


BE A HERO FOR A BETTER WORLD




DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS

"The goal of feminism is to build a fair, lasting new world, beneath which we can no longer sink. A platform which stands in the best above rapidly becomes exploitation, greed, ego, and it harms, to work. Give men a decent place to stand."
— Susan Branson

Do One Thing for a Better World

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"The most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the mind of the oppressed."
— Stephen Bilko

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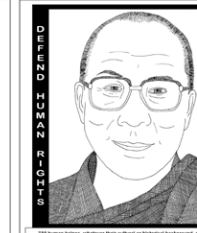


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"We are unalterably opposed to the perpetration of the heinous, body-snatching, mind-control, sexual, financial, and emotional abuse of the innocent and the oppressed."
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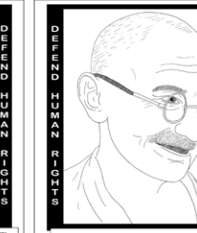


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"I believe that, whatever our gender or ethnic background, women who are vulnerable, exploited or abused... We must therefore stand on a global platform, not only to be heard to report human rights violations, but also to the protection of their rights. It is the inherent nature of all human beings to seek for freedom, equality and dignity, and may have an equal right to achieve that."
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"You can chain me, you can torture me, you can even destroy this body, but you will never imprison my mind."
— Mahatma Gandhi

Do One Thing for a Better World

END TORTURE DAY

June 26

...defend human rights...


Do One Thing
for a Better World.

Together
We Make a World of Difference!

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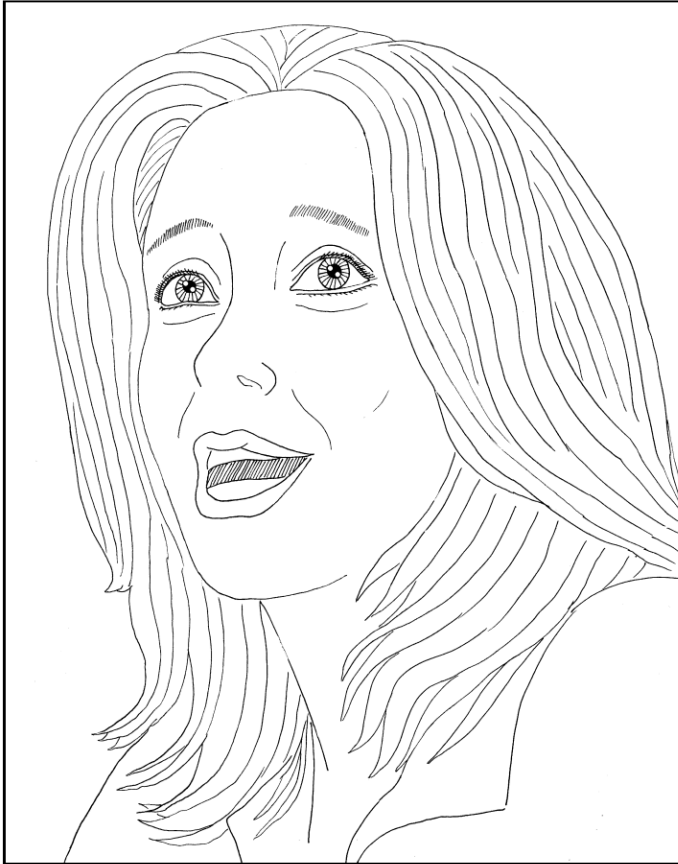


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Do One Thing for a Better World

END TORTURE DAY - JUNE 26



"It's only when we imagine for ourselves what it would be like to run from state terror, torture, rape, the destruction of our homes and families that we can understand how vital it would be to find a place that welcomed us and tried to heal our wounds."

-- Emma Thompson

Torture -- the intentional infliction of severe mental or physical pain or suffering -- is a violation of the most basic of all human rights. Many agreements have been made over the years to try to end the use of torture. Finally, the United Nations passed a Convention, a comprehensive legal document outlawing torture, which went into force on June 26, 1987. However, since then government-sanctioned torture has taken place in 150 countries, and in 70 of those countries torture by state officials was widespread.

Anyone can be a victim of torture -- soldiers, prisoners, men, women and children, young or old. The pain a torture victim experiences is only the beginning -- many victims suffer psychological scars for years.

Organizations like the Intl. Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims help torture victims rebuild their lives with psychological and medical treatment. Other groups like Amnesty International monitor torture violations and bring legal actions to stop torture.

June 26 is the UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. It is an opportunity to educate your community about the widespread use of torture. It's a chance to urge countries that haven't signed the Convention against torture to do so, and to ensure that countries that have signed it never allow torture to take place.

Do One Thing for a Better World

1. Find out more
2. Hold an event to raise awareness about the widespread use of torture
3. Contribute to organizations working to end torture

Organizations Ending Torture

- Amnesty International (amnesty.org)
- International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (irct.org)
- Coalition of Intl NGOs Against Torture (cinat.org)
- Survivors International (survivorsintl.org)
- Survivors of Torture Intl (notorture.org)

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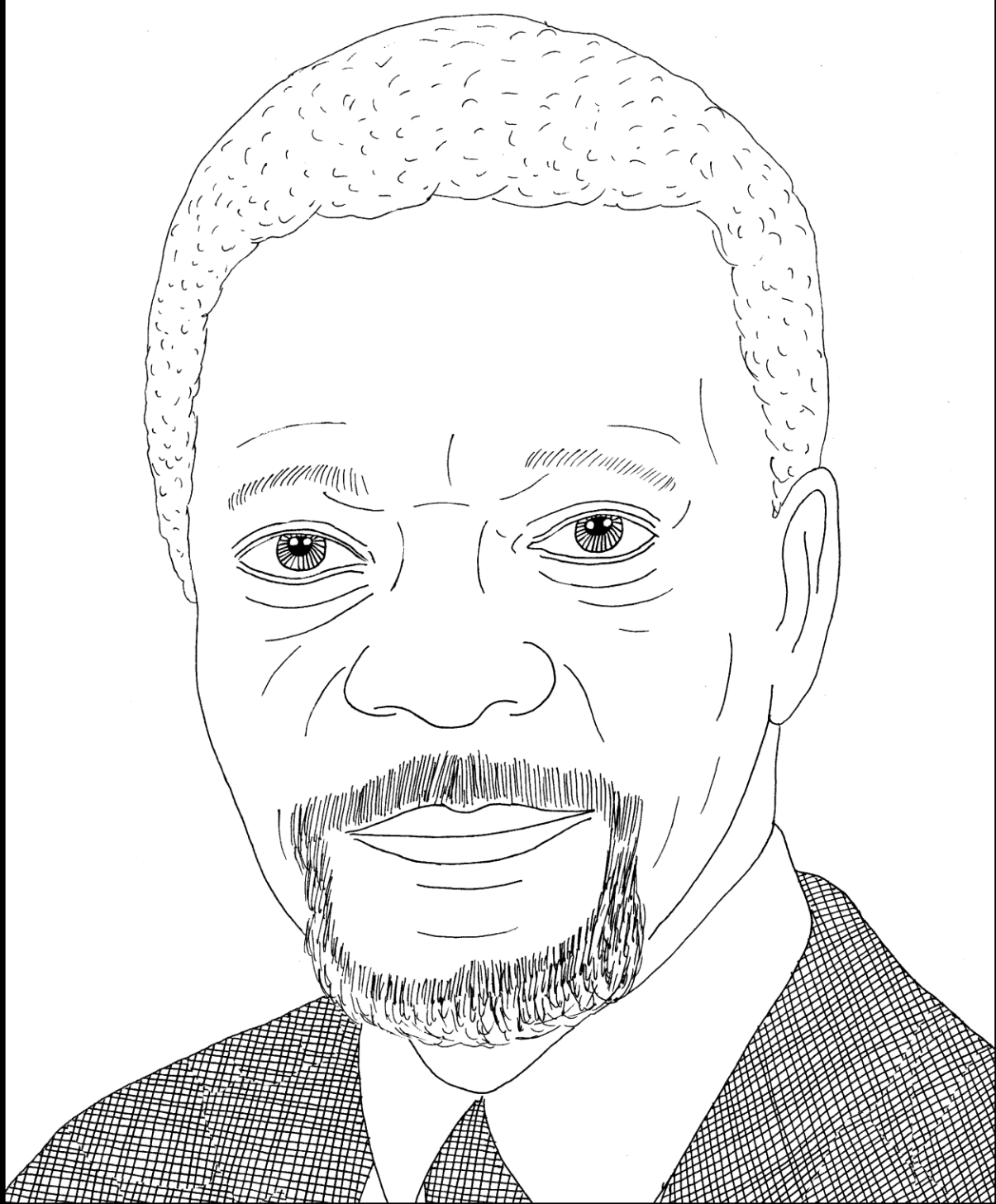
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END TORTURE DAY - JUNE 26

S-I-G-R-I-G-I-T-S
Z-A-M-C-I
D-E-F-E-N-D



S-I-G-R-I-G-I-T-S
Z-A-M-C-I
D-E-F-E-N-D

"This is a day on which we pay our respects to those who have endured the unimaginable. This is an occasion for the world to speak up against the unspeakable. It is long overdue that a day be dedicated to remembering and supporting the many victims and survivors of torture around the world."

Kofi Annan

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S-I-G-R-I-T-I-Z-E-D
H-U-M-A-N-R-I-G-H-T-S



S-I-G-R-I-T-I-Z-E-D
H-U-M-A-N-R-I-G-H-T-S

**"The sad truth is that most evil is done by people who never make up their minds to be either good or evil."
-- Hannah Arendt**

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END TORTURE DAY - JUNE 26

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'The point of nonviolence is to build a floor, a strong new floor, beneath which we can no longer sink. A platform which stands a few feet above napalm, torture, exploitation, poison gas, A and H bombs, the works. Give man a decent place to stand.'

--Joan Baez

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S-I-G-R-I-G-H-TS
Z-A-M-C-I
D-N-E-M-D



D-E-F-E-N-D
I-M-A-N
R-I-G-H-TS

"The civilized have created the wretched, quite coldly and deliberately, and do not intend to change the status quo; are responsible for their slaughter and enslavement; rain down bombs on defenseless children whenever and wherever they decide that their 'vital interests' are menaced, and think nothing of torturing a man to death: these people are not to be taken seriously when they speak of the 'sanctity' of human life, or the 'conscience' of the civilized world."

-- James Baldwin

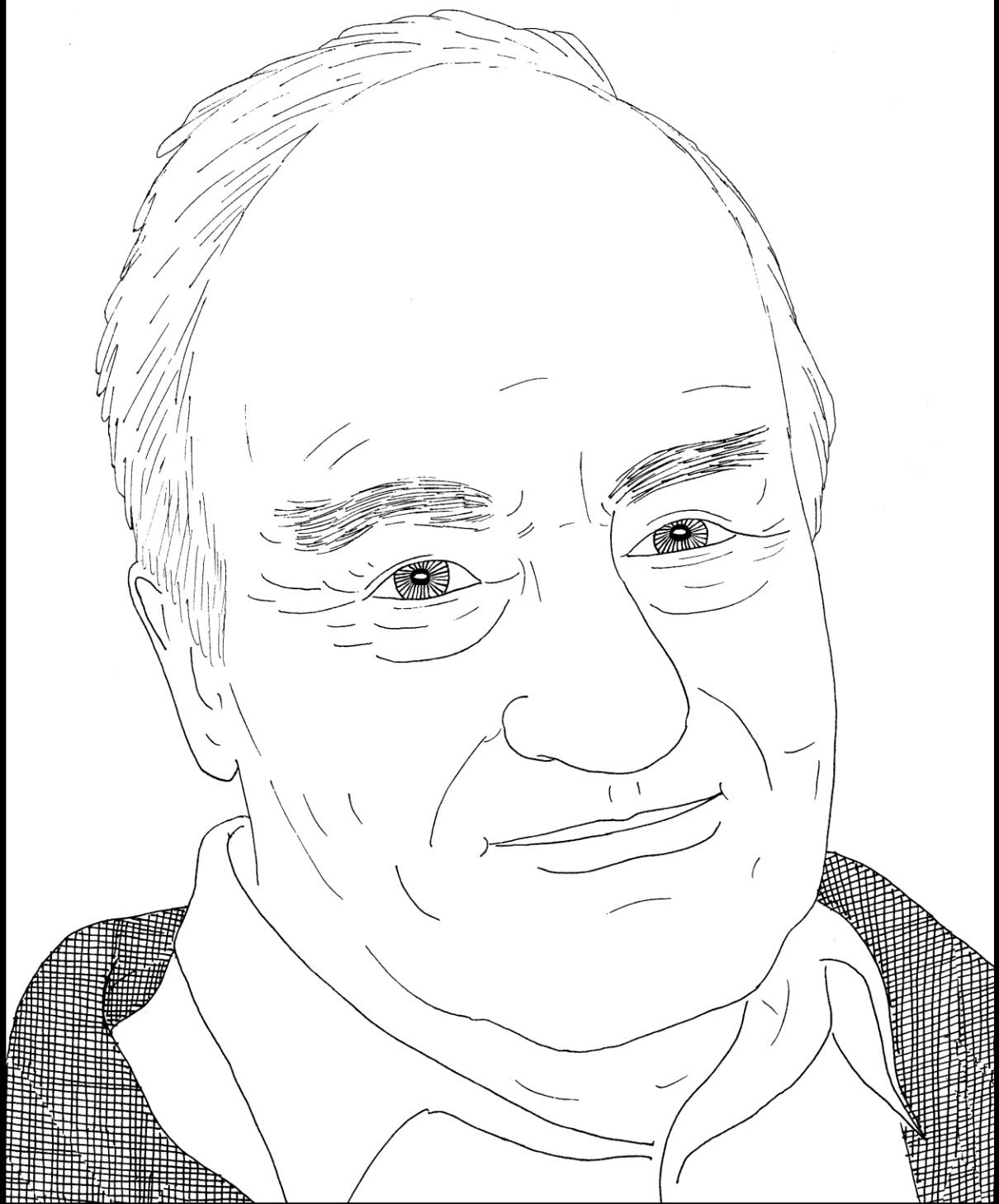
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D-Z-M-I-N-G
D-E-F-E-N-D



D-E-F-E-N-D
D-Z-M-I-N-G
S-I-G-R-I-G-I-T-S

"Torture is banned but in two-thirds of the world's countries it is still being committed in secret. Too many governments still allow wrongful imprisonment, murder or "disappearance" to be carried out by their officials with impunity."

-- Peter Benenson

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S-I-G-N-A-M-C-H-I-N-G-D-E-M-O-N-S-T-R-A-T-I-O-N



S-I-G-N-A-M-C-H-I-N-G-D-E-M-O-N-S-T-R-A-T-I-O-N

"The line that connects the bombing of civilian populations to the mountain removed by strip mining ... to the tortured prisoner seems to run pretty straight. We're living, it seems, in the culmination of a long warfare -- warfare against human beings, other creatures and the Earth itself."

~ Wendell Berry

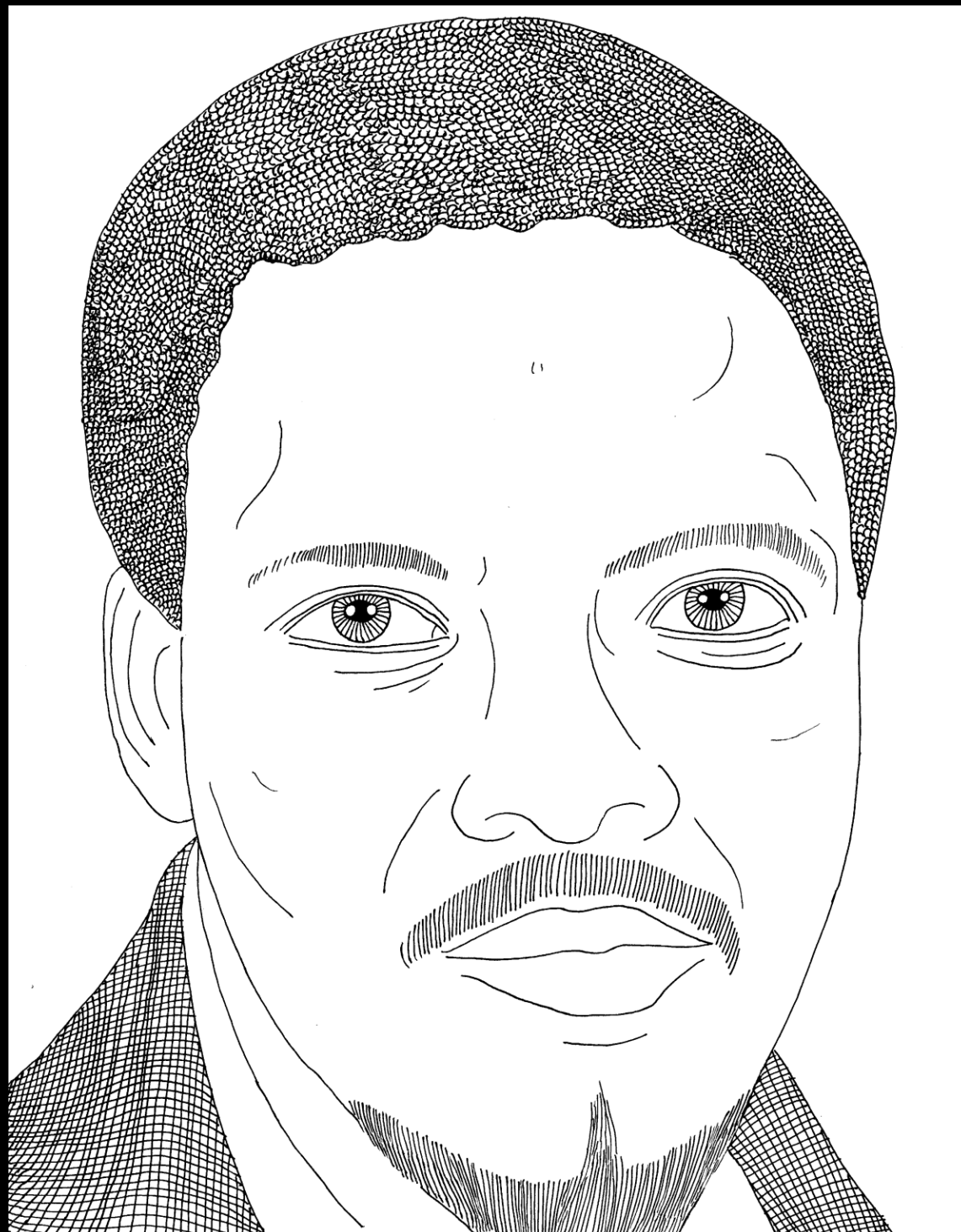
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Z-A-M-C-H-I
D-N-E-E-F-E-D



S-I-G-R-I-T-I-S
Z-A-M-C-H-I
D-N-E-E-F-E-D

"The most potent weapon in the hands of the oppressor
is the mind of the oppressed."

-- Stephen Biko

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S-I-G-N-A-M-I-N-I-T-I-E-S



S-I-G-N-A-M-I-N-I-T-I-E-S

“We are unalterably opposed to the presentation of the female body being stripped, bound, raped, tortured, mutilated, and murdered in the name of commercial entertainment and free speech.”

-- Susan Brownmiller

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S-I-G-R-I-G-TS
H-U-M-A-N
R-I-G-H-TS



S-I-G-R-I-G-TS
H-U-M-A-N
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"Extensive violations of human rights (torture, forced reduction of living standards for much of the population, police-sponsored death squads, destruction of representative institutions or of independent unions, etc.) are directly correlated with US government support. The linkage is not accidental; rather it is systematic. The reason is obvious enough. Client fascism often improves the business climate for American corporations, quite generally the guiding factor in foreign policy."

-- Noam Chomsky

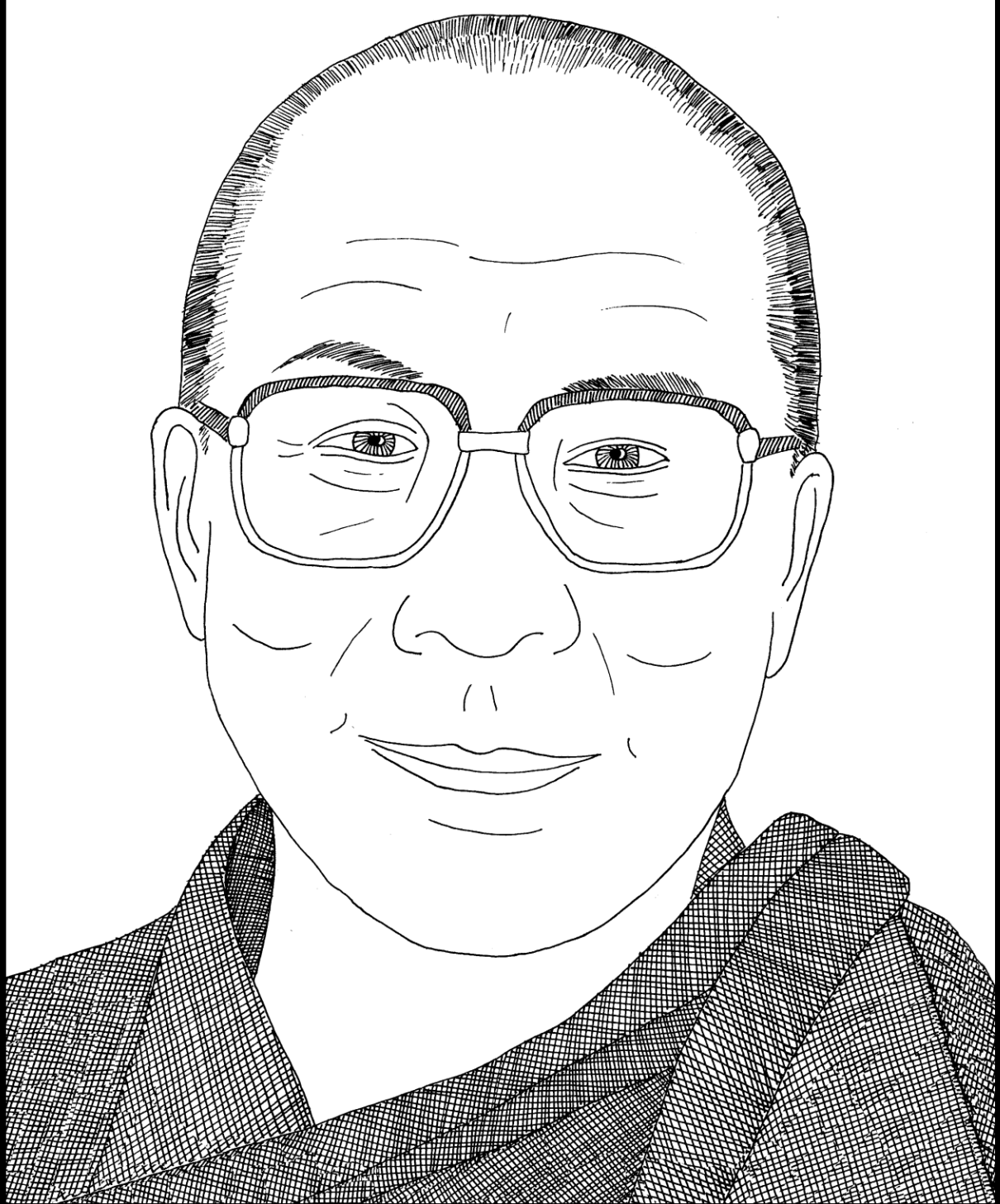
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S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-E-F-E-N-D



S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-E-F-E-N-D

"All human beings, whatever their cultural or historical background, suffer when they are intimidated, imprisoned or tortured . . . We must, therefore, insist on a global consensus, not only on the need to respect human rights worldwide, but also on the definition of these rights . . . for it is the inherent nature of all human beings to yearn for freedom, equality and dignity, and they have an equal right to achieve that." -- Tenzin Gyatso, 14th Dalai Lama

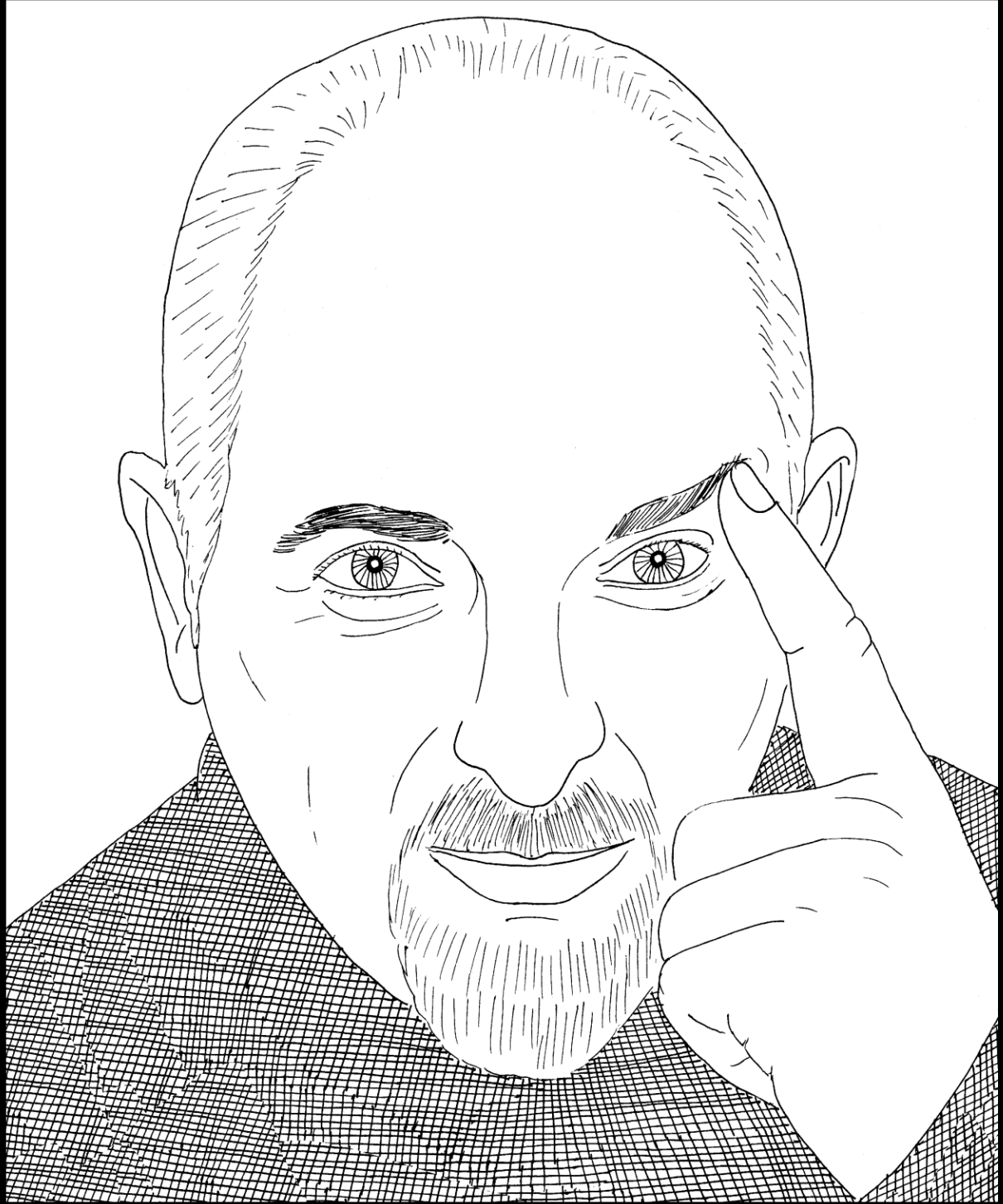
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S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-E-N-T-S



S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-E-N-T-S

"The UN Declaration of Human Rights laid down what any person might reasonably expect, yet there are remarkably few people who enjoy these rights. With cameras in the hands of activists and meaningful distribution of those images, we will witness what really goes on in this world and hopefully want to change it."

-- Peter Gabriel

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S-I-G-N-A-M-E-N-T-S



S-I-G-N-A-M-E-N-T-S

"Sometimes I have been very dispirited. But if we disappear, we leave the door open to all kinds of abuse. So I say to my colleagues, "Don't be too ambitious. If you look at all the problems in Cambodia at once, you cannot work. Like you build a house, you build it brick by brick...It will take a long time to advance human rights, but keep moving." ...It's a reward for me to see the new generation of advocates. They are our future."

-- Kek Galabru

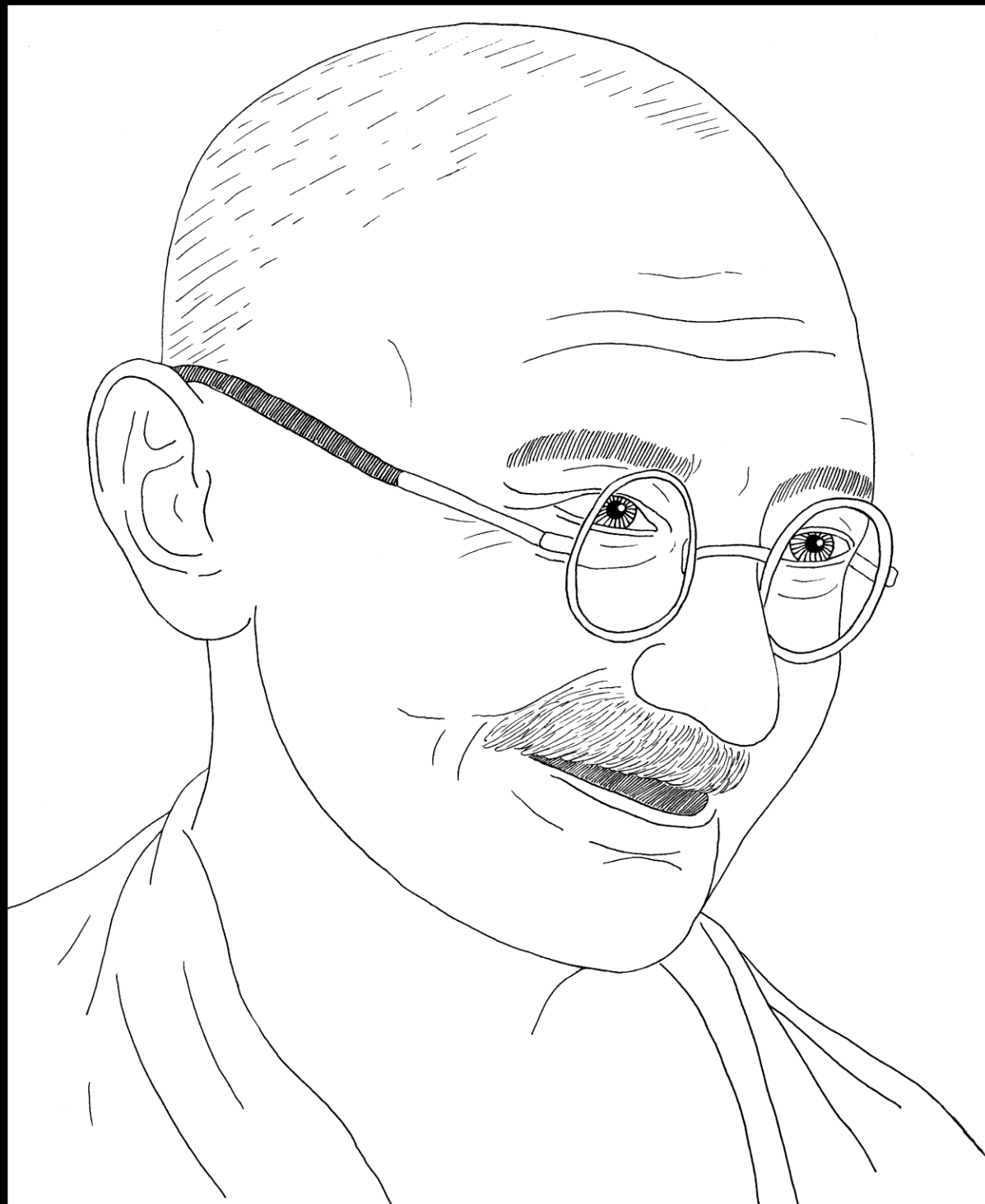
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S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D



S-I-G-R-A-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D

**"You can chain me, you can torture me, you can even
destroy this body, but you will never imprison my mind."
-- Mohandas Gandhi**

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S-I-G-R-I-T-I-M-I-N-I-T-I-E-S



S-I-G-R-I-T-I-M-I-N-I-T-I-E-S

"The aim of torture is to destroy a person as a human being, to destroy their identity and soul. It is more evil than murder...Today we know that survivors of torture can be helped to regain their health and strength, and in helping them we take the weapon from their torturers. They sought the destruction of other human beings. We have proved that they have not succeeded."

-- Inge Genefke

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S-I-G-N-I-T-I-C-A-N-T



S-I-G-N-I-T-I-C-A-N-T

**"Victims should come first."
-- Maria Julia Hernandez**

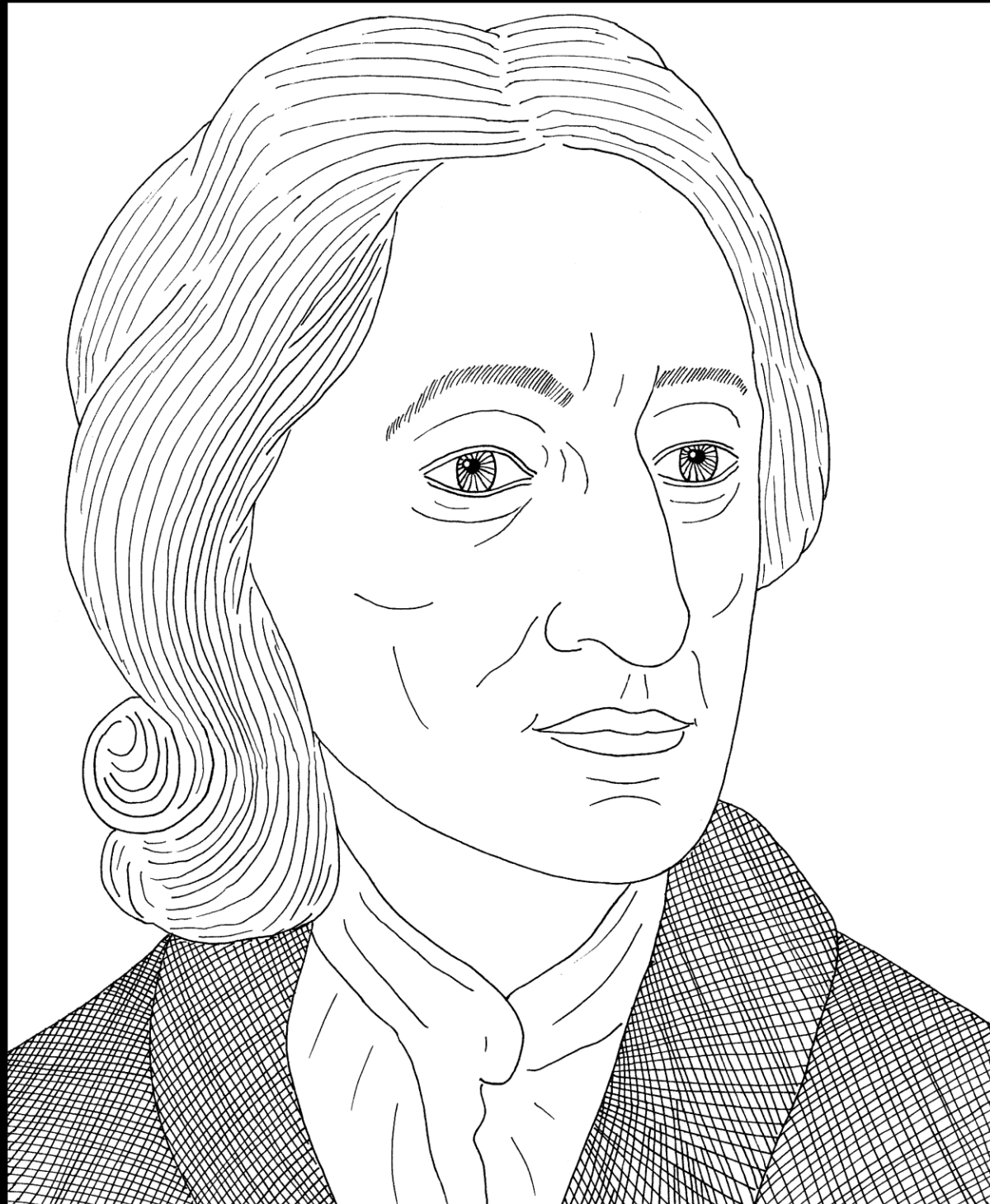
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S-I-G-R-Z-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D



S-I-G-R-Z-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D

**"All mankind... being all equal and independent,
no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty or possessions."
-- John Locke**

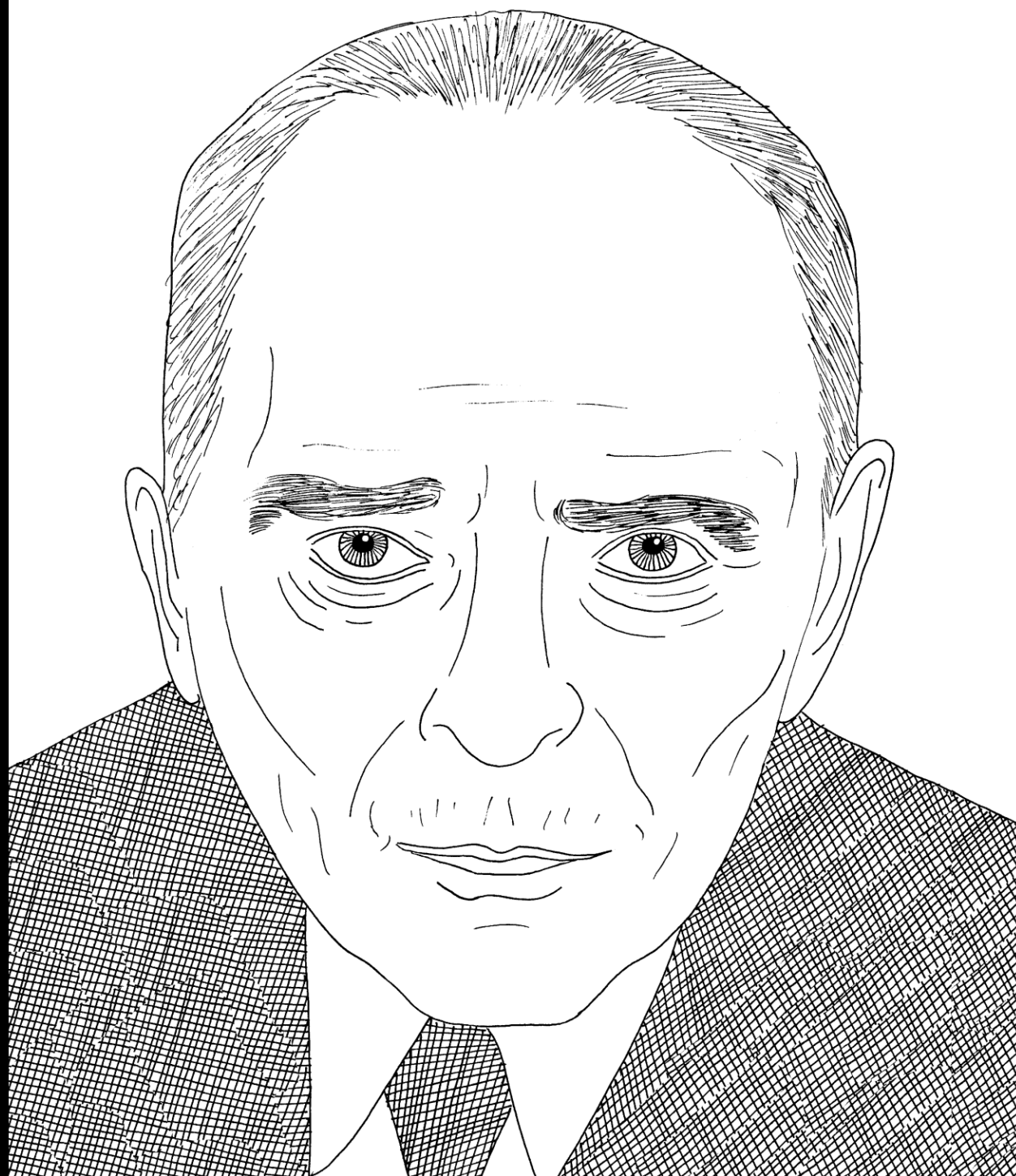
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"The right of an individual to refuse to kill, to torture, or to participate in the preparation for the nuclear destruction of humanity seems to me to be fundamental."

-- Sean MacBride

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S-I-G-N-A-M-E-N-T-S



S-I-G-N-A-M-E-N-T-S

"The cost in human lives and suffering is so high that we all have to work to end violence and oppression once and for all. We have to proclaim that every human being is equal, in dignity, in freedom —and, as the first article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, we have to live "in a spirit of brotherhood."

-- Federico Mayor

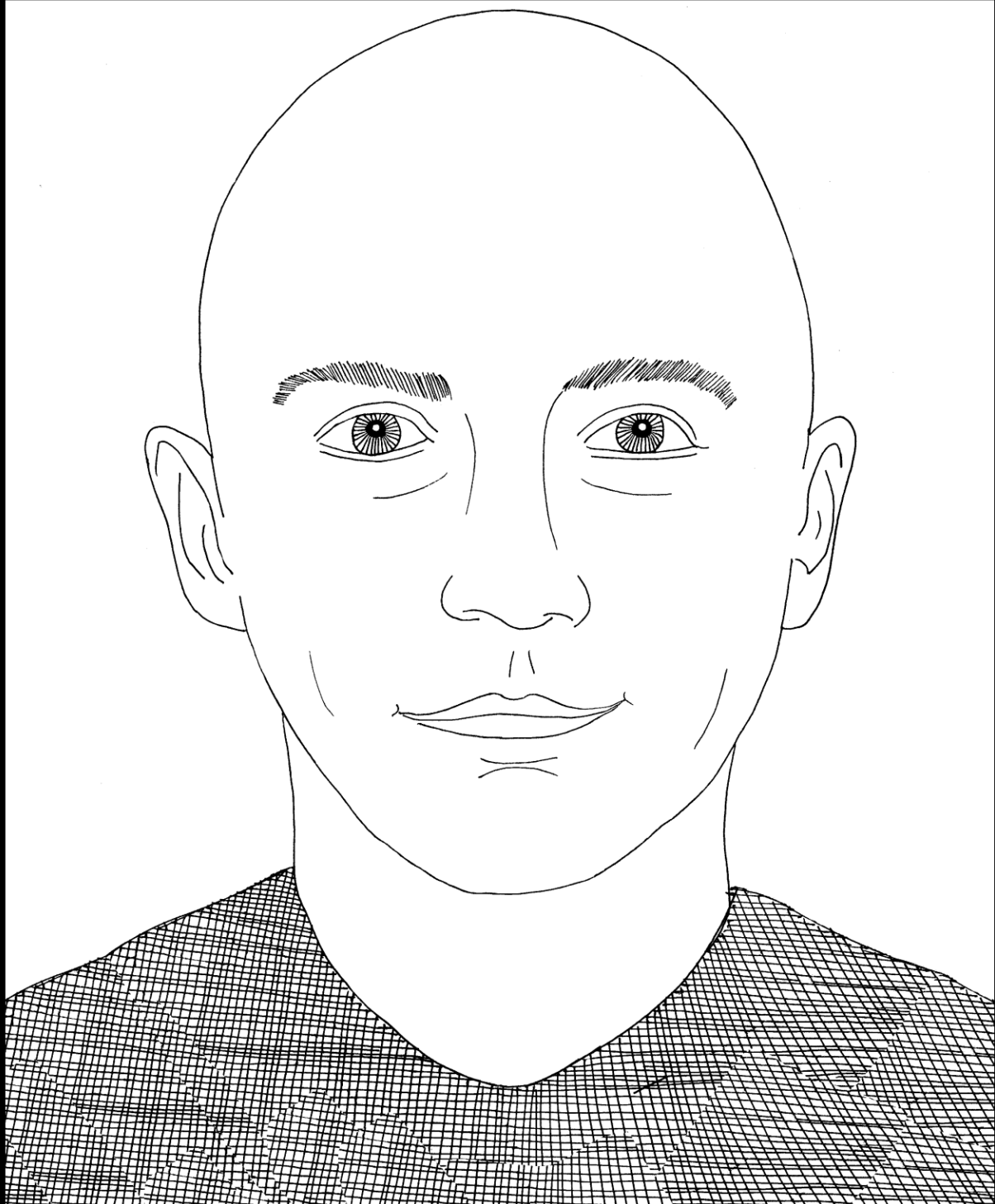
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N-A-M-C-I
D-E-F-E-N-D



S-I-G-R-I-G-I-T-S
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"If you don't want to be beaten, imprisoned, mutilated, killed or tortured then you shouldn't condone such behavior towards anyone, be they human or not."

-- Moby

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S-I-G-N-A-M-C-H-I-D-E-N-T

S-I-G-N-A-M-C-H-I-D-E-N-T



"Together we can prevent genocide from happening again.
Together we can make a better future for our children."

-- Dith Pran

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S-I-G-R-I-T-I-Z-A-M-C-H-I-D-E-N-T

S-I-G-R-I-T-I-Z-A-M-C-H-I-D-E-N-T



"Land mines, torture equipment, cluster bombs, chemical weapons are weapons designed to inflict pain and death on human beings. Most victims are civilians, women and children. How can arms manufacturers, weapons designers, plant managers, politicians, who have families of their own whom they love, be so insensitive when it comes to the suffering of other human beings?"

-- José Ramos-Horta

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"Torture has been privatized now, so you have obviously the whole scandal in America about the abuse of prisoners and the fact that, army people might be made to pay a price, but who are the privatized torturers accountable to?"

-- Arundhati Roy

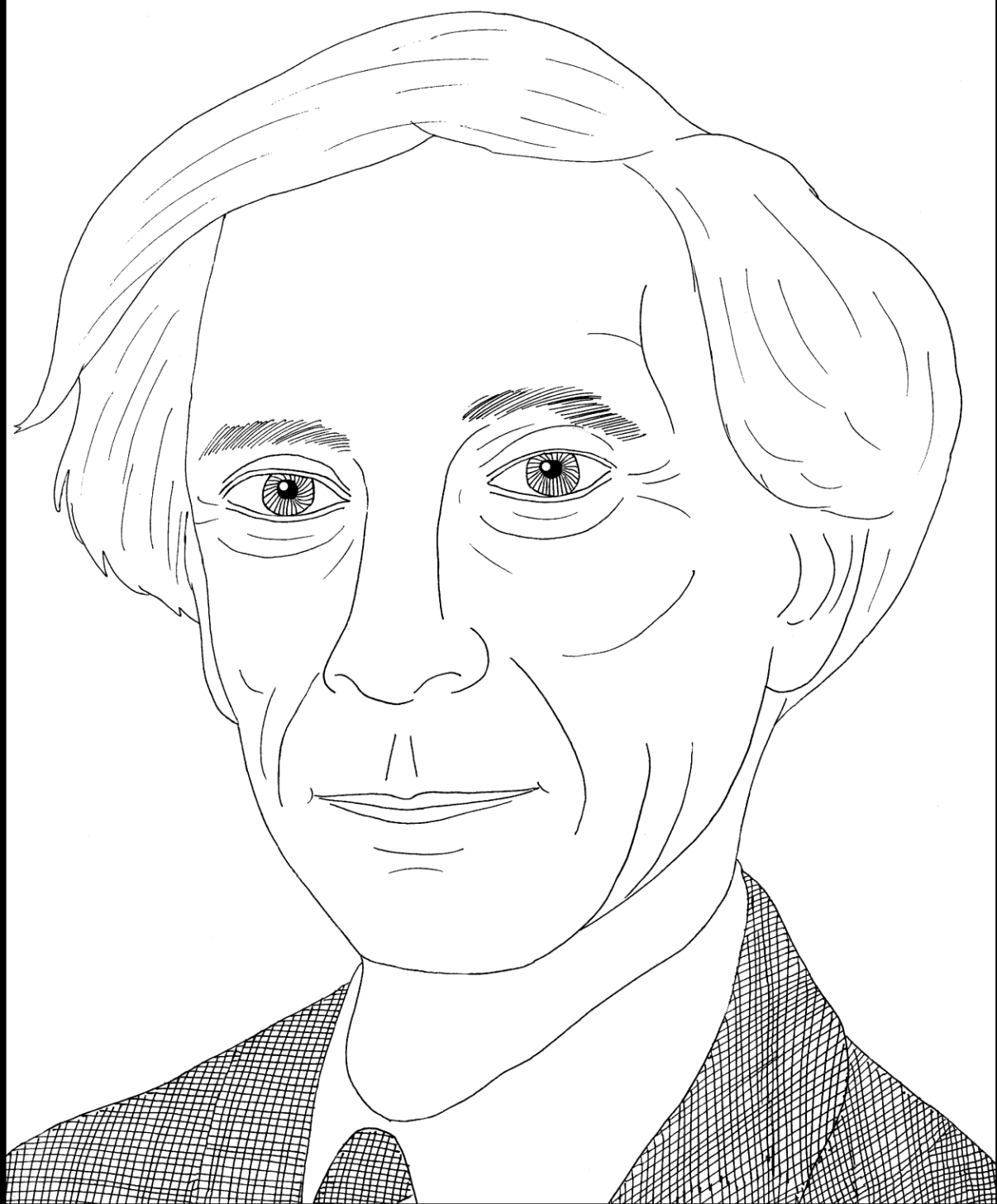
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END TORTURE DAY - JUNE 26

S-I-G-R-I-T-I-O-S



S-I-G-R-I-T-I-O-S

“What the world needs is not dogma but an attitude of scientific inquiry combined with a belief that the torture of millions is not desirable, whether inflicted by Stalin or by a Deity imagined in the likeness of the believer”
-- Bertrand Russell

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S-I-G-N-I-F-I-C-A-N-T-H-U-M-A-N-R-I-G-H-T-S



S-I-G-N-I-F-I-C-A-N-T-H-U-M-A-N-R-I-G-H-T-S

"Torture -- the intentional infliction of severe mental or physical pain or suffering -- is a violation of the most basic of all human rights."

-- Robert Alan Silverstein

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S-I-G-N-I-F-I-C-A-N-T



S-I-G-N-I-F-I-C-A-N-T

"Strange how blind people are! They are horrified by the torture chambers of the Middle Ages, but their arsenals fill them with pride!"
-- Bertha Von Suttner

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S-H-I-G-R-Z-A-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D



S-H-I-G-R-Z-A-M-C-I-D-Z-M-T-M-D

"It's only when we imagine for ourselves what it would be like to run from state terror, torture, rape, the destruction of our homes and families that we can understand how vital it would be to find a place that welcomed us and tried to heal our wounds."

-- Emma Thompson

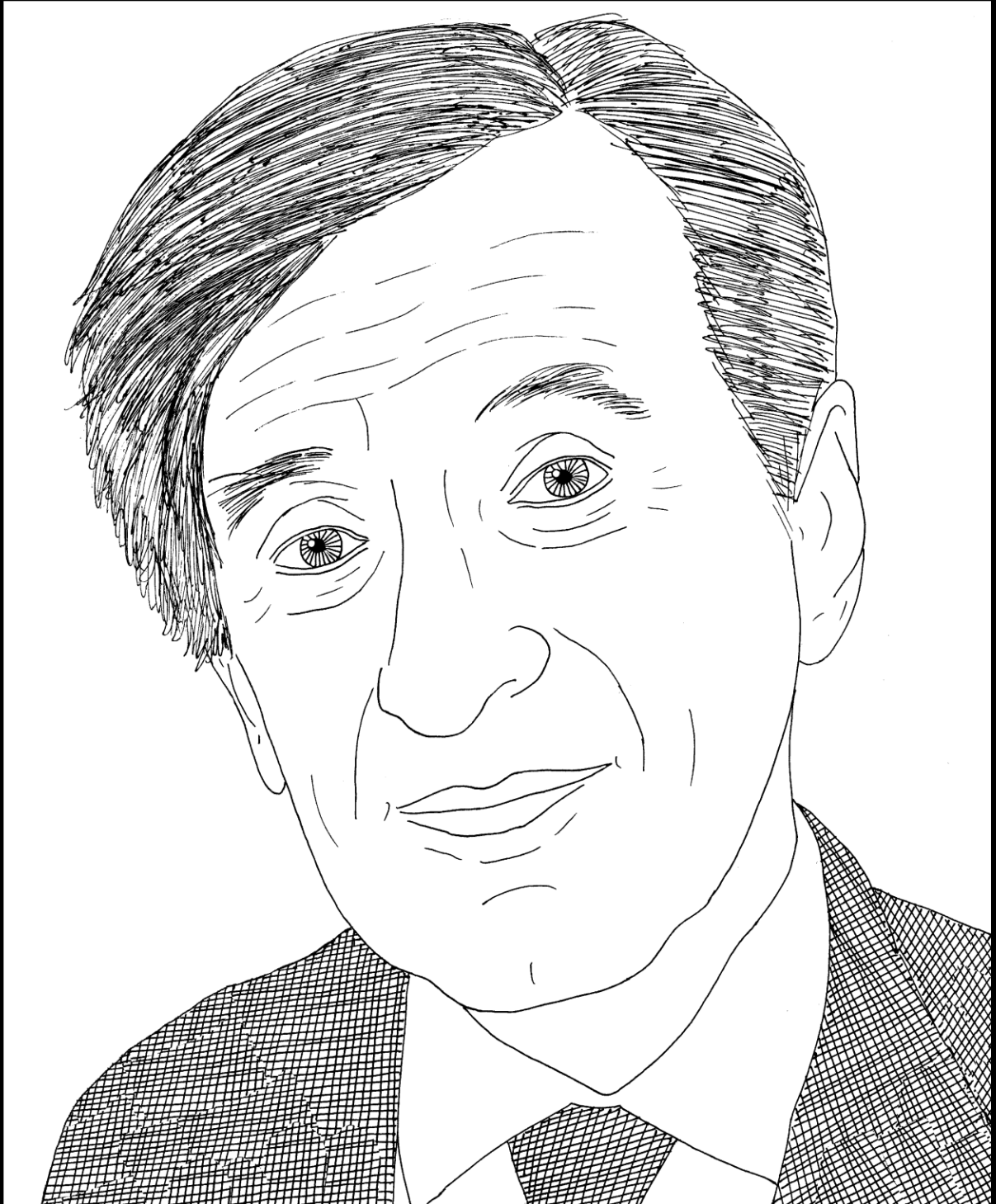
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S-I-G-N-A-M-C-I-D-E-F-E-N-D

**"We must take sides.
Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim.
Silence encourages the tormentors, not the tormented."
-- Elie Wiesel**

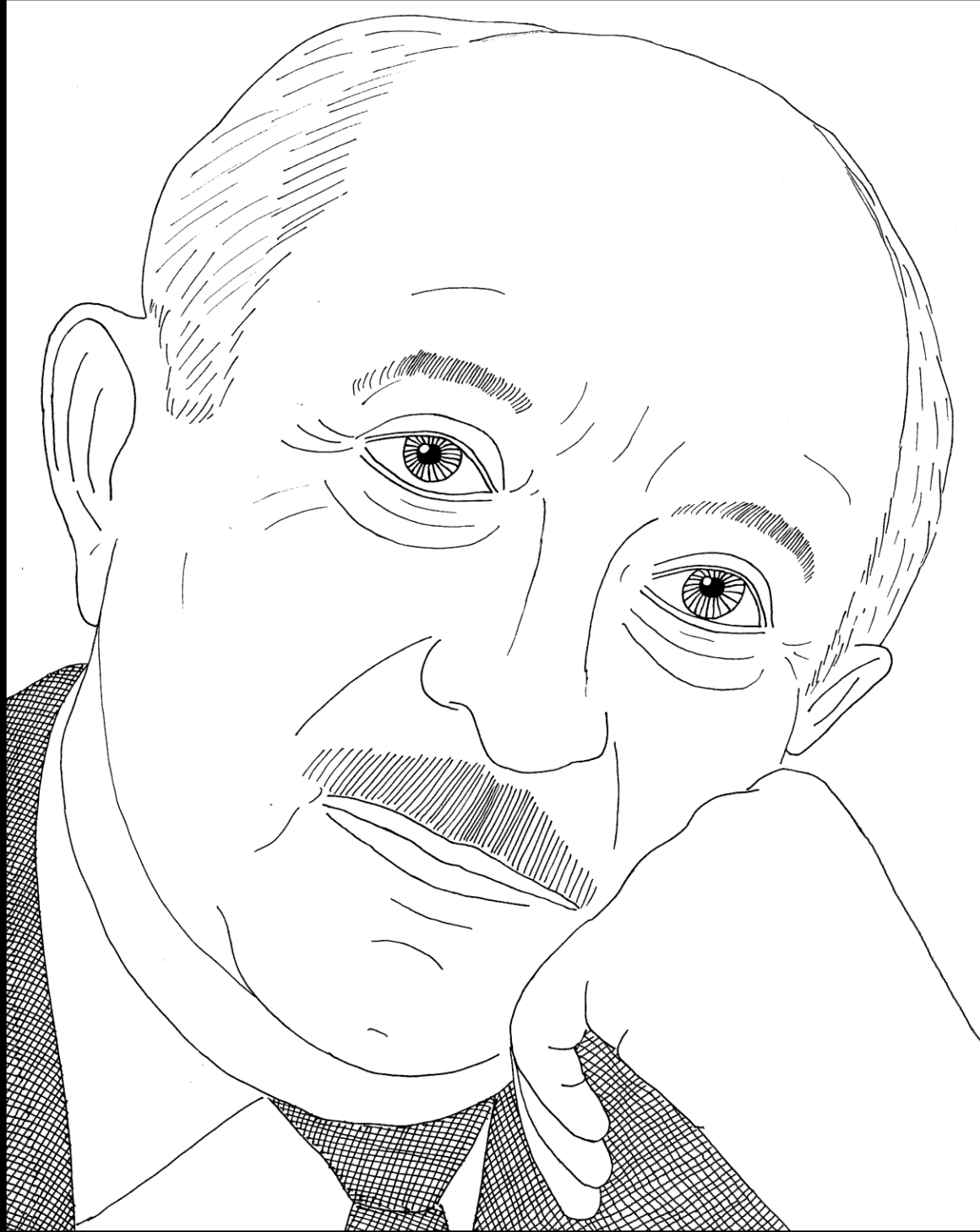
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**“Human rights is the only ideology that deserves to survive”
-- Simon Wiesenthal**

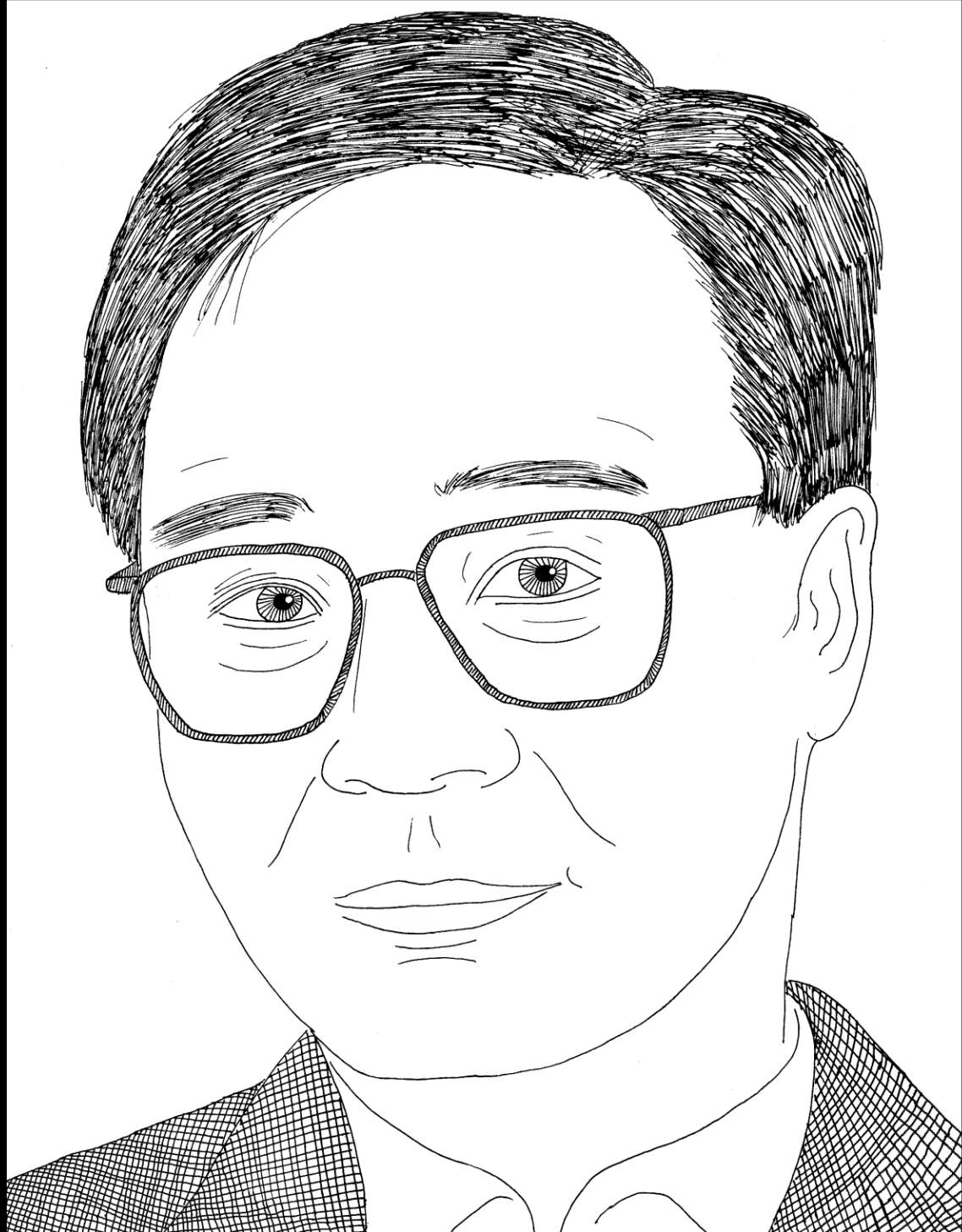
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"I want people to be aware. Aware of how many men and women are in prison. Aware of the products made in China by prison labor: the toys, the footballs, the surgical gloves. Aware of what life is like under forced labor.

Aware of the so-called crimes that send people there.

This is a human rights issue, not one of imports and exports."

-- Harry Wu

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"...civil society has not lost the possibility to influence the government and force them to change their policy.
That is why we believe in your voice and your help."
-- Lida Yusupova

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S-I-G-N-A-M-I-D-E-F-F-R-I-G-H-T-S



"I love life and want to hold onto it. But my passion for justice for my tormented people, for their dignity and freedom, must be greater still. For of what value is a life of slavery, of humiliation and contempt for that which you hold most dear: Your identity!"

-- Leyla Zana

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