



In the Neighborhood

In light of the legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., do you think that we are moving forward in terms of equality and civil rights?

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There's been progress, but our society is historically based on racist and classist policies and there continues to still be undertones of segregation in the workplace and many other social avenues.

— Kai Griffin-Valade

I think of it more as two steps forward, one step back. There's a burgeoning black middle class. There are African Americans in positions of authority at major companies. And Barack Obama is a serious contender for president. But blacks still lag far behind whites in income earned. African-American students score much lower on educational tests than white students. Our neighborhoods and schools in Portland still remain largely segregated by race and economics.

— Dave Austin



I think that we can say so since we have an African American running for the presidency that actually has a chance of winning. However our culture still needs to continue to work on addressing the issue of social inequality.

— Tony Thach

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Rosa Parks speaks to the crowd before King's address on the triumphs and pitfalls of the modern civil-rights movement.

▀ *Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.* ▀

— Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



The new Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee chairman Stokely Carmichael proclaims a "black power" slogan at the rally in Greenwood on June 16, six weeks after his independent-voting effort in Londes County was either scorned or ignored.

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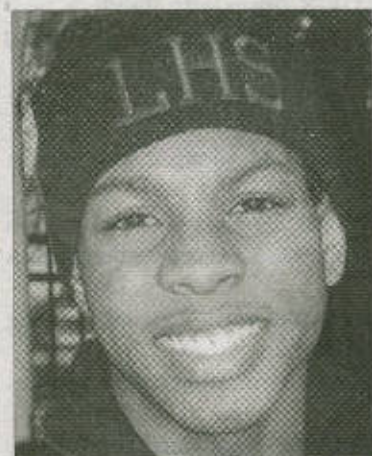


I don't think we really are. There is still just as much racism as there always was, but it's just under the radar a little more.

— Maxwell Kjellberg

Based on what civil rights were like in the '50s, when you and I couldn't even talk to each other because we'd end up in prison, it's amazing how we've come together as a people. It is more significant than anything else in the last century.

— Ellsworth Gibson



We are moving forward as a community but there is still stuff that needs to be worked on. I know in schools there is not really a bond between African Americans and Caucasians.

— Justin Elliott

Martin Luther King helped a bunch of people, including the homeless. There is still a whole bunch of homeless people, and as minorities, we can't get health care if we are sick.

— Maria Yribe

