

In Memorandum Of Martin Luther King Jr., Who Believed In, and Taught, Non-violence



Non-violence:

- Is a way of life for courageous people. This includes a focus on non-violent resistance to evil (i.e., poverty, racism, and militarism).
- Seeks to win friendships and understanding. This act results in redemption and reconciliation.
- Seeks to defeat injustice not people. King was quoted for saying that "injustice anywhere is a threat to people everywhere."
- Holds that suffering can educate and transform.
- Chooses love instead of hate. This love is spontaneous, unmotivated, unselfish, and creative.
- Believes that the universe is on the side of justice.

Six Steps to Social Change - note that there may be organizations, universities, or colleges hosting events where you can promote community attendance.

- Information gatherings and town meetings aimed at healing.
- Education forums or workshops.
- State public commitment (e.g., resolutions).
- Discussions and negotiations that get at root issues and address inequities.
- Direct action through service, causes, policies, and practices.
- Reconciliation that addresses injustice, oppressive policies, and unjust acts.