

Women's Rights



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Malala Yousafzai

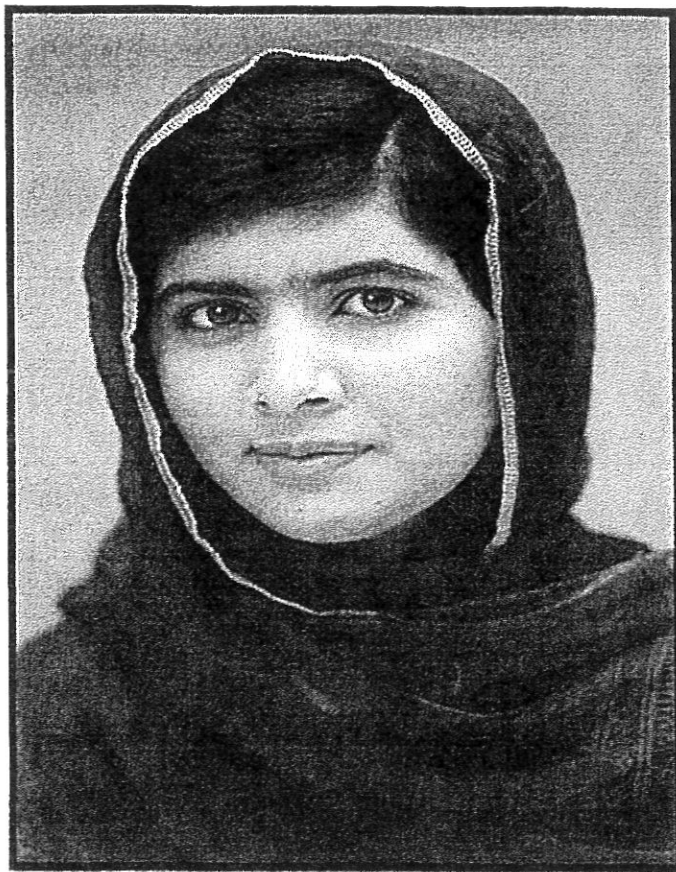
Imagine being shot in the head for simply standing up for what you believe in. It seems unrealistic in the world we live in today but this did in fact happen to Malala Yousafzai. Malala believed that education should be allowed for women in Pakistan even though the Taliban forbid it. On October 9th, 2012, her life changed forever.

It was a regular afternoon. Malala and her friends boarded the school bus in Swat Valley, Pakistan. Moments later two men stopped the vehicle and came on board. They asked, "Which one of you is Malala? Speak up, otherwise I will shoot you all". No one answered, but many of the girls on the bus eyed Malala, which made it evident who she was. As soon as they found out who she was, one man shot three bullets, with one hitting her head.

Before this incident, Malala and her family received numerous death threats for standing up for education in women. These threats did not stop her from doing something about the issue. She wrote blogs and attended numerous rallies and events. She was recognized all over Pakistan and soon all over the world. The Taliban felt threatened by the impact she made and felt the need to try and kill her.

"In the month of January 2009, they said that no girl is allowed to go to school. And at that time I said, 'Why should we be silent? Why don't we speak up for our rights? Why don't we tell the world what is happening in Swat.' And I did not want Swat to be a next Afghanistan." Malala says.

Since the attack she has gained recognition for her courageous act. She was announced the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize on October 10th, 2014. Malala was also featured in an issue of *Times* magazine was one of "The 100 Most Influential People in the World" (CBC News).



I am a Woman

I am a woman
I have
a strong voice
important purpose
and a reason

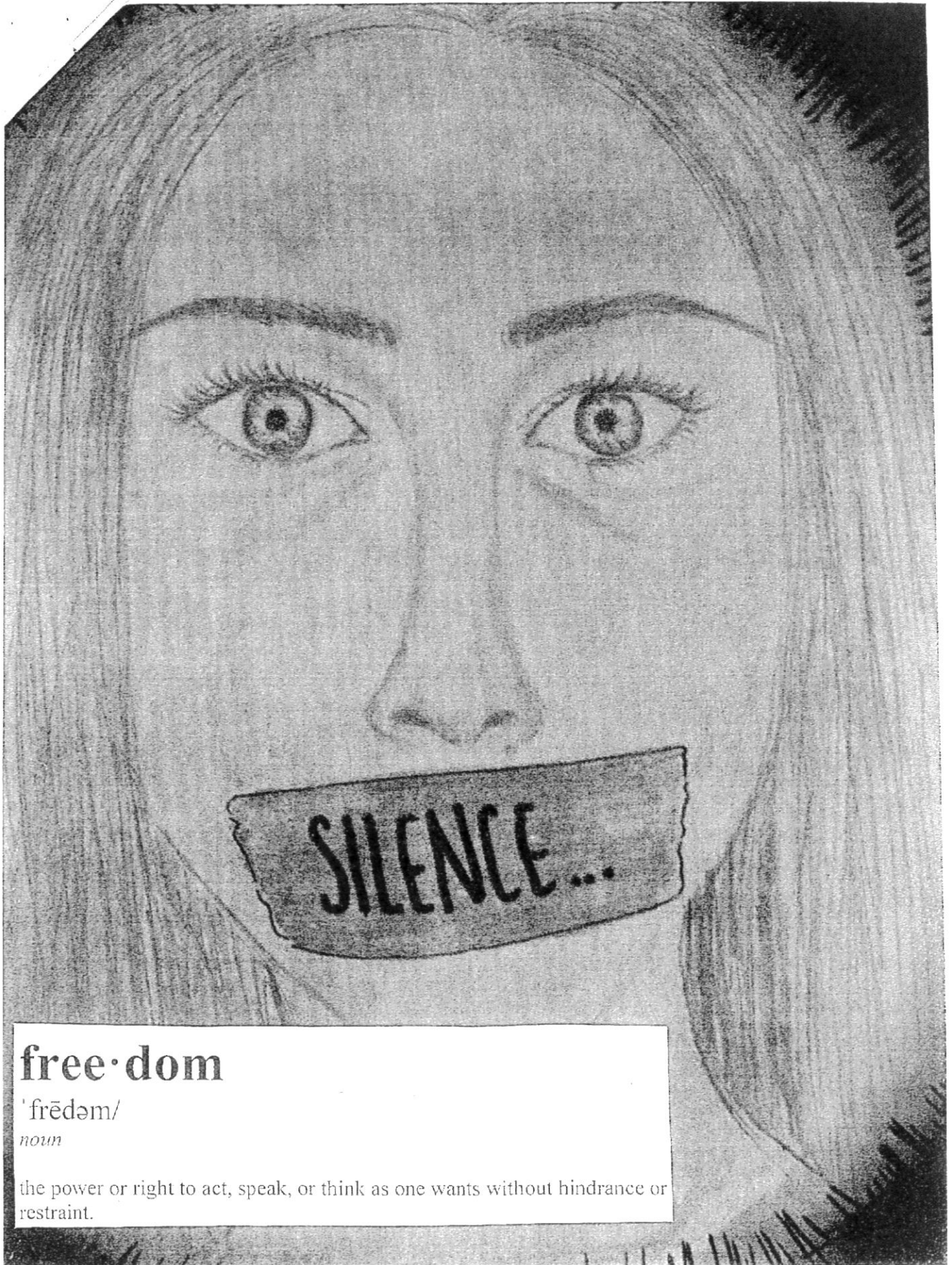
I am a woman
I deserve
a chance
respect
and equality

I am a woman
I shall not be
taunted
mistreated
and underestimated

I am a woman
I am
powerful
strong
and brave

That is my reason






free·dom

'frēdəm/

noun

the power or right to act, speak, or think as one wants without hindrance or restraint.



e·qual·i·ty

ə 'kwälədə/

NOAH

the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities

a·buse

e'byooz/
verb

use (something) to bad effect or for a bad purpose; misuse.



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