

Martin Luther King and his famous speech 'I have a dream'

[Sociology](#), [Racism](#)



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Introduction

The purpose of this essay is to examine the transformational leadership style based on one of the best motivational speeches of the whole universe “ I Have A Dream” by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His life experience is very strong to show the transformational leader forming for this essay. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was an American who is best known for his role in the African-American civil rights movement of the 1960s and 1960s. Dr. King who was inspired by his faith and the peaceful teachings of Mahatma Gandhi is considered one of history’s greatest champions of non-violence. He used the power of his words as well as peaceful demonstrations such as protests sit-ins and boycotts in an effort to achieve equality for all people. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is a true American Hero.

Expository

Dr. Martin Luther King Junior’s life, the inspiration of the nation, becoming more tolerant, and accepting all citizens regardless of race class or gender is a very huge history. Martin Luther King jr. was born on Tuesday, January 15,

1929, in Atlanta Georgia. His name at birth was Michael King, his father also named Michael changed both their names to Martin Luther in honor of the world-renowned German reformer of the same name. Martin Jr. was a middle child. He had an older sister named Willie Christine King and a younger brother named Alfred Daniel Williams King. Martin Jr. attended Booker T. Washington High School and was so smart that skipped both the ninth and twelfth grades and enrolled in Morehouse College at age 15 without formally graduating from high school. During his final semester at Morehouse College, Martin was ordained as a minister. He also took his first steps towards being an activist by writing a letter to the editor of the Atlanta Constitution. In the letter, he declared that African Americans were entitled to the basic rights and opportunities of American citizens. After graduating from Morehouse, Martin attended Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania from 1948 until 1951. Martin then began his doctoral studies at Boston University and during this time he began to draw from his education his faith and his natural verbal ability to form the foundation for what would become his critical role in the civil rights movement. While in Boston, Martin met and dated Coretta Scott who was a student at the New England Conservatory of Music. On June 18th, 1953 they were married in Alabama where Coretta's family lived. Martin and Coretta became the parents of four children: Yolanda King, Martin Luther King, the third Dexter Scott King, and Bernice King.

Analysis

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has seen many difficulties beginning from his childhood. All of these problems made him more physically and morally

strong. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a big fan of football, and one day while going to play again with his friends he has been rejected to join his friends because of his race. He was very upset and asked his mother why there is discrimination between the races. When he got an answer from her mother that some years ago there was a slave era that remains in the mind of civilization, he set a goal to himself to achieve equality of races.

Martin Luther King Jr. Demonstrated leadership roles in almost everything he did in his activism career, through one of the most prominent protests he led was the Montgomery bus boycott that started December 1st, 1955, and lasted over a year and remained peaceful. The boycott started with the history of one woman that refused to leave her seat on the bus for a white person and fined \$14 with an arrest order for that. Approximately 40, 000 African-American bus riders joined the boycott. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested 12 times during the boycott, and even stopped protesting for some time but as he set a goal he decided to finish what he started. After the boycott ended, the government removed the tables in busses " Only for whites". This was the first step towards the discrimination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Martin Luther King's speech " I Have A Dream" on August 28, 1963, was one of his speeches with powerful lines that he read: " I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character". This speech was known as the " greatest demonstration for freedom" in United States history. In his speech, he showed that he challenges the existing state of

segregation and injustice. He was very prepared and ready to fight for days, months, years to analyze all races, and even talk to them. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. divided some time of his daily life to go for a walk and talk to civilization collecting information. While talking to them he was inspiring them to stand up against discrimination. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. provided a clear vision and sense of missions on each of his talks and speeches. African-American people got empowered by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and followed him even when he was arrested. Over this period, he got an audience of 250,000 people gathered at the Lincoln Memorial to listen to his "I Have A Dream" speech.

"I Have A Dream" speech also called as 'March on Washington' forced the audience to stand up with the words "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed — we hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal". His dream became the dream of all African-American people living in discrimination. As a transformational leader, he converted his vision and high self-respect to a social level. As he mentioned in his speech, he would not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream in a nation that his children will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. faced the most brutal facts of life's reality. Hundred years later African-Americans are still not free he mentioned referring to Abraham Lincoln and Emancipation Proclamation. He created a sense of urgency by pointing out that. As a result, all African-American people were

called to act in accord with their highest values with the citation: " I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together". He produced more confident and inspired civilizations that could lead themselves. Because he knew that he will be arrested again and again. So it happened, when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested again, over 300, 000 people went against the government requiring equality of races and their legal rights. He changed society in such a way that the government was forced to agree with civils and make equal rights. This shows the character of a transformational leader that makes more leaders, not followers.

Reflection

To begin with, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the most patient leaders for me. He was arrested 12 times, his house was bombarded, and many projects were refused by the government, however, he never gave up. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. went forward to his goal that he put in his childhood. Personally, I am always referring to this lesson never to give up.

Secondly, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had an incredible talent to listen carefully to each person. It can sound simple, but in reality, when you collect more information from different persons with different characters, thoughts, personalities, and ideas, it is clearer for you to make a more concrete plan to reach your goal. In life situations, for example in some university projects,

often students do not refer to different sources while project analysis that results in a lack of supports and ends up with simple conclusions.