

Ladies and Gentlemen;

We are present this evening, not for me, but for you. As it is, the world, in all of its glory and elegance, is not a faultless place. We assemble here, not for me, or any grants that I may have attained; but rather, for us, for the betterment of mankind. There is a force, however, that seems to threaten or endanger this betterment, a vile perversion of thought, one that I thoroughly detest. This vile force is one of ignorance, and incorporates the following categories: racism, sexism, and religious intolerance. It is these three factors that I detest far beyond any others.

Racism is an example of intolerance that we, as a nation, have been combating for many decades. There is a terrorist organization, one which is centrally positioned in this very country. It is called the Ku Klux Klan. Any fight on terrorism must definitely concentrate on the dismantling of the evil KKK. The KKK is a terrorist organization, a terrorist organization with a horrid agenda. The KKK must be destroyed. Let's fight terrorism, let's fight racism, let's fight evil.

Sexism is another of these vile factors that jeopardizes the betterment of mankind. As a self-proclaimed feminist, I desire to live in a society in which women get paid equal to their male counterparts. As I see it, women should have the same opportunities as men; equality is crucial for the existence of a utopia.

I also believe deeply in gay rights. It is my belief that a homosexual couple should have the same rights as a heterosexual couple. Everyone should have the right to make the commitment of marriage. Only an elitist society would deny a couple that right based solely on sexual orientation.

And, lastly, religious intolerance threatens to tear apart the very fabric of humanity. Open-mindedness is a vital element of humankind if they desire to have a peaceful society. Al Qida is an example of a close-minded organization based largely on the intolerance of religions other than its own. It is with this knowledge that I can honestly say that religious intolerance is fuel to the fire of terrorism. There is no level-headed person that can deny that religious intolerance is a threat to humanity; just look at the holocaust to see the evil fueled by such intolerance.

So, what I guess I'm trying to say is...thanks for the scholarship.