

## Villanelle for Human Rights

(For the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UDHR, 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2023)

They dare to trample on our human rights  
Around this world injustice still occurs  
Let's use the power of words to show our might.

It's fine for us, the ones who've seen the light  
Too many despots still abuse their powers  
They dare to trample on our human rights.

Food and shelter; medicine; for those who fight  
Against vile tyranny? Diplomacy prefers  
We use the power of words to show our might.

And "*Land of the Free*" – you should be contrite  
Less free post *Roe v Wade*, choice interred  
How dare you trample on our human rights.

Why educate weak girls? Those who are bright  
Malala-like will open others' eyes and she conspires  
To use the power of words to show our might.

In 75 years' time will it be alright?  
How can we overcome the autocrat who errs  
And dares to trample on our human rights?  
Let's use the power of words to show our might.

*The Manx Bard (Boakesey Closs)*