

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

KEY QUOTES

Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Make Poverty History. Make History in 2005.

(Nelson Mandela's speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

We are the first generation that can look extreme and stupid poverty in the eye, look across the water to Africa and elsewhere and say this and mean it: we have the cash, we have the drugs, we have the science - but do we have the will? Do we have the will to make poverty history? Some say we can't afford to. I say we can't afford not to.

(Bono's Speech to Labour Party Conference, 2005)

This coalition is serious and this campaign is going to win. But first we need to be clear about the challenge to overcome. Five years ago world leaders committed to halving poverty by the year 2015. Five years on, they're failing on that promise. And they will continue to fail unless they fundamentally change their ways. And they won't change unless we tell them to. Starting today.

(Adrian Lovett's Speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

By buying this single, you are telling politicians to act in 2005.

(Sir Bob Geldof, Band Aid 20 single released, 2005)

Poverty is the single biggest killer in the world today, and the fact that is the most preventable is bizarre, insane."

(Minnie Driver, actress)

I am embarrassed that Canada has turned away from our past sharing with poorer countries of the world but now that Prime Minister Paul Martin has wisely turned away from the US Missile Defence Program we have money to contribute to reducing poverty at home and around the world.

(David Suzuki, Environmentalist, Make Poverty History Canada 2005, <http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca.e/home.php>)

6,500 Africans dying a day of treatable, preventable diseases - dying for want of medicines you and I can get at our local chemist - that's not a cause, that's an emergency.

(Bono's Speech to Labour Party Conference, 2005)

Recognise that the world is hungry for action, not words!

(Nelson Mandela's speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

We have a chance in 2005 to address this injustice in a definite way. We must seize it, for the sake of generations to come.

(John Polanyi, Nobel Laureate 1986, Make Poverty History Canada 2005, <http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca.e/home.php>)

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Deep down, if we really accepted that Africans were equal to us, we would all do more to put the fire out.

(Bono's Speech to Labour Party Conference, 2005)

This year can be the story of a great generation of leaders and people that recognise their responsibility, seized their own power and transformed the world. Or it can be a year in which that generation looked at the face of poverty and injustice - looked it in the eye - and looked away. Walked away. AND walked away this time WITHOUT the excuse that we didn't know what was going on. A year of historic breakthrough or a year of criminal neglect.

(Adrian Lovett's Speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

The war against terror is bound up in the war against poverty.

(Colin Powell, 2005)

Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. While poverty persists, there is no true freedom. In this new century, millions of people in the world's poorest countries remain imprisoned, enslaved, and in chains. They are trapped in the prison of poverty. It is time to set them free.

(Nelson Mandela's speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that generation. Let your greatness blossom.

(Nelson Mandela's speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

This is a real moment coming up, this could be real history, this could be something that your children, your children's children, that our whole generation, will be remembered for at the beginning of the 21st century.

(Bono's Speech to Labour Party Conference, 2005)

Don't forget the rest of the world.

(Richard Curtis' Article in Sunday Times, 2005)

The fact that we in Europe and America are not treating AIDS like an emergency - and the fact that it is not every day on the news - well that is our crises... I don't even know what that says about us.

(Bono's Speech to Labour Party Conference, 2005)

Of course the task will not be easy. But not to do this would be a crime against humanity, against which I ask all humanity to rise up. Make Poverty History in 2005. Make History in 2005. Then we can all stand with our heads held high.

(Nelson Mandela's speech to Trafalgar Square crowd, 2005)

There is no such thing as an innocent bystander.

(Dave Broadfoot, Comedian, Make Poverty History Canada 2005, <http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca.e/home.php>)