

## **Emmeline Pankhurst Window Speech**

My friends. Despite Her Majesty's government, I am here tonight. I know the sacrifice you have made to be here. Many of you, I know are estranged from the lives you once had. Yet, I feel your spirit tonight. For fifty years we have laboured peacefully to secure the vote for women. We've been ridiculed, battered, and ignored. Now we have realised that deeds and sacrifice must be the order of the day.

We are fighting for a time in which every little girl born in the world will have an equal chance with her brothers.

Never underestimate the power we women have to define our own destinies. We do not want to be lawbreakers. We want to be lawmakers. Be militant, each of you in your own way. Those of you who can break windows, break them. Those of you who can further attack the sacred idol of property, do so!

We have been left with no alternative but to defy this government. If we must go to prison to obtain this vote, let it be the windows of government and not the bodies of women which are broken. I incite this meeting and all the women in Britain to rebellion. I would rather be a rebel than a slave. Never surrender.

Never give up the fight!