Michela Giordano- University of Cagliari

**LINGUISTIC AND RHETORICAL ANALYSIS (blank)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Speech | Remarks in Recognition of International Human Rights DayHillary R. Clinton- Secretary of StatePalais de Nations- Geneva, SwitzerlandDecember 6, 2011 |
| # of words | 3746 |
| # of paragraphs | 37 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Questions for analysis** | Paragraph(s) |
| 1. **Find the fundamental idea of human rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**
 | **Par. 3**: It proclaims a simple, powerful idea: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. And with the declaration, it was made clear that rights are not conferred by government; they are the birthright of all people. It does not matter what country we live in, who our leaders are, or even who we are. Because we are human, we therefore have rights. And because we have rights, governments are bound to protect them. |
| 1. **Find info on the status of LGBT rights in the U.S.**
 | **Par. 7**: I speak about this subject knowing that my own country's record on human rights for gay people is far from perfect. Until 2003, it was still a crime in parts of our country. Many LGBT Americans have endured violence and harassment in their own lives, and for some, including many young people, bullying and exclusion are daily experiences. So we, like all nations, have more work to do to protect human rights at home. |
| 1. **What are the 5 fundamental issues related to LGBT people’s rights?**
 | **1st issue, par. 9, 10, 11:** some have suggested that gay rights and human rights are separate and distinct**2nd issue, par. 12, 13, 14**: whether homosexuality arises from a particular part of the world**3rd issue, par. 15, 16, 17**: people cite religious or cultural values as a reason to violate or not to protect the human rights of LGBT citizens**4th issue, par. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23**: the prejudices convincing us that homosexuality is a disease and can bring about crime**5th issue, par. 24, 25, 26, 27**: the continued denial of rights to minorities who, left alone, will never be able to achieve political and social change |
| 1. **What are the most common violations of gay rights?**
 | **Par. 11**: **It is violation of human rights** when people are beaten or killed because of their sexual orientation, or because they do not conform to cultural norms about how men and women should look or behave. **It is a violation of human rights** when governments declare it illegal to be gay, or allow those who harm gay people to go unpunished. **It is a violation of human rights** when lesbian or transgendered women are subjected to so-called corrective rape, or forcibly subjected to hormone treatments, or when people are murdered after public calls for violence toward gays, or when they are forced to flee their nations and seek asylum in other lands to save their lives. And **it is a violation of human rights** when life-saving care is withheld from people because they are gay, or equal access to justice is denied to people because they are gay, or public spaces are out of bounds to people because they are gay. No matter what we look like, where we come from, or who we are, we are all equally entitled to our human rights and dignity. |
| 1. **How can progress be achieved?**
 | 1. **progress …**
2. **…**
3. **…**
 |
| 1. **What is HC’s message to LGBT people around the world?**
 | **Par. 30**: …to LGBT men and women worldwide, let me say this: Wherever you live and whatever the circumstances of your life, whether you are connected to a network of support or feel isolated and vulnerable, please know that you are not alone. People around the globe are working hard to support you and to bring an end to the injustices and dangers you face. That is certainly true for my country. And you have an ally in the United States of America and you have millions of friends among the American people. |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **Find examples of metaphors (silence/voice, journey, barrier, war and fight…)**
 |
| SILENCE/VOICE(INCLUSION/EXCLUSION) | * They are **denied opportunities** to work and learn (…) and **forced to suppress or deny** **who they are** to protect themselves from harm (par. 6)
* **silencing of voices and views** that would strengthen communities (par. 14)
* for as long as LGBT people are **kept in shadows** (par. 15)
* so when any part of humanity is **sidelined**, the rest of us cannot **sit on the sidelines** (par. 25)
 |
| JOURNEY | * **Step by step**… (par. 4)
* History teaches us about how we **make progress towards** rights for all (par. 18)
* willing to **walk a mile in someone else’s shoes** (par. 23)
* a **step toward** what we hope will be the creation of a special rapporteur (par. 27)
* We know **the road ahead will not be easy**. **A great deal of work lies before us.** (par. 34)
* the **march towards** equality and justice has continued (par. 36)
* No matter **how long the road ahead we will travel it successfully together** (par. 36)
 |
| BARRIERS AND OBSTACLES | * **barriers** that once **prevented** people from enjoying the full measure of liberty (par. 4)
* individuals whose lives were once **narrowed by injustices** (par. 5)
* **obstacles standing in the way** of protecting (par. 8)
* Every time a **barrier** **to progress has fallen**, it has taken a **cooperative effort** from those on both sides of the **barrier** (par. 25)
 |
| CONFLICT (FIGHT/WAR/COMPETITION) | * People **fought** and **organized** and **campaigned** (par. 5)
* Even though progress **on this front** is not easy, we cannot delay acting (par. 8)
* We came to learn that no practice or tradition **trumps** the human rights that belong to all of us (par. 16)
* In the **fight** for women’s rights… The **fight** for racial equality… **Combating** Islamophobia or anti-Semitism… And the same is true with this **struggle** for equality (par. 25)
* The story of the United States is the story of a nation that has repeatedly **grappled** with intolerance and inequality… We **fought** a brutal civil war over slavery. People from coast to coast **joined in campaigns**… (par. 36)
 |