



Martin Luther King Jr Essay Competition January 2020

Fruzen Intermediate School Essay Winner
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8th Grade

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once again, “If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.” This is an immensely powerful quote that sums up one of the greatest things Dr. King stood for; making a large difference in the world with seemingly insignificant actions.

To begin with, positive change doesn’t have to come from massive feats or drastic measures, it can come from something very ordinary or simple. Dr. King first protested merely by trying to eat at a restaurant, something that we today would think of as a basic commodity rather than tremendous or extraordinary, but that made a huge difference for many people. And that is what this quote means to me, small things that make a large difference. What a different place our world would be; if everyone did one more small thing for someone else every day. As you can see, the littlest actions are often the most important.

Next, think about what would happen if everyone always waited for someone else to change something. No one would ever do anything; waiting for other people to accomplish large feats instead of doing small things on their own. Our world would come to a complete standstill. Everyone needs to advocate for their beliefs, no matter how big or small their actions are.

We can all honor Dr. King’s legacy by smiling at someone, complimenting them. Look at how many people you interact with every single day. Small actions can become a ripple effect, you share your beliefs and actions with everyone you encounter, they share them with others they encounter, then the next people do the same. All in all, small things done in a great way can make a great difference in our world.