

Dr. Martin Luther Kings generation

In today's society there have been numerous people who have made a difference; it takes determination, courage, and persistence to do so. Dr. Martin Luther King had all those qualities; with this he used his voice and made a difference. He had a dream in which he invisioned peace and no segregation. On April 4, 1968 he was assassinated, leaving his dreams behind for his generation and future generations to realize.

Dr. King said a lot of things that affected people. One of his most important statements was, "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." Today in school students face a lot of persecution for what they believe or how they act. This quote stood out for me because people expect their friends to be there when someone is saying something hateful, yet a lot of times their friends don't say anything because they're scared and ashamed. What my school has learned from Dr. King is that if people don't stand up for something that they know is wrong, what makes them better then the person doing the wrong?

One experience that I've had was when I was in junior high. Lunch time was the worst time; I hated it because all my friends would do is taunt this boy for being short. It hurt a lot to watch them because he would look like he wanted to cry every time we did it. I consider myself a part of what they did because in class I was friends with the boy but in lunch I laughed with them. Dr. King has showed me and others in my school that we need to stand up and stick up for what's wrong. Ever since then I haven't been able to speak with the boy because he moved. It's true what Dr. King said "we will remember the silence of our friends." I can't imagine how much I hurt that boy, but I learned from the

whole experience. Now I am my own person and I know that I'll never do that to a friend again.

On April 9th of 1968, Martin Luther King was buried. Sometimes I wonder if he knew he was going to make such a difference, not only to adults, but to people of all ages. His quotes are true and uplifting. My experience has helped me to grow, thanks to Dr. King and his words. People should remember, "be a friend and do not keep quiet." I've lost a friend, and it is a horrible feeling to have. It is scary to speak out but the person who does, looks like the bigger person to other people and is the bigger person inside.