

## **Malala Yousafzai**

One prominent role model figure in my life is Malala Yousafzai. Yousafzai is a young Pakistani education activist. At the tender age of 13, she was shot in the head by the Taliban because of her education equality efforts. Instead of deterring her efforts, this only motivated her more. She recovered from her injury with a determination to raise awareness about the injustices that female students had to endure to attain a decent education.

Malala's ideology is one that is considered radical and revolutionary. In Pakistan, girls are not considered to be worthy of a proper education. Despite the misogynistic society that Malala resided in, her parents raised her in an open-minded manner, encouraging her to follow her dreams and do what she thought was best for herself. Both her mother and her father emphasized her potential to her, informing her that her gender should not be an obstacle in her personal and educational endeavors.

Despite the horrendous crime that the Taliban committed against her, Malala has not retaliated in a pretentious or violent manner. Malala, instead, chose a more diplomatic form of revenge. At the age of 15, she gave a TED talk to an audience of over 10,000 people about her efforts to attain gender equality and education for women in her home country.

Malala's approach to her attack and manner of handling the situation is a good example of satyagraha, the Hindu principle of telling the truth. Instead of using her fists, she opted to use her voice instead. Malala has truly inspired me to speak m mind and use my words. She has demonstrated that words can have immense power and a significant impact on those who listen.