

What is fairness?

According to the Cambridge dictionary however, fairness is, 'The quality of treating people equally or in a way that is right or reasonable'. In this essay therefore I will discuss fairness in different ways and focus on equality and what is right and reasonable.

In my opinion, fairness is the equality between people. An example of this could be during an arithmetic assessment, where two children receive the same score, but one is given 5 merits and the other is given 1 merit for their achievements. Obviously, this is unfair and the child who received the least number of merits would feel disappointed.

Fairness recognises that different people face different challenges. For example, in education, fairness might mean giving extra help to students who come from uneducated backgrounds so they can have the same chances of success as others. Therefore, fairness sometimes requires treating people differently to achieve equal opportunities. However, fairness should not be used as an excuse for being rude. Fairness makes sure that advantages or disadvantages are justified and that no one is unfairly treated. Also, fairness means to be fair, making sure that independent people are treated according to their needs and situations. Equality means that everyone is given the same, equal rights, balancing these principles is important.

Back in the 1900s, racism was unfair. Rosa Parks was black, and white people were being so racist towards her. Whilst she was on a bus, she wasn't allowed to sit down, not even at the back of the bus. Instead, she had to stand up the whole bus ride, this was unfair, she should not have been judged by the colour of her skin.

I will start with Human Rights. These are universally recognised moral values and standards of behaviour. The countries that are signed up to the Declaration of Human Rights are countries such as: Pakistan, Nigeria, Spain, UK, Australia, Canada, Chile and China. One of the human rights which I believe is important is, no- one should ever have the right to hold you in slavery since it is disrespectful and wrong, People should be able to live life freely instead of being a servant and doing everything for a someone else because they have told you to.

Another human right which I believe is key is that everyone has the right to belong in a religion and worship the God of their choice. They should not be judged negatively because of this; we are all equal and it would be unfair if people were treated differently because of this.

A third human right which I think is key is that everyone has the right to have an education. Ladies having no education in times gone by was very rude and was an unfair decision made by the government. Ladies had to stay home to cook and clean instead of learning. They should have had the right to be allowed to attend school.

An additional human right which I feel strongly about is that everyone is innocent until proven guilty. If someone were to rob a bank it would obviously be a terrible crime, but then if another person went to the bank to return the bag of money, the police might think that this person was guilty, but in fact they were innocent. This would be unfair since the burglar could have got the other person in trouble. What they could do is check the security cameras and then the truth would come out. The burglar would be put in jail where they deserved to be in the first place.

My last point, about human rights is that people should be allowed to have their own property. Everyone needs a home to live in so they can have all their needs met. Without a house people would be homeless and would have no shelter, nowhere to cook, eat or sleep. Everyone needs these things. I believe it is unfair if some people live in huge houses, and some do not have a house at all.

Now, I will talk about the Chiquita Banana Business and how the salaries of the people who work there are unfair. The CEO earns loads of money (he earns £4,000,000 per year) but the only thing the CEO does is paperwork and he has meetings, he does not do any physical work. On the other hand, the plantation workers get only £1,068 a year, and they do ten times more physical work than the CEO and they work longer hours. The plantation workers probably sweat everyday just to earn their money. This is atrocious since the CEO doesn't really do anything but still gets loads of money. If the Chiquita Banana Business was a fair-trade company, then the plantation workers would be able to be paid more each year and have a better life. Fair Trade is where producers are paid a fair price for both the work they do and their produce.

Next, I will talk about whether people with lots of money really need it and is it fair for them to have so much money whilst others have very little? In my opinion, I don't really think they need so much money. Obviously, they need some of it, but it doesn't really matter if you have lots of expensive clothes and other things, what matters is that you have food, water, a roof over your head, and that you have a family who loves you. Even if you are rich, you should treat people how you want to be treated. If you are mean, then it doesn't show that you have love for other people, it shows that you care about money and being mean. I think that it would be fairer if these rich people gave some of their earnings to charity or to homeless people.

In conclusion, fairness and equality work hand in hand to promote justice. While equality ensures that everyone has the same basic rights. Fairness helps address existing inequalities so that those rights are meaningful for all.

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