



RESOURCE 9

Quotes by human rights activists

William Wilberforce

'If to be feelingly alive to the sufferings of my fellow-creatures is to be a fanatic, I am one of the most incurable fanatics ever permitted to be at large.'

Emmeline Pankhurst

'Men make the moral code and they expect women to accept it. They have decided that it is entirely right and proper for men to fight for their liberties and their rights, but that it is not right and proper for women to fight for theirs.'

Sylvia Pankhurst

'I have gone to war too... I am going to fight capitalism even if it kills me. It is wrong that people like you should be comfortable and well fed while all around you people are starving.'

Leaflet distributed by the White Rose group, November 1942

'Freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the protection of individual citizens from the arbitrary will of criminal regimes of violence – these will be the bases of the New Europe.'

Martin Luther King

'A right delayed is a right denied.'

Maya Angelou

'It is impossible to struggle for civil rights, equal rights for blacks, without including whites. Because equal rights, fair play, justice, are all like the air: we all have it, or none of us has it. That is the truth of it'.

Mahatma Gandhi

'The main purpose of life is to live rightly, think rightly, and act rightly. The soul must languish when we give all our thought to the body'.



HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY

Malala Yousafzai

'I speak not for myself but for those without voice... those who have fought for their rights... their right to live in peace, their right to be treated with dignity, their right to equality of opportunity, their right to be educated'.

Harvey Milk

'It takes no compromise to give people their rights...it takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no political deal to give people freedom. It takes no survey to remove repression'.

Vaclav Havel

'It's up to all of us to try – and those that say that individuals are not capable of changing anything are only looking for excuses.'

Mother Teresa

'And so here I am talking with you – I want you to find the poor here, right in your own home first. And begin love there. Be that good news to your own people. And find out about your next-door neighbour – do you know who they are?'