Amani Shihadeh

ENG 1121 – D439

Prof. Schmerler

March 1, 2019

Finding Freedom

What is freedom? Is it an absolute right? I believe we are born to be free. Freedom is interpreted differently by everyone. Some define freedom as a natural right, a human being is born with. Everyone wants to be free and independent from others. Freedom is the right to do what one wants, live where they want, learn what they want, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom of choice, without belittling or harming others rights.

How can we live free? From my point of view, we can live free by respecting others rights to live free too. We cannot ignore the rights of people with whom we share society with. We cannot simply do what we want and ignore others. We must take other people rights into consideration. The idea behind freedom is to be respectful and useful to our society. Freedom is important to everyone. When freedom is guaranteed, I can think freely, go where I want, say my opinion without fear from people who would not like my opinion. Freedom of opinion is among the most important branches of freedom. In some societies where freedom of opinion is not guranteed by the authority, the creativity of mind is killed and buried. Society is the largest and biggest loser from this lack of creativity. Someone once said, freedom of opinion will never result in animosity among people if they respect each other. Freedom is not an absolute right, and there are too many constraints on it. Firstly, society rights including national security which is very important. Security is just as important as freedom. Our practicing of freedom should never lead to threatening our national security. Secondly, freedom of belief, to believe in what you want and choice of your religion. We also should have the right to establish our own places where we perform our religious actions.

I also believe that freedom has to be understood in the right time in one’s life. It comes through maturity, learned lessons and challenges faced throughout your life. Finding who you are as a person and your place, is a big thing for everyone in this world, and once you do you will be at peace. Freedom can most definitely come in the most unexpected ways and places, the irony of Malcolm X is that he learned his in prison, where freedom does not exist. Malcolm X had the freedom of time. With that time spent in prison he fought through his ignorance to teach himself reading and writing new vocabulary words and understanding books. I believe confinement is definitely mental and spiritual than physical.

Parents must teach their children the value of this word and to define it to be exactly what it is, free. They must instill in them the love for freedom. Freedom in the teen years is very important for building a good character and stable personality. Although for young teens growing up it can easily be misunderstood. Freedom isn’t supposed to mean hanging out late or whenever they feel like it, or acting out in a disrespecting manor. It is the responsibility of positive and creative expression, to learn and love who you are and where you come from. And to be at peace with that.