

I'm going to write a letter...

A letter to my future daughter, to tell of my hopes for the world by the time she's born and how I'm going to make sure it comes true.

I hope you'll have all the opportunities that I've had. You'll have more opportunities than I did, just like I had more chances than my mother.

You aren't defined by your gender. Everyone should have the same chances to study and work. It's that simple.

What if you want to be an engineer? Construction can be women's work too.

Be a captain of industry, business, politics?

There was a time when certain roles were pretty much men only. We're not there yet, but thankfully it's starting to change.

I think what I'm trying to say is, I hope your choice is about the career you want, the life you want, not just a choice between career and family, like my mum had.

I take it for granted that I'm free to make my own decisions.

My life, my work, my relationships, my own body. I know many women in some parts of the world don't have that luxury.

I hope you'll be judged on your achievements rather than gender stereotypes.

I'll try not to fall into that trap.

Ultimately, equality is a journey and we're all at different stages.

There are still countries where women are considered the property of men.

We are making progress, in places where women simply don't have the same rights. But don't for a minute think the job's done.

I want the world to be a safe place for you, where you won't have to worry about being attacked. Physical violence against females is still far too common.

And I promise I'll never shout you down or intimidate you into changing your mind. Nothing makes an insecure, pathetic man feel more threatened than a girl with a book.

I wonder what the men in your life will be like? Your father, your friends at school. Your first boyfriend, if that's what you want.

I will be kind, understanding, supportive, and always...

...let you be you.