  
society for all.