

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

1. King's birth name was Michael. Martin was born Michael King Jr. on January 15, 1929, to parents Michael King Sr. and Alberta Williams King.

2. He was the youngest person at the time to receive a Nobel Peace Prize. When Martin Luther King Jr. received a Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through nonviolence, he was just 35 years old – the youngest man at the time to do so. His prize included a check for \$54,123, which he donated to various organizations.

3. King is the only nonpresident to have a national holiday in his name. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill that would establish a nationally observed holiday in remembrance of King. He is the only nonpresident to have received such an honor – the only other American to have a holiday commemorated in his name is George Washington. He is also the only nonpresident with a memorial, located on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

4. King was awarded 20 honorary degrees and was named Man of the Year by Time magazine. During his lifetime, he received 20 honorary degrees from colleges and universities across the US and around the world. In 1963, he became the first African American to be named *Time* magazine's Man of the Year. The tribute included a photograph on the cover plus a sevenpage article including several photos of the most memorable moments of his career.

5. There are approximately 900 streets named after MLK in the US and 100 internationally. After his assassination in 1968, cities across the nation began naming and renaming streets in his honor; even countries such as Italy and Israel followed suit. The number of streets increases every year, with 70 percent in Southern states.

6. King was nearly assassinated ten years before his death. On September 20, 1958, King was in Harlem signing copies of his new book, at a local department store, Blumstein's. A woman named Izola Ware Curry approached him, asking if he was Martin Luther King. When he replied yes, she said 'I've been looking for you for five years,' and stuck a letter opener into his chest. The blade came close to penetrating his heart, nestled just along the side of his aorta. After several hours of surgery, King emerged alive; doctors later told him that 'just one sneeze could have punctured the aorta' and killed him. King later issued a statement that he felt no anger or ill will toward the woman.

7. King's mother was murdered by a gunman. On June 30, 1974, Alberta Williams King was shot by a maniacal gunman who claimed that Christians were his enemy and that he received 'divine instructions' to kill King's father; however, because Alberta – who played the organ on Sundays at Ebenezer Baptist Church – was closer to the assailant, he opted to shoot her instead. The man was convicted, receiving the death penalty sentence, which was later changed

to life in prison, partly because King's family did not believe in capital punishment.

8. King's original room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN was room 206. Dr. King's Ground floor room #206 was changed by a covert operative in the SCLC organization to the 2nd floor balcony room #306 so that US Army sharpshooters and other cabal shooters would have a clear shot at Dr. King. The Lorraine Motel was owned by Mr. And Mrs. Bailey. Mrs. Loree Catherine Bailey, had the responsibility of assigning rooms. She suffered a stroke a few hours after Dr. King was slain and died five days later.

9. Following the shooting at the Lorraine Motel, Dr. King was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital. The shots that hit Dr. King were fired by Memphis Police Officer Frank Strausser, accompanied by spotter Earl Clark (another Memphis police officer), with US Army sharpshooters or other backup shooters hidden in the cafeteria of Firestation #2, a nearby water tower and another high building. An assassination cabalconnected physician by the name of Dr. Breen Bland entered the emergency room with two men in suits, ordered nurses "Stop working on that nigger and let him die." The physician then spat on the victim, took a pillow and placed it on Dr. King's face, smothering him to ensure he was dead.

10. The designated patsy of this false flag assassination plot, was James Earl Ray. Ray did not fire any shots and had been handled by a mysterious "Raul" for over a year on trips through Canada and Mexico before the King assassina tion while the Cointelpro assassinations of Dr. King and Robert F. Kennedy were being planned by a high level cabal including FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, CIA, US Army and other national security chiefs.

11. Reverend James Bevel, visited James Earl Ray in jail. After interviewing Ray he determined that he was incapable of firing the fatal shot that killed Dr. King. He convinced Dr. Ralph David Abernathy the newly elected president of SCLC to work to defend James Earl Ray and demand that he be given a trial and that the plea bargain be thrown out. King's father became angered at this and the organization appeased him and James Bevel was blackballed and left the organization. Years later Mrs Coretta King and family took Loyd Joyers to trial for Dr. King's murder.

12. December 8, 1999, Loyd Jowers was found guilty of the murder of Dr. King. The King family was awarded \$100 in restitution to show that they were not pursuing the case for financial gain.

13. The legacy of Martin King, Jr. was nonviolence. The burning of cities after his murder were not expressing his nonviolent teachings. They expressed what was already in them violence.

One of the most noticeable things about SCLC during the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a little sign in the window at 334 Auburn Avenue in Atlanta, GA.

“Redeeming the Soul of America.”

I suppose the racist, militant, socialist and communist never ever forgave him for that because he never stopped being the evangelist. He never let people or circumstances give him a reason for not loving. At least he never lost his capacity to forgive. And he never became afraid enough to think that the solution to man’s problems could be found outside of the framework of love, truth and nonviolence.

Even though the mood and the rhetoric changed, his fundamental belief in redemption and reconciliation never changed. And for this reason I’m forced to put him along with Jesus and Socrates as a man of faith.

The nonviolent movement that he led died essentially because it did not have, nor presently has within it men or women of faith. The nonviolent movement had an option to forgive James Earl Ray, and then give him a fair and impartial trial so that the facts and truth could be brought out and presented to the American people. Instead there was not to be found in the ranks, two or more men/women of faith and love who could forgive. Practically everyone in his organization thought that the killing of King was a sufficient enough reason for not loving. So loving stopped. Forgiving stopped. And when loving and forgiving stops – the mind then creates a false reason for being afraid. And when there is no loving, no forgiving, and fear, there can be no redemption and reconciliation. So SCLC, that was redeeming the soul of America died when King died and that was a greater loss to America than the losing of King.

—Reverend James L. Bevel

“Where ever two or more are gathered in my name, I will be in the midst.”



James Luther Bevel Martin Luther King, Jr.

1936 2008

1929 1968

Strategist

Spokesperson

SCLC, Director of Nonviolent Education & Direct Action Southern Christian Leadership Conference, President

“From 1963 to 1968, no one had a greater strategic & political influence on Dr. King than Jim Bevel. From the original idea of an ‘Alabama Project’ targeted to ‘GROW’: Get Rid of Wallace; in the wake of the 16th Street Baptist Church murders in September 1963, through the idea of marching to Montgomery from Selma in the wake of Jimmie Lee Jackson’s killing in Marion in February 1965; through the idea of SCLC fundamentally enlarging its purview by moving north and joining the Chicago Freedom Movement in early 1966; to his powerful & persuasive arguments that American military violence in Southeast Asia was a moral issue about which the world’s mostcelebrated advocate of confrontational nonviolence could not remain silent. Jim Bevel again and again successfully urged Dr. King to confront evils, domestic and foreign, with the great courage both of them possessed. No sins of the flesh, no matter how egregious, can erase from history’s record the hugely influential role that Jim Bevel played in determining America’s course during the 1960s.”

—David J. Garrow is the author of *Bearing the Cross (Morrow)*, a Pulitzer Prizewinning biography of Martin Luther King Jr.; *Protest at Selma: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Voting Rights Act of 1965*; *The F.B.I. and Martin Luther King, Jr.*

BEVELIAN NONVIOLENCE 8 Step Process

- 1. Purification:** Purge yourself of all ill intention and toxic emotions (anger, grief, hate, sadness, embarrassment, a need to rush, etc.)
- 2. Observation/Recording:** Access the situation. Determine what is a constitutional violation. Keep records of when the violation took place and who was involved.
- 3. Investigation/Examination/Evaluation:** Has a constitutional violation takes place? If so what is it? Do a test to determine that the violation is real and to determine exactly who the participate.

4. Recommendation: Clearly inform the violator/s of the violation and what must be done to end it and make amends.

5. Education: Inform others of the violation, violators and recommendations offered.

6. Communication: Keep all avenues of communication open for asking and answering questions, dialogue, brain storming and negotiations.

7. Demonstration/Confrontation: If the violation persists, demonstrate by operating as a free person. This may entail letter writing, boycotts, mass gatherings, marches, singlms, etc.

8. Reconciliation: When the violator/s end their violation/s enter a process of atonement and forgive them, make peace and join together in a spirit of goodwill and love.

The movement was an act of God in history. I started to get that kind of feeling whenever Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke. I started hearing him and listening to him when he’d come to Nashville. It was obvious to me that he was not motivated by political ambition. His motivation was altruistic and theological, and he was scientifically correct. When a person is scientifically correct, and what they’re doing is not designed to injure anybody, it’s designed to help everybody, then it has to be motivated by God, because the individual motivation is not selfish. So

as a minister, he really did love all the American people and he saw it as a contradiction between brothers, so he was not like a black racist, or a black nationalist. He approached it as a Christian minister. So in that sense, I felt that it was a part of the historical, abolitionist movement. You know, I read a lot of Gandhi’s books, a lot about Quakers’ movements, and I felt that I was a part of that stream of history that addressed the whole problem of oppression.

—James L. Bevel: Excerpted in part from an interview for *Eyes on the Prize*

Any education effort that does not achieve health, economic independence, self governance and social responsibility in its students is deficient and fraudulent.

—Rev. James L. Bevel



Memphis, TN
 April 4, 1968
 6:01 pm CST

The Lorraine Motel
 Renamed
 National Civil Rights Museum
 450 Mulberry Street



James Bevel
 confronting police.

PLEDGE OF NONVIOLENCE IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S LIFE AND WORK,

I pledge to do everything that I can to make America and the world a place where equality and justice, freedom and peace will grow and flourish.

I PLEDGE TO MAKE NONVIOLENCE A WAY OF LIFE in my dealings with self and all people.

I WILL REJECT all forms of hatred, bigotry and prejudice, and I will embrace the values of unconditional, universal love, truthfulness, courage, compassion, and dedication that empowered Dr. King.

I WILL DEDICATE my life to creating the Beloved Community of Dr. King's dream, where all people can live together as sisters and brothers in Peace.

 Signature

REMEMBERING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

We began studying the works of Mahatma Gandhi as college students in Nashville, TN. We decided that we would test his process of applying nonviolence, to see if it would work to end discrimination. Of course it worked, so we went on as scientist to apply nonviolence to other social ills, and again and again it worked. Later we met Myles Horton, a modern day abolitionist who founded Highlander Folk School and we began taking classes with him. He taught us how to go beyond race in solving social problems.

We took the position that we were already dead if as men we had no sovereign rights. It was this position that allowed us to do our work and not fear death.

We saw ourselves as nonviolent scientist experimenting with "the science of nonviolence." The time came when we mixed the wrong ingredients and our laboratory in America blew up and we lost one of our brilliant scientist, Martin King. We never got the chance to discover exactly what happened because there was never a trial to discover who had motives and the facts, so we had to do a lot of speculating and blaming.

A year after Dr. King's death, I had a mystical experience as Dr. King visited me during one of my cursing and blaming spells. He asked me what I was angry about and I told him those who I blamed for his death. He informed me that I was to blame and he was to blame and any of us who were not living a principled personal life, for nonviolence requires a life commitment. I then calmed down. We were not always loving, truthful just and kind. We didn't adhere to right die (meat free), we didn't take the time to heal ourselves given the many years we had been enslaved as a people, we didn't get the fear out of our hearts, the tension out of our body, the lies out of our minds and the lust out of our bodies, and we didn't really know ourselves which would have allowed us to know others and their illmotivation.

After I calmed down, I asked Dr. King what was the roadmap to the promised land. He then gave me the Six Institutional Process for Character and Community Development and The Living Prayer (available in this manual). He then disappeared and left me to contemplate my errors and to begin the work of correcting them to the best of my ability. That is when I wrote the Nonviolent Clinical Process, an interpretation of how nonviolence was used in the movement, that can now be used to solve personal problems. You see we were so busy solving social problems that we neglected to realize that we were born and reared to reinforce the very system we sought to change in our personal and interpersonal relationships.

The nonviolent movement must continue because it is the right thing to do. It works and with the little knowledge we acquired we were able to open the door to freedom, so it stands to reason that in order to keep it open and finally walk in that we would have to continue to use nonviolence. Only in this way can Dr. King's and so many others dream become a reality. JLB

"We as a people will get to the Promised Land."

"When a man's ways, pleases the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at Peace with him."



THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



In February 1997, the King family began pushing for a new trial for James Earl Ray. They were convinced by Ray's lawyer William F. Pepper, that the assassination had been planned and executed by a government conspiracy reaching from the F.B.I. and the C.I.A. to the White House. The federal government, Mr. Pepper maintained, feared Dr. King's growing denunciations of the Vietnam War and his threats to clog Washington with massive protests by the poor.

On December 8, 1999, Loyd Jowers was found guilty of the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The King family was awarded \$100 in restitution to show that they were not pursuing the case for financial gain.

Media Blackout: After critical testimony was given in the trial's second week before an almost empty gallery, Barbara Reis, US correspondent for the Lisbon daily Publico who was there several days, turned to me, [Wendell Stacy, a Memphis TV reporter] and said, "Everything in the U.S. is the trial of the century. O. J. Simpson's trial ...Clinton's trial... But this is the trial of the century, and who's here?"

"We have done what we can to reveal the truth, and we now urge you as members of the media, and we call upon elected officials, and other persons of influence to do what they can to share the revelation of this case to the widest possible audience. It is important I think for the sake of healing so many people my family, other people, the nation."

—Coretta Scott King:

King Family Press Conference, Dec. 9, 1999.

Did you know?

- Dr. King's ground floor room #206 was changed by a still unknown covert operative in the SCLC organization to the 2nd floor balcony room #306 so that sharpshooters would have a clear shot at Dr. King.
- The Lorraine Motel was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bailey. Mrs. Bailey, assigned rooms. She suffered a heart attack a few hours after Dr. King was slain and died five days later. She would have interacted with whoever in the organization requested the room change.

Injustice anywhere, is a threat to justice everywhere.

Reverend James L. Bevel, a member of the Southern Christian leadership Conference (King's organization) and then King's man in Philadelphia, was alone in saying he believed Ray had not fired the shot.

... All black leaders had been and would remain silent because all feared Hoover's blackmail. All feared any open opposition to Hoover would result in his publicizing whatever it is he had spied out about King's personal life.

The silence of the blacks continues more than two years after the greatest American leader they have produced was murdered. Not one appears to be interested in solving the crime, helping solve it, or even seeing to it that history, especially black history, is set straight. This is difficult to comprehend for one whose people experienced Auschwitz and Buchenwald... The awful crime of silence is not less awful when it is black silence. It may be worse.

To permit the murder of such a man to go unsolved and to be officially obfuscated; to permit prostitution of the judicial process, so symbolic of that which for centuries had victimized the blacks, without searching for the truth, without any protest, any question, to me is selfdestructive.

Regardless of motive, whether it is real or fancied, it is Black abdication.

Bowing abjectly to Hoover's blackmailunthinkingly, cowardly or believing themselves politically mature and wiseblack leaders became their own most successful enemies, indentured themselves in servitude more humiliating than their past physical slavery. They guaranteed the success of the evil purposes served by the murders of their leaders. Unwittingly, they became accomplices of the murderers.

—Harold WeisbergFrameUp: The Assassination of Martin Luther King. Pages 240 – 242/

"We should not let this country give us a poor defenseless goat in sacrifice for the body of our precious lamb."

—Reverend James L. Bevel, 1968

- James Earl Ray was a petty thief and was not a marksman. He was used as a scapegoat and did a plea bargain.
- Rev. Billy Kyle admitted to setting up Dr. King in a video available on Youtube.
- African American photographer Earnest Withers was a FBI spy in Memphis, TN.
- Rev. James Bevel refused to accept Ray as the killer. After interviewing Ray he determined that he was incapable of firing the fatal shot that killed Dr. King. He convinced

Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, the newly elected president of SCLC to work to defend James Earl Ray and demand that he be given a trial and that the plea bargain be thrown out. King's father became angered at this and the organization appeased him and James Bevel was blackballed and left the organization. Years later Mrs Coretta King and family took Loyd Joyers to trial for Dr. King's murder.

- Under US Civil Law, covert US government agencies were found guilty of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King.

The overwhelming evidence of government complicity introduced and agreed as comprehensively valid by the jury includes:

- US 111th Military Intelligence Group were at Dr. King's location during the assassination.
- The 20th Special Forces Group had an 8man sniper team at the assassination location on that day.
- Usual Memphis Police special body guards were advised they "weren't needed" on 4/4/68.
- Regular and constant police protection for Dr. King was removed from protecting Dr. King an hour before the assassination.
- Military Intelligence setup photographers on a roof of a fire station with a clear view to Dr. King's balcony.
- Dr. King's room was changed from a secure 1stfloor room to an exposed balcony room.
- Memphis police ordered the scene where multiple witnesses reported was the source of the shooting the cut down of bushes that would have hid a sniper.
- Immediately after Dr. King was shot, police officers flooded the parking lot of the Lorraine Motel to arrest SCLC members. Rev. Bevel instructed them to go find the shooter.
- Along with sanitizing a crime scene, police abandoned investigative procedure to interview witnesses who lived by the scene of the shooting.
- The rifle Mr. Ray delivered was not matched to the bullet that killed Dr. King, and was not sighted to accurately shoot.
- Judge Joe Brown heard testimony about the weapon used for about four years. He was about to grant James Earl Ray a trial but he was taken off the case.

<http://www.thekingcenter.org/assassinationconspiracytrial>

"The jaws of power are always open to devour, and her arm is always stretched out, if possible, to destroy the freedom of thinking, speaking and writing." —John Adams, A Founding Father

The Nonviolent Chicago Open Housing Movement 24th Ward

THEME OF THE CHICAGO CAMPAIGN NONVIOLENCE

On January 28, 1966, King appeared before 60 command level officers of the Chicago Police Department at 1121 S. State St.; the purpose of this appearance was to brief the Chicago Police Department officially on the nature of the campaign in Chicago, as well as his organization, the SCLC. In his remarks, King stressed the nonviolent nature of the campaign, stating that non violence would be the theme and requesting the police in turn to handle any demonstrators without violence.



Dr. King & Coretta Living In Chicago's 24th Ward in a ghetto neighborhood. 1550 S. Hamlin, Chicago, Illinois

THE LONGEST MARCH

Kings decision to come to Chicago owed in large part to the efforts of two men: Albert Raby, a mild mannered but head strong teacher turned activist who for several years had led massive protests over the de facto segregation of the city's public school system, and James Bevel, an outspoken young minister who had been an indispensable strategist in some of King's most pivotal campaigns. Bevel had recently moved to Chicago with his wife, Diane Nash, a native South Sider, and started working at the West Side Christian Parish, an outreach ministry across from Union Park, that extended the invitation to Dr. King. **Excerpt**

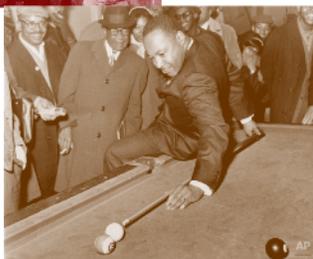


Albert Raby
Dr. James Bevel

Dr. King At Soldier Field In Chicago



Local Youth Leaders
WakatiEl aka Jimmy Wilson,
Tiny aka Allan Evans, Deacon
Moe aka Theophilus Moore,
Pepelo aka Eddie Perry,
Pea Nut aka Richard Tidwell,
Henry Jordan and Carl Pitts



REMEMBER VIOLENCE WAS NOT HIS LEGACY

**RIOTS AFTER KING'S ASSASSINATION
APRIL 4, 1968, DESTROYED THE 24TH WARD**



LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT THE NONVIOLENT RIGHTTOVOTE MOVEMENT OF 1965

Groups of young people throughout the United States decided to test the findings of Mahatma Gandhi, in his use of nonviolence to rid India of the minority invaders, the British. Nonviolence was successful in achieving this goal. The question was whether nonviolence could be used by a minority to achieve open theaters, open lunch counters, eliminate segregation and discrimination in public places, and achieve voting rights from an unjust, uncaring majority. Nonviolence was successful in numerous occasions in achieving the goals. The masses never understood or accepted nonviolence and thus the experiments stopped and the application to personal problems was never advanced.

1. The nonviolent righttovote movement of the South began in the early 1960's.
2. Participatory directaction organizations such as CORE (Congress of Racial Equality), SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), and SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) took the fight for voting rights and desegregation into the deepest depths of the racist South – Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia. The slogan became “*One Man, One Vote,*” and instead of lawsuits the strategy was to organize people at the grassroots to directly challenge and defy the entire “whites only” system by demanding desegregation and the righttovote, facetoface, countybycounty, statebystate.
3. During the “Freedom Summer” of 1964, close to a thousand civil rights workers of all races and backgrounds from across the country converged on Mississippi to support voting rights and to confront segregation. This was followed in August by the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party's challenge to the whitesonly Mississippi delegation at the Democratic National Convention held in Atlantic City led by Fannie Lou Hamer. The selfevident justice of that challenge was ignored by Johnson and Humphrey and the challenge was denied.
4. On the day that the four little girls were murdered in a church bombing in Birmingham, AL, following the Birmingham Movement, Diane Nash and her then husband Reverend James L. Bevel wrote the proposal for the Selma RighttoVote Movement and it was submitted to Dr. King and other leaders who initially rejected the proposal.
5. Reverend Bevel, was the Director of Direct Action and Director of Nonviolent Education for SCLC. He took his staff (Dorothy Tillman, Rev. James Orange, Rev Richard Boone, Charles Fager, Erica and Anna Ginsberg, Juanita and Daniel Harriel, Sonia Sanchez and Rev. Harold Middlebrook and others) to Montgomery and then Selma to work on the right to vote proposal he had written.
6. Strong local leadership developed in Alabama due to the absence of the NAACP, as they were banned by state government. It was this strong local leadership that was the cause of so many movements and victories taking place in Alabama (the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Birmingham Movement, the Selma RighttoVote Movement. Here is a partial list of those activist born and raised in the state of Alabama: *Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, Rev. Richard Boone, Congressman John Lewis, Dr. Ralph David Abernathy, Rev. Joseph Lowery, J. L. Chestnut, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, Angela Davis, Jesse Owens, Charles K. Steele, Marie Foster, Ameila and Samuel Boynton, Fred Gray, Albert Turner; Rev. F. D. Reese, E. D. Nixon, Martin L. King, III, Attorney James Gildersleeve, J. D. Hunter; Rev. James Orange, Dorothy Tillman, Ulysses Blackmon, Lucy Foster, Annie Lee Cooper, Charles Mauldin, Barbara Howard, John Head, Vassie Knott, Elmer Hawkins, Rev. J. J. Simmons, Carie Johnson, Lena Frost, Princella Howard, Charles Bonner, Bennie Crenshaw, Veronic Smith, Mattie Atkins, Willie Neal Avery, P. H.*

Lewis, John Hewlett, Margaret Moore, Earnest Doyle, Jimmy Lee Jackson, Rev. Henry Shannon, Rev. George Don Galloway, Joanne Bland, and many others.

7. Reverend Bernard LaFayette and his then wife Colia, choose Selma as a voter education project. Others feared to tread in Selma. When they arrived in Selma, the law stated that gatherings of Blacks were limited to three people outside of a church meeting. These fearless warriors joined local leaders and began building a foundation for the next phase of the movement.
8. When Rev. Bevel and his staff arrived in early 1965, they were able to take advantage of the work that the local leaders and the LaFayette's had begun in laying the groundwork for a movement.
9. Jimmy Lee Jackson was shot on February 25, 1965, in Marion AL. This enraged the local population and they began stocking up on bullets as they sought to get revenge for his murder. He died on Feb. 28.
10. Rev. Bevel developed a nonviolent strategy to diffuse the growing hostility, so that no act of violence would derail the movement for the right to vote. He told Rev. LaFayette that he planned to march from Marion to Montgomery (later Selma) to go see the governor about Jackson's murder. LaFayette agreed and they went to visit Cager Lee, the grandfather of Jackson. At this meeting Bevel asked Mr. Lee if he would go with him to see the governor about the senseless killing of his grandson. Cager Lee agreed.
11. At the memorial service for Jimmie Lee Jackson at Zion United Methodist Church, on Feb. 28, in the evening, Rev. Bevel preached a fiery sermon and called for a march from Selma to Montgomery for which the crowd responded in mass agreement. This direct action was used to diffuse the violence and redirect it to gaining the righttovote.
12. One week after the call for the march, on Sunday, March 7, 1965, the march began and Bloody Sunday became history with a yearly reenactment in Selma every 1st week in March.
13. Rev. Bevel motioned that all elected officials in Alabama be removed and new elections be held with newly enfranchised citizens. His motion did not receive a second. As a result Mayor Joseph Smitherman of Selma (elected in 1964) remained in office until 2000, some 36 years for example. His motion died. Rev. Hosea Williams developed a program to recruit college students during the summer and money raised during the Selma Movement went to fund that.
14. The Voting Rights Act was signed into law on August 6, 1965 by President Johnson.
15. On May 10, 2007, 42 years after the murder of Jimmie Lee Jackson, James Bonard Fowler was charged with first degree and second degree murder for the death.
16. Having the right to vote, but not committed to nonviolence, African Americans elected to office crooks, conmen, liars, cowards, sellouts, unprincipled, unjust, and nonloving, men and women whose only qualification was the color of their skin. As a result the health, interest, rights and needs of African Americans were never addressed, protected or legislated into law. Those who voted began to lose faith in the voting system, never realizing that healing was needed in order to remain in the morphogenetic field of nonviolence. It stands to reason that if the gains were a result of nonviolence, then the maintenance of those gains would have to be nonviolent.
17. The proposal written by Diane Nash and Rev. Bevel, for the Selma Movement and other interesting facts is available in the book, [The Nonviolent RighttoVote Almanac](#), available at [lulu.com](#).

THE NONVIOLENT RIGHT TO VOTE MOVEMENT IN BRIEF

The Children marched in Birmingham, AL and successfully attained the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (See: The Children's March on youtube)



① On 9/15/63, the Klu Klux Klan bombed the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church and killed four little girls (Addie Collins, Carol Robertson, Denise McNair and Cynthia Diane Wesley), Sarah Collins and 22 others were injured) who were attending Sunday School, at the close of the Civil Rights Movement in Birmingham, AL.

② Nonviolent Response Rev. James Bevel (SCLC, Director of Nonviolent Direct Action) and Diane Nash of SCLC, wrote the Selma, AL RightToVote proposal 9/15/63 in response to the murder.

“Our Direct Action Department, under the direction of Rev. James Bevel, then decided to attack the very heart of the political structure of the state of Alabama and the Southland through a campaign for the right to vote.”



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

③ The proposal was initially rejected by Dr. King and other leaders. Bevel mobilized his staff (Rev. James Orange, Dorothy Tillman, Rev. Richard Boone, Diane Nash, Charles Fager, Eric and Anna Ginsberg, Juanita and Daniel Harriel, Reverend Harold Middlebrook and others) and went to Selma, AL to work on the right to vote.

④ Strong local leadership developed in Alabama, in that the NAACP was banned in the state. Local leaders and Rev. Bernard & Colia LaFayette of SNCC were already laying the groundwork in Selma, when Bevel arrived.

The Courageous Eight

Ernest Doyle, Henry Shamon, Marie Foster, F.D. Reese and James Gildersleeve, Amelia Boynton, J. D. Hunter and Ulysses Blackmon



Amelia Boynton
1911 2015



Colia Bernard
Lafayette

⑤ Nonviolent Protests Begin: Organizing, teaching, sitIns, marches, singing, preaching, prayer meetings and attempts to register to vote.



⑥ Jimmie Lee Jackson is fatally shot in Marion AL, 2/17/65 by a state trooper. Viola Liuzzo and Rev. James Reeb are also killed. Bevel and LaFayette visited Jimmie's grandfather. Bevel asked if he would go to see the governor with him. He says yes.

⑦ Nonviolent Response Reverend Bevel announces a march from Marion to Montgomery (the state Capital), at Jackson's memorial service held at Zion United Methodist Church on 2/26/65. The march was to be a cooling off period for those seeking revenge for the murder. Violence would take the focus off of the movement to attain the right to vote.



⑧ March begins in Selma, AL. The first marchers mercilessly on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, 3/7/65 march is approved by Gov. Wallace 3/21/65.



⑨ The Voting Rights Act is signed by President Johnson, 7/6/65. It prohibits racial discrimination in voting, and is designed to enforce the voting rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the U. S. Constitution.



⑩ Rev. Bevel and Diane Nash receive the SCLC Rosa Parks Award for having conceived, initiated and successfully executed the Selma RightToVote Movement.

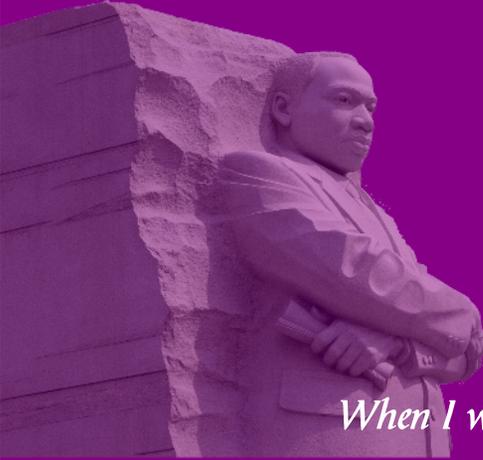


⑪ Thousands of African Americans are elected to office. They shun nonviolence and many neglect the needs of the people and pursue selfinterest. Many gains are lost. Barack H. Obama is elected 44th president of the U. S., and receives a second term.



⑫ June, 2013, the Supreme Court declares a provision of the Voting Rights Act as unconstitutional. This represents the first act to dismantle the Voting Rights Act.

Where Do We Go From Here? Precinct Council Government



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1928 - April 4, 1968

ODE TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Oh, He carried the cross for me, He carried the cross for me,

When I was just a boy playing with a toy, He was concerned about my liberty.

When I stood telling tales, He spend many days in jail to restore to me my lost humanity.

When I was a hate-filled man. He made me understand, He told me truths that set my poor heart free.

When I could only cuss, He rode the Freedom Bus, and introduced me to responsibility.

When I didn't have a friend, nonviolently He sat in and made the nation honor my dignity.

When I didn't have a coat and my mama couldn't even vote, He made the Congress set my people free.

When my sister didn't have a blouse, and my dad couldn't buy a house, He made Open Housing a reality.

We were dying in Vietnam and He stopped Old Uncle Sam, and made Him respect all humanity.

When I was but a slave, He gladly went to His grave to set my mind and body free.

He never was afraid, 'cause this is what He said: "No matter what my son, you must forgive,

If you haven't found a cause to die for, then you're not fit to live!"

And this is the challenge, He left you and me.

When Martin Luther King died, I sat down and cried, 'cause I had lost my best friend,

He taught me to forgive, and now I'm fit to live. And now I too can face the tree 'cause

He Carried the Cross for Me.

-Dr. James L. Bevel

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