

HIGHTSCHOOL

CALIFORNIA April,2007

Thank you for that kind introduction. And thank you all for allowing me to come.

We meet in disturbing times, but we must not be disturbed. We must be calm and peaceful, for peace cannot come from hearts disturbed and angry. And peace, if it is to come, must come from us, from our hearts

Peace in any family requires fairness, kindness, honesty, shared financial and physical security with a positive and creative view of the future for each individual and respect for the land that sustains us. When those basic conditions are not present, happiness fails and bad things begin to happen. Bad behavior begins to happen.

Peace on any planet requires fairness, kindness, honesty, shared financial and physical security with a positive and creative view of the future for each individual and respect for the land that sustains us.

When those basic conditions are not present,
Bad things begin to happen Let me say this one more
time, in a way that our president might understand.

Mr. Bush: If you want peace and safety in America
and the world, work to make fairness and kindness
and justice and economic security the common
condition of the world. If you want terrorism, then
drop bombs, support dictators, steal resources, use all
your weapons, whether or not you can even pronounce
their names.

“The ultimate weakness of violence” Dr. King taught
us, “is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very
thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it
multiplies it...Through violence you may murder the
hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence
merely increases hate...adding deeper darkness to a
night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive
out hate, only love can do that,” King said.

For here is our new reality: The world is too small
these days for us to do harm over there and hide over
here. The world has found us. We have to base our
international policy now on fairness, kindness,
honesty, shared financial and physical security with a
positive and creative view of the future for each

individual and respect for the land that sustains us. We don't have a choice, we are constrained now to have to do the right thing to others in order to survive ourselves.

The world is changing rapidly and the planable world of your parents is being swept away.

For you, learning will be a lifelong affair. Your life will be about constant learning and growing through a number of related or unrelated careers, and that is a dramatic improvement in the condition of human beings—if life is about maximizing our potential, which it indeed is.

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Of all the shifting sands your tents will be pitched upon, perhaps the condition of the earth's ecosystem and its democracies will present you with the greatest changes and challenges. If the great present division persists between the world's poor and rich, I assure you that you will live in a violent world, and that the tragedy of September 11 will be remembered as the beginning of such things in your experience. If the great exploitation of the earth's resources persists at the expense of sustainability, you will experience the flooding of Venice, New York and other great seacoast cities and treasured beaches. You and your children