

Women's Rights Are Human Rights

by Hillary Clinton

The world have developed so much in the last century and so much ~~hasis~~ changed ~~for~~ the better. But are we forgetting something? Yes. That is the opinion of Hillary Clinton. She claims that we need to put ~~the~~ spotlight on the issues that we, after so many years still are fighting with: women's rights. Because are we placing women's rights under human rights? In the speech, Hillary Clinton says that the biggest problem is that women's rights are discussed ~~separate~~ from human rights. This is a problem because every human ~~being~~ should be treated equally. This issue is the focus in Hillary Clinton's speech from the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing the 5th of September 1995. |

Kommentar [LL1]: Ingen bestemt artikel foran, da det er spotlight generelt set

Kommentar [LL2]: Overvej en anden ordstilling

Kommentar [LL3]: ordklassefejl

Kommentar [LL4]: Et udmærket essay-intro

The genre of the text is a speech and therefore also a non-fiction text. The primary message of the text is to inform and draw attention to the all the problems that women have all over the world. The receiver is therefore all women, because it is the women, whom ~~m~~ Hillary thinks should act. She lists up all the women that she wants to celebrate: *"This is truly a celebration - a celebration of the contributions women make in every aspect of life: in the home, on the job, in their communities, as mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, learners, workers, citizens and leaders"* (p. 1, ll. 7-10). Here she mentions every woman in the world. Therefore, her target group is ~~the~~ every woman. We can also see that in the language style of the speech. ~~She does not use formal words nor difficult or complicated sentences, but short sentences:~~ *"There are some who question the reason for this conference. Let them listen to the voices of women in their homes, neighbourhoods, and workplaces"*, (p. 1, ll. 31-33). The text deals with a problem that concerns everybody, especially women so therefore the language is accessible for everybody to understand.

Kommentar [LL5]: Do you mean that simpel language appeals to women rather than men???

The language function that Hillary uses is the ~~directive language function~~. She wants to have an effect on the listener and she wants her audience to react. To get the listener to be interested in the speech and to reach out to the listeners, she uses different kind~~s~~ of ~~modes of persuasion/appeal forms~~. She especially uses pathos to achieve a feeling that all the women in the world are one

Kommentar [LL6]: Når du ikke kommer med eksempler, fremstår dette som et postulat

community and that they stand together. She does that by using pronouns like “we” and “us” all the time. She also creates an “us vs. them” aspect in the speech, when she talks about the ones who are against them having this conference for woman’s rights: “*Women are the primary caretakers for most of the world’s children and elderly. Yet much of the work we do is not valued - not by economics, not by historians, not by popular culture, not by government leaders*” (p. 3, ll. 5-7). Here she lists up everyone who is against. By making an “enemy”, she strengthens the community of women and the feeling that women will stand together against anything.

To get the attention of the audience she uses different kind of rhetorical features. She uses rhetorical questions: “*Wasn’t it after the women’s conference in Nairobi ten years ago that the world focuses for the first time on the crisis of domestic violence?*” (pp. 1-2, ll. 44-1). The effect of a rhetorical question is that it engages the reader in the speech and makes it become livelier. Another trick that she uses is ~~a lot is~~ parallelism. She underlines her most important points of views and opinions by using parallelism. She does that by starting her sentences with the same: “*I have met new mothers in... [...]. I have met working parents in Denmark... [...] I have met women in South Africa... etc. etc.*” (p. 2, ll. 26-42). The effect of parallelism is that it catches the attention of the reader and it makes it clear for everybody, what she wants to say. She does the same when she talks about that women’s right are human rights and vice versa: “*It is a violation of human rights when babies... [...] It is a violation of human rights when women and girls are sold all over the world... [...] It is a violation of human rights when... etc. etc.*” (p. 4, ll. 28-46). When you use this in a speech it comes off very strong for the listener and then the things she says is stuck in the mind of the audience, more than if she did not use these repetitions.

The main issues for women all over the world are access to education, health care, jobs and credit, the chance to enjoy basic human rights and participate in the political life. Hillary Clinton underlines that if women do not have a say in political decisions, they are more likely to be dominated in a society and they will become very vulnerable to abuse. This could be one of the solutions, that women get more to say in the political system and that they have a right to speak up like every other. It is also good thing when men and women come together and work out the problems of the world together, because then every point of view is being taking into consideration and that would strengthen the political decisions too. However, Hillary has a big challenge making this a reality: to give voice to all the women who are not heard. She lists a lot of problems that are

about women and she calls them a violation of human rights. That shows exactly what her main intention of the speech is: to show people that issues involving women are violations to the human rights. And as she says, among the human rights are the right to speak freely and also the right to be heard. Therefore, she means that it is a violation to human rights. Therefore, the main goal of the speech is to get woman's rights to be just as important as human rights and for women everywhere to be treated with just as much respect as every other human being. To do this we need to change the silent history of women. It will be a long and struggling battle because of the fact that many women do not have the opportunity to break the traditions or to speak up, but the ones who do, must lead the way.

We can conclude that the purpose of the speech is to inform about why the issue is a problem, and it also wants to draw attention to the subject about woman's rights as human rights. With this speech, Hillary Clinton wants every listener to react, to become aware of the problem and participate in the battle. She wants that the ones who do have a voice and an opportunity to speak up, to fight for the women who cannot. And hopefully, more women will have the guts to stand up for themselves and help change the fact that when human rights and women rights are discussed, it is discussed separately.

Kommentar til eleven:

Virkeligt godt arbejde! God analyse, god struktur på analysen, og en overvejende god opbygning af dine afsnit.

Vurdering: 10 pil op