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Peace comes from being able to contribute the best that we have, and that we are, toward creating a world that supports everyone. But it is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are. Whether we are concerned with suffering-born poverty, with denial of freedom, with armed conflict, or with a reckless attitude to the natural environment, we should take priority in dealing with these events and should not just deal with these events in isolation. If these issues are not dealt with, eventually, we will be victims of the consequences. Therefore, we need to take effective international action to address these global issues and make all the world citizens aware of their surroundings. We must also acquire an understanding that our world is deeply interconnected.

One of the most important issues that should be addressed and emphasized is human rights. Human rights include everything from the environment to medicine, and crime and punishment to fetal rights. They are the rights and freedoms which all humans are entitled to. Despite some concepts of the rights that humans are entitled to, humans are not entitled to everything although we do “rule” the world.

Environmental security is a human right. Not only should people be protected but also the environment should be. We need to maintain a healthy ecosystem and environment, for its aesthetics as well as its importance to the human survival. However, as a result of all the other human rights, the environment has become damaged and some of it endangered or extinct. And such a conflict needs to be resolved with great urgency as our environment is further diminishing and will not recover until we start acting.

Another big issue dealing with human rights is crime and punishment. As it states in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the “right to life”. But, then, doesn’t the death penalty violate that right? There are many different forms of cruel, inhumane, and degrading punishment that are still allowed all over the world, like torture, caning, and even life imprisonment without parole. Although many human right activists have criticized these methods of punishment, there is still a long way to go before all the governments of each country change their ways and decide to use less cruel methods. In the United States, most of the controversy revolves around the implementation of the death penalty in our punishment system. Both the moral and practical sides need to be carefully considered, especially since the lives of citizens should be greatly valued and placed above the convenience of the State. But before completely eliminating the death penalty, the conditions in which the death penalty is acceptable should be carefully considered in the perspective of the criminal and the administration of justice.

Despite the controversies surrounding many of the human rights issues, there is not only one right way of viewing these issues, since everything has two sides to it. But preserving human rights is key—"there is no duty more important than ensuring that everybody's rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they grow up in peace" (Kofi Annan).