

# Mother's Day Proclamation

Arise then...women of this day!  
Arise, all women who have hearts!  
Whether your baptism be of water  
or of tears! Say firmly:  
"We will not have questions answered  
by irrelevant agencies,  
Our husbands will not come to us,  
reeking with carnage,  
For caresses and applause.  
Our sons shall not be taken  
from us to unlearn  
All that we have been able  
to teach them of charity,  
mercy and patience.  
We, the women of one country,  
Will be too tender  
of those of another country  
To allow our sons  
to be trained  
to injure theirs."

-- Julia Ward Howe, 1870

