



### **Introduction:**

For the last part of my YATW project, I did presentations about sweatshops in Mr. Sanchez's advisory, Ms. Dunn's advisory, and for the freshman class. I brought in a speaker from Amnesty International also to speak to the freshman class.



**Your process: What was your process? Did you change your idea as you went? Why? What went well? What problems did you find and how did you fix them?**

My process :

- I did research.
- I read articles about sweatshops.
- I did a summary of the article.
- I wrote my own article.
- I chose the ideas that are most important to say, then I did practice presentations.
- I did my presentation with Amnesty International.

I changed my idea of presenting the project because at the beginning I was thinking to present to Ms. Dunn's advisory only. But I found myself really interested in the topic as I found it really really deep, deeper than I first thought and deeper than as everyone else sees it. It is very complex. So because of this project I started to have communications with an international organization of human rights.

What went well:

I don't really know... but I think that the good thing is that I am so interested in what I was learning and teaching about. When I was presenting, when I was talking, I felt that

all of the words that we could say are never enough. I was feeling what I was saying. I learned a lot and I am ready to learn more.

**You and Your World: How has this project impacted you? How has this project impacted the world/community around you? How do you see yourself in the community (someone who can change something? Someone still learning? someone who can be a leader? Someone who prefers to follow others?) What will you take away from this project?**

I am interested in Human Rights, but when I learned about this project it made me more interested in that. It pulled me more to the topic and giving me a really strong desire to keep learning about it and keep going and keep trying to get my dream. I learned about sweatshops and I'm really upset about them. First, because I am interested in Human Rights and I think that everyone could think in a different way because like, to be different is a right, but some people just think that this is okay and don't care and just say "whatever it's not my country anyway." It's making me really upset that some people don't really know what's happening with these people in these countries and in these places. Also, I will not be surprised because I know that this is life and the stronger will break the weaker. It is unjust because these great companies are using people for that, for getting their riches, their fame. They're just really popular; I think it is because of these people who are dying. If not because of these people, then the companies would not really exist. They are making good products in a very short period and they are not losing a lot of money because they are not paying their workers as they should. This topic is really complex. A lot of companies use sweatshops. I just found that most of the phones that I've used in my life were made in companies that use sweatshops. I was really upset because I use a lot of Samsung brand, and I just found that Samsung uses sweatshops. I thought "oh my goodness, most of the products I used in my life were used in sweatshops." My favorite brand -- Adidas -- uses sweatshops. I had lots of shoes in Algeria and I didn't bring them to America but I did not know that they use sweatshops. Even though I like it, I will never use it anymore. The first thing that I learned when I learned about sweatshops is that Apple uses sweatshops. I was very upset because all the computers we use in our school were made in Apple factories. I know that I can't end it right now. I can't say to Mr. Lehmann right now, "no, you can't buy anymore these computers" because I know that the students need that. It's just affecting me because it makes me more aware that my computer was made in sweatshops. It just reminds me that I will study Human Rights and do something for these people and for other issues in the world. It makes me more caring for my computer too because I know that it was made by hand and that the people who made it worked really hard.

It didn't really affect the world yet but I think that if it just started to affect the community around me than I think that it started to affect the world. I think that these kids in my community represent the future, so if it just affects my community around me, than it affects the world. My project made many people care about the products that they use. Many people in the Freshman class, different than when I was presenting to the seniors, was a little different. In the Freshman class, I think they learned a lot of things. Many people don't know that some companies use sweatshops, so then they learned that. I think that the topic affected the students that I presented to because it

affects me. I think that if you really like talking and focusing on something and working on that seriously, and they feel that you're really interested in that, they will listen and pay attention. I think that even if they don't think about it, they try to. In the senior classes, because our discussion was longer, I was really excited because there were students that were really interested in Human Rights and they had some ideas that were the same as my ideas, and they were interacting. I feel that they were really thinking. When I asked a question, they were really thinking of what I was saying. After the presentation in Mr. Sanchez's advisory, my friend told me that she learned a lot of things. I don't know what she learned exactly, but that's what she said.

Because we're human beings, we learn at every age. We're still learning until our death. I think that I am a person who is still learning. I am not really a person who will change things, but at least a person who will try to change things. I cannot promise that I can change things, but I will do my best to do that. I will do my best to help people that work in sweatshops or do my best to help or to change the situations of people who are in the countries that they were just dying because they don't have anything to eat, the generations that are lost because of no education there, they don't have anything, they are not developing worlds. I will try to do things. I can't promise that "I will do that" or "I will change that" but I can promise that I will do my best.

I learned, about myself, just that when I started to think about Human Rights, it was not just a choice that I made because I couldn't be a doctor. I learned that I am really interested in Human Rights and that I could do something by being a lawyer and studying Human Rights. It gives me more strength to keep going and to keep thinking and to hold on to my dream. Because of this project, I will be a member in an international organization of Human Rights. I had emailed this organization because of my project. I can just say that this project was kind of the beginning of the beginning of my dream.