

Human Rights Confession

"It's not fair" we chant
when someone pushes in front of us
at the supermarket check out.
"No it's not fair" you respond
and show us a feeding camp
where children are pot bellied
and flies swarm around hollow eyes
and hungry mouths.

"It's not fair" we chant
when we are held up from enjoying a holiday
by immigration checking passports and finger prints.
"No it's not fair" you respond
and show us a forgotten prison camp
where prisoners clad in orange boiler suits
are denied access to a fair trial
or legal representation.

"It's not fair" we chant
when another work shift looms
and we would rather be enjoying the sun
"No it's not fair" you respond
and show us the asylum seeker
walking miles to collect a meagre bag
of charity groceries given by a local church
because they are denied the right to work.

"It's not fair" ... we chant...

**Forgive us when we are quick to claim our own rights
but fail to recognise our responsibilities towards others
or to stand up for the rights of those who are different from us.**

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