

In America, equality should reign supreme

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The America I believe in is one with equal rights. Whatever a person's religion, race, sexuality or gender, we should all have the same rights.

I think America's goal to stop racism has come a long way since our beloved Martin Luther King Jr. made a strong stand against the inequality toward African-Americans. From 1619, when slavery was first introduced to North America, we have come a long way to make life for African-Americans much better. In 1865, our 13th amendment officially abolished slavery. Today, while racism still lurks in the cracks and crevices of the U.S., we have come a long way.

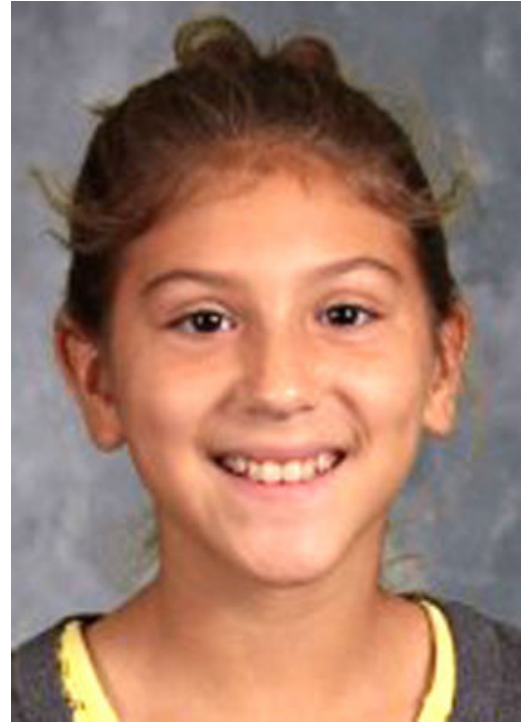
Even in religion, the First Amendment talks about how everyone has the right to practice his or her religion. The amendment was passed on Dec. 15, 1791. I think this is important because everyone has the right to what they believe in and they should be allowed to be proud of that and to show that.

Along with religion and race, I think LGBT+ rights are very important, too. We have come a very long way on giving rights to the LGBT+ people who deserve them. Even small steps matter, like on Dec. 15, 1973, when homosexuality was removed from the list of mental disorders by the American Psychiatric Association. Also, on March 2, 1982, when Wisconsin was the first state to outlaw discrimination against homosexuals. Nowadays, we have come to the beautiful time where we can say gay marriage is legalized. I think LGBT+ rights are important because, as Anne Hathaway said, "Love is the human experience, not a political statement."

Lastly, along with the other topics, I believe all genders being equal is also important. America has done well in abolishing sexism since Aug. 18, 1920, when the law was passed for women to vote. After that, gender equality only grew; nowadays, we still have sexism, but we now have great groups like heforshe created by Emma Watson that help abolish sexism, because everyone deserves to be equal.

I believe that the best America is an equal one and everyone deserves to be born with the same rights as everyone else.

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