

Gender Equality

Introduction

Hi, my name is Summer,

I am 10 years old and today I would like to talk to you about the important issue of Gender Equality.

Gender Equality is when people of all genders have equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities. Everyone is affected by gender inequality, including women, men and gender diverse people. It impacts people of all ages and backgrounds.

Gender equality is an important human right and ensures opportunities are not limited on the basis of gender. Gender equality also prevents violence against females.

I will now share with you some facts about gender equality in the past and where we are today.

In the past, in 1902 Australia became the first country in the world to grant women of European heritage the right to vote and stand for election. Four years later, in 1906, Finland followed Australia's example and granted equal voting rights to women. In 1915, Denmark did the same and many other countries have followed since.

Today around 86 countries don't support equal women's rights. In addition to this, women face some job restrictions and 95 countries do not guarantee equal pay for equal work.

Afghanistan is one of the worst countries when it comes to women's rights. Afghan women and girls live uneducated and those who are allowed to attend school generally don't stay for more than 2 years. 35 out of every 100 women are reportedly exposed to violence at the hands of an intimate partner.

One of the best ways we can improve equality in our world is through education for all young men and women. At Sacred Heart we do the Respectful Relationships program which is designed to break down barriers, stereotypes and put an end to violence.

In conclusion, gender equality is an important issue and human right. Societies that value women and men as equals are safer and healthier. While there's been many positive changes around the world, my hope for gender equality in the future is that we can live in a world where women and men have equal rights under the law and full enjoyment of their human rights.