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Honorable Mention
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Classism

Human rights are the rights you have simply because you are human. Human rights are the only rights that apply to everyone everywhere. There are a total of 30 of them. Human rights did not always exist. As many countries began to gain their independence people began to stand up for their rights. It wasn't until December 10th, 1948 after World War I and II that the United Nations finally wrote the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is an international document that gives rights to everyone no matter who they are. Although we have laws to enforce them, billions of people still disregard the human rights. People around the world are suffering due to the lack of human rights being taken seriously. The lack of human rights being enforced has lead to disparities. Disparities are when people are treated differently because of what they look like, believe in, or have. One of them being classism. This essay will explain classism, how it has affected people in our world, and ways to eliminate it and other disparities.

Classism affects millions and millions of people everywhere. Classism is discrimination against people by how much wealth and influence they have. For example in our society people who are poor are often thought of and are treated worse than people with wealth and influence. People with wealth often get more opportunities and privileges. Moreover, another problem with disparities is that people will group you up with others like you even if you don't think or act like them at all. To better illustrate,

with classism people will expect you to act a certain way or do certain things depending on how much wealth or influence you have. In addition classism goes against article 1 of the United declaration of human rights. Article 1 states that when children are born, they are free and each should be treated in the same way. They have reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a friendly manner. Yet with classism people are born treated with different opportunities than others born with different wealth. Due to this our society has separated.

People often experience classism and other disparities without being aware of it. On December 14th, 2017 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to repeal its net neutrality rules. Which means network providers can restrict certain websites and you won't have a specific plan of how fast your internet is. If you don't have enough money you can't get as much access as people with a lot of money. Therefore, people with more wealth can get more access and faster internet speed and people without wealth won't be able to afford as much internet connection. This show how classism affects the majorities in a way where people with more wealth and influence get more than people with less wealth and influence.

Although there aren't many ways to help with classism, there are things people can still do to fight classism and other problems. You can volunteer to help people in need. You can also donate food, money, clothing, and other items needed for everyday living. In addition you can put yourself out there and work with your community and other organizations to help out. Many different organizations in your community have probably already started working to fix our society. Even Roseville Area Middle School

(RAMS) has adapted the human rights into their rules. If you meet the requirements, you could run for office positions to influence politics and vote for those who support the fight against classism and other disparities. There are still many other ways to help people. If we can get enough people to do something we can make a difference.

Throughout this essay we discussed what classism is, how it appears in our everyday lives, and what people can do to help alleviate classism and other disparities. The essay also shows how our human rights affects our society. Human rights allow individuals in society to function and live the kind of lives they wish to live. Without them there would be war, and conflict everywhere. However, even with human rights being recognized we still experience conflicts due to some people in the world not taking them seriously. The lack of acknowledgement of human rights results in disparities that affect everyone no matter who you are. Though many people are standing up against disparities we still need more. And no matter who you are you can make a difference.