

Discrimination Is Still Here

by Medini Madhusudan

People say that each human has the same rights. Others say that some should get greater rights over others, just by judging their skin color, race, gender, or religion. How is it fair to do this? Aren't we all human beings? Shouldn't we all have the same rights? Some people say that humans have come much farther from what they were 500 years ago. When you consider all of the recent issues regarding discrimination and rights, have we really made any progress at all?

Five hundred years ago, America had slaves. Women weren't allowed to vote. People often had to be whatever religion their king was. Today, people of color have almost the same rights in the US as everyone else. Women have almost the same rights as men. We almost never have to be a certain religion. The key word there is *almost*.

You may be thinking how people of color have less rights than everyone else. When looking through college applications, colleges (especially top colleges), tend to favor Hispanic people more. They encourage them by giving them scholarships, and a higher chance of being accepted. This basically points out that Hispanic people don't like, or want to go to college. This is not necessarily true. In addition to advantages in college applications, there are disadvantages experienced by people of color. One of the major disadvantages is being bullied because of their skin color or race. This happens anywhere, from school to the office.

In the 21st century, women have the same job rights as men, right? Then why does the average NBA basketball player earn around five million dollars per year, but the average WNBA player gets paid only around \$107,000 per year? Why is it that there are so few women in the STEM field?

Religious discrimination is still present. In the presidential election race, it has been said that certain religions should be banned from the country. Whether it has to do with terrorist attacks or not, it's unfair to ban people from this country just because of their religion. Why is it that there is always something on the news about someone shooting and killing people because they're not the same religion? Isn't America supposed to be a country that accepts any religion?

It is clear that people still get discriminated today. Whether it's because of skin color, gender, race, or religion, people are prevented from having their human rights. Maybe it has to do with how rich or poor you are. If you think that people aren't discriminated anymore, think again. It's important to make people aware of how much discrimination still occurs.