Sandra Saevang

Every second, every minute, every hour, every day, we are given time, time to speak, time to think, time to believe, believe that this generation will one day say the words that will change this nation, our nation, though we are too scared to speak our thoughts. This is the future, the future we’re going to create, the future that we’ll create, and our future starts now, with just a simple sentence, the sentence, holding our thoughts.

My generation is the future, this generation, is our future, we have the ability to change the world, with a powerful mind, and a powerful voice, we can change this world, for better.  
To see people, friends, family, have a voice, what helps us communicate, interact with others, hidden until spoken to,  
but when given time to speak, no one dares utter a single sound. Why? Why should we stay quiet? When we cry, we make a sound, when we yell, we make a sound, but what about when we talk? Why can’t we make a sound, this is our voice, this is the time to be heard, let us be heard.

Do you know what I hear? I hear the cries of those who attempt to break free from these horrible, harmful shackles, that leaves one, not just speechless, but powerless, I hear their cries for help, I hear your desperate needs to scream the words, you’ve always wanted to say, you want to be set free, in those cries and pleads, you want to be set free. How should we feel? What do I feel? This isn’t a situation you feel as an individual, but as a whole, this must be fixed, not now, or later, a crisis this has become, but it’s my turn, our turn, to voice our thoughts, to gather strength, to conquer our fear, this will be cured.

You got a heart as loud as lions, so why let your voice be tamed? My generation, we have to be heard, we have to fight for what’s right, and what are we fighting for? The freedom of speech, but, my dear people, the world will not change through naïve talk, because we are weak, by learning and gaining experience, we will gain wisdom, to achieve the unachievable, to talk, to be happy, to be able to say, ‘’I am afraid no more’’.

My generation, don’t be the child afraid to tell others, for fear that your parents will beat you, again, don’t be.  
My generation, this is the time to stop saying, ‘’ I could’ve done it, I should’ve said it’’, but done what, said what? How will we know with a vague answer like that, but, instead, we can say, ‘’I’ll take this opportunity to say everything I wanted to say. My generation, we will stand together, right here, right now, we’re going to end our silent suffering, it is now or never, we choose now, here, standing together.

Like the great singer, Emeli Sande, said, ‘’you’ve got the words to change a nation, but you’re biting your tongue, you’ve spent a lifetime stuck in silence, afraid you’ll say something wrong’’. I have a dream that we will one day speak for ourselves, let us speak our minds, for, even if a fool dies, he won’t be cured. I have a dream that, we will strive for this goal, if we don’t end it, nothing will start. Even if nothing at all begins, we must still put an end to it.  
I have a dream, you, and I, will be able to say we’re happy, and genuinely be happy, let our voice be heard.

Joselyn Sandoval

I Have a Dream

Sexism is a global issue that manifests itself in cruel and unjust ways.  
In Saudi Arabia, it is in the prohibition of female drivers. In Pakistan, it’s the stoning of women by their own family, punishing for them for falling in love with the wrong guy. Sexism is a number greater than 160 million because that’s how many women are missing in the world. It is in the greater probability that a female in South Africa gets raped before she learns how to read.

I see a young woman in the Middle East take a stand only to be shot back down for claiming her right as a human being to education, but she is not yet defeated.  
I hear the war cry of woman all around the world for their rights, for respect, for equality.  
I feel the changing winds that blow through out the world giving women the courage to stand up for themselves and men to stand with them.

Now is the time to be liberated from the shackles of discrimination and the hard fist of violence.  
Now is the time to stand against the long practiced traditions of female oppression.  
Now is the time to end the cycle of women hate and neglect.  
Now is the time to fight for what is right, to fight for the childhood that a little girl in Iraq has the right to continue to have instead of the life of a wife attempted to be forced on to them.  
For as long as the three simple words “It’s a girl” are as deadly as any disease a baby could be born with in some parts of the world, we will fight for equality.  
As long as Men’s Rights Activists are ignorant are ignorant against feminists. We will unite, we will protest for our cause, for our rights as women as well as rights for men, for gender equality not female superiority. Women are human and sexism is a human problem not just a women problem. These women are our families, our communities, our future.

Like the courageous and remarkable Malala Yousafzai, a Nobel Peace Prize winner who advocates for women’s rights in the Middle East, said, “We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back.”  
If a nation does not use their women, then how do they expect to reach their potential.  
So women fight for your rights and the rights of other women, inspire and give courage to weary and broken women so they to can too be a voice.

I have a dream for a person’s sex or gender not to limit their reach, challenge their dreams, or determine their success.  
I have a dream that girls will have the equal opportunity to an education as boys.  
I have a dream for the term “like a girl” not to be any less empowering or meant as insult to people of either gender.  
I have a dream for women to come out of the shadows of oppression and instead stand in the light of equality beside a man instead of behind one and claim their rights.

James Ramos

I Have a Dream

Fellow classmates, friends, peers; as you should know, we are the future of our great nation. Today, ladies and gentlemen, we face a crisis. Today, I will speak for the neglected strong females; as they face the gut-wrenching feeling of inequality and adversity. Thank you for joining me, as I can’t do this alone.

More than 200 years ago, an inspirational feminist philosopher, named Mary Wollstonecraft, carried a legacy of the fight for women’s rights. She constructed and established her beliefs of women’s equality with the inferior man in writing. “A Vindication of the Rights of Woman” was the legendary title; as she believed this will change our nation for the sake of our sisters.

However today, women are still beaten from the fists of discrimination. However today, females are still proclaimed as the weak other. However today, there has been little change of equality of bother genders.

I see the daunting, reoccurring flames of discrimination illuminating the undervalued females of our nation. I hear the voices of overpowering men silencing the neglected voices of overlooked women. I feel the reopening laceration of inequality among men and women.

Morality impacting the minds of sexists is just like lightning that will strike a person, it probably will never occur. The handcuffs of judgment will soon be released with the keys of justice.

Now is the time for change to grasp the minds of unknown feminists. Now is the time for voiceless women to finally have the courage to reach their beliefs for justice to our nation. Now is time to bring, not just our brothers, but as well as our sisters to join at the table of togetherness and equality.

I have a dream that women will no longer be oppressed by the never-ending gravitational pull of power caused by the overvalued man. I have a dream that daughters would be treated with the same respect and value as the sons. I have a dream that sexism will collapse, and we, all united and equal, will build the house of righteousness and togetherness.

Cassidy Vang

Throughout the whole world bullying has become a problem and it has created a negative impact on kids of the past, the present, and the future. All the while this torture is believed as “part of growing up” and “helps in building character”. We shouldn’t allow the insecurities of neglected children to be taken an advantage of by bullies from the crystal glass hallways of education to the anonymous bubble of social media. A place, which can mask the identity of any bully. A bubble, like no other: one that can protect or separate the bully and the bullied. This abstract bubble of technology lowers the self-esteem of children and teenagers, whom are our future, the future of their own children.  
I hear silence from the bullied; I see silence watching the seed of humanity so improperly planted into the precious soil of maturity. One day, students can hold their heads up high above all the ignorance and discover their intelligence. One day, children will be able to stand up for each other. In our twenty-first century the infinite population of the human existence will define the character of our future children with the personalities of the children of today.  
Now is the time to teach children to be mindful of hurtful words, and to allow each others differences not be isolated in outcast but supported with appreciation. I want the good in others to rise, and for joy and happiness to spread into the world just as flowers would, blossoming in a pruned garden on the first day of spring. Now is the time for the bullied to speak up and to explain that when they look in the mirror they no longer want to see what is wrong with themselves but to find the perfect in their imperfections. Even if perfection is an image that society creates of the ugly and the pretty, now is the time to end the want of rearranging oneself to be able to fit into this complicated puzzle piece of reality.  
I have a dream that someday kids can be confident in their own skin and comfortable enough to face their bullies with their followers and more importantly be able to forgive forgiveness that is sought. I have a dream that it will become easier for children who feel imprisoned by the words that cut like knives to free themselves and others from the heavy chains of harassment so that one day their sons and daughters will learn the true meaning of being themselves and not the idea that trying to fit in requires pushing others down to receive higher recognition. I have a dream today and that is for children and adults to realize bullying is a thing of the past. Like the great anti-bullying pop artist, Demi Lovato once said, “The end of bullying, begins with you.”

Mai Xiong

Each time a war is rage countless innocent lives are lost from Civil War or to a Revolution. To change a nation or to force a will to go through. People of Iraq. People of the US. People of Germany. People of Britain. People of France. We all believe we are fighting for freedom, but in truth we are fighting for our satisfactory.  
I see lifeless corpses with unclose eyes filled with tears of pain and sadness. I hear silent and loud cries of men, women, elderly and children. I feel the sadness and fear of those who are plug into war without being both mentally and physically ready. They are not soldiers, they are human. We are fighting like we are playing a game of chess. The sacrifice of pawns. The tactics of Rook, Bishop, and Knight. The protection of the King. Your either taking a life or protecting your territory. War is like a hunting game. You are the prey or the hunter. As long as leaders that continue to rise and chose war over reasoning it will become a long game of tic-tac-toe, ending in an impasse.  
As Martin Luther King said in his “I Have A Dream” speech,  
“Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plain of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protests to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. “  
We have been through World War 1, World War 2, Cold War, Civil Wars, and so many other wars. Now is the time to fix our mistakes for new leaders for our future. Now is the time to bring and achieve our founding fathers desires. Now is the time to carve a future of enlightment. War is man-made. Not a natural cause such as tornados or earthquakes.  
I have a dream no innocent lives or civilians will die by the decision of their country. I have a dream where nations will solve problems through diplomacy and agreements. I have a dream countries will cease pointing their weapons at each other. “Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind.” –John F. Kennedy