



An Open Letter to the Youth for Human Rights Summit Delegates Geneva, August 2010

Dear Youth for Human Rights delegates:

It was an honor for me personally to be with all of you in Geneva. Never in my life had I dreamed that I would meet and mingle with such a talented, fabulous, and dedicated Peace and Human Rights group of young people from around the world. Although, you all should be learning from us the adults, your passion for peace and human rights has changed my life.

During the summit, you all reminded me of a song once sang by Stevie Wonder entitled "Heaven Helps Us All" and the lyrics are:

"Heaven Help Us All"

Heaven help the child who never had a home,
Heaven help the girl who walks the street alone
Heaven help the roses if the bombs begin to fall,
Heaven help us all.

Heaven help the black man if he struggles one more day,
Heaven help the white man if he turns his back away,
Heaven help the man who kicks the man who has to crawl,
Heaven help us all.

Heaven help us all, heaven help us all, help us all.
Heaven help us, Lord, hear our call when we call
Oh, yeah!

Heaven help the boy who won't reach twenty-one,
Heaven help the man who gave that boy a gun.
Heaven help the people with their backs against the wall,
Lord, Heaven help us all.

Heaven help us all, heaven help us all, heaven help us all, help us all.
Heaven help us, Lord, hear our call when we call.

Now I lay me down before I go to sleep.
In a troubled world, I pray the Lord to keep, keep hatred from the mighty,
And the mighty from the small,
Heaven help us all.
Oh, oh, oh, yeah!
Heaven help us all.

As we all were gathered at the United Nation Chamber in Geneva, I prayed so many times that since we were in the hall of the mighty that the Lord should keep us (we the small people) from them (the Mighty).

Below are some of questions I hope each and every one of you will consider them important enough that you will do something about them as you grow up:

When you grow up and become the president of your country, will you use your power to oppress the voiceless or create fake wars for those that cannot defend themselves?

When you grow up and have the means to stop Human Trafficking, Genocides, Child Soldiers, Drugs, will you turn your back and pretend they do not exist?

When you grow up and become the Minister of Education in your country, will you not make Peace and human Rights Education number 1 priority on your national agenda?

When you grow up to be the best lawyer in your country, will you turn your back on the truth, and put innocent people in jail because of fame and greed?

When you grow up and become the best accountant and auditor in your country, will you use your power to steal your country's wealth for your personal gain, and leave millions in poverty?

When you grow up to be the best doctor in your country, will you deny the poor the right to treatment because they do not have the ability to pay you?

Let's all of us take a moment and think about the types of contribution Peace and Human Rights education can contribute to our lives.

I love you and I pray we meet again soon. Keep up the good work. The world is in your hands. Some of our leaders have turned this world upside down. Let's reverse it.

Peace and blessings

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