Climate change is the change in certain environmental patterns. Although climate is a natural course of earth's history, due to human activities, the rate in which this change is going is damaging and destroying much of the life on this earth. In 2030 if we do not change our ways drastically, climate change effects could be irreversible.

So on the 15th March this year many students took a stand for this planet. I was extremely thrilled to see how many young people were surrounding the streets the steps of the treasury building. At 12 o'clock I was greeted by the colours of banners with clever phrases printed on them. As I was pushing my way through a sea of bodies I was amazed by the passionate atmosphere.

After my struggle through this crowd I made my way to a lamp post. One that had the privilege to tower over the crowd and see its beauty. Being the person that I am, apart from all this commotion it is hard to be found! I get lost in this strive for political change. The struggle that comes with deconstructing society securities. I get lost in the heat and magnitude of the fight for our future. I got to hurl myself up the stairs and climb the lamp post, being able to absorb the absolute glory of this swarm of humans.

After making my way down I started to see familiar faces. By this time the crowd was shifting. We were caught up in the motion of this assembly as it held and dragged us across the streets of Melbourne.

The atmosphere was truly relaxed and joyful. We were marching to the rhythm of our chants. Chants like:

“ What do we want?”

“Climate action!”

“When do we want it?”

“Now!”

People in their high rise offices were cheering and supporting from up above. The symbolism behind this moment was to me astonishing. We could see the power. The millions that are being held captive to those who are responsible of the destruction of this earth. It was a movement created and celebrated by youth all chanting: “This is what democracy looks like.”

As we finished a circuit of the city and arrived back to the Treasury Gardens, students shared their thoughts on the issue. There were words of fear. Fear of their future and the future of their family. Fear of their health and diminishing natural resources. However, despite the drastic change I believe that fear is not the reason we should fight but the hope that we can change. This earth is not here for us to claim or reap. We amongst other species should dwell amongst its glory. We have a responsibility to take care of it and respect it.

As I walked along through the gardens I had hope. I now know that we can change. With 50,000 students behind me in Melbourne who are willing to change. I thank them.

_Marley Ford-De Kleyn_

_Year 10 Student_