

Martin Luther King Jr. is well known as the leader for the civil rights movement in 1954 advocating under the rule of law protest segregation and racial discrimination.¹ But for him, he thinks of himself as a Christian pastor as this role explores what he achieves. The major contribution that he has contributed to humankind is human right equality for black African American. The way he contributes this is through his speech and his role.

Back to the late 1880s, we all know that there is severe segregation in the United States. As Martin Luther King Jr. was selected as a pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist church and his father was a pastor, religious plays the important role to his mind in the sense that God is justice.² It is obvious that a role of pastor has shaped his aspects of who he is and his strong belief of equality as everybody is brother and sister due to Christian belief. Every time he speaks in the church, he teaches people the use of nonviolence to protest against racial discrimination that they face with. It seems that these people feel as if there was a connection between them and Martin Luther King Jr. spiritually that links them with his idea of peace. In 1957, Martin Luther King Jr. became a leader of the Southern Christian Leadership conference (SCLC).³ As the leadership of SCLC, his advocating against racial justice gains attention and sympathy from people around the world. Also he is a leader in demonstrations, workers and boycotts.⁴

During 1957 and 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. appears to speak wherever there is an injustice situation creating a positive impression on American people.⁵ On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. delivers the speech which is considered as a turning point of social transformation.⁶ His speech draws more than 200,000 supporters march for job and freedom under the rule of law, or in the other meaning, for more equality for black African American.⁷ The meaning of speech creates the

¹ Nobel Prize Organization. "Martin Luther King – Biography." *Nobelprize.org*. 10 Feb. 2012 <http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html>

² Nobel Prize Organization. "Martin Luther King – Biography." *Nobelprize.org*. 10 Feb. 2012 <http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html>

³ Wikipedia contributors. "Martin Luther King, Jr." *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 16 Jan. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Luther_King,_Jr.>

⁴ National Archives and Records Administration. "Teaching With Documents: Court Documents Related to Martin Luther King, Jr., and Memphis Sanitation Workers – Background." *National Archives*. 16 Jan. 2012. <<http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/memphis-v-mlk/>>

⁵ Find A Grave Memorial Contributor. "Dr Martin Luther King, Jr." *Find A Grave*. 20 Jan. 2012. <<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?GRid=582&page=gr>>

⁶ Wikipedia contributors. "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom" *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 20 Jan. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_on_Washington_for_Jobs_and_Freedom>

strong impact and implies the demands for equal rights for all citizens including those who born black or brown.⁸ His speech changes the attitude of morality and racial segregation of all American people. This protest is broadcasted all over the world throughout television, newspapers or words of mouth proving King's belief that nonviolence is the means that brings peace and justice is true. Moreover, it also brings the two most important laws which are the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.⁹

First, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 imposes the constitutional rights: voting rights, public accommodation, and desegregation of public facilities, discrimination and civil rights commission.¹⁰ As the result of this law, it does not only bring equality toward black African American people; such as the equal employment opportunity, but also reduces the social gap or weakens the line that divides black and white American people. Second, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is created after 1964 Civil Rights Act. This act helps to reduce the racial discrimination in voting meaning that all citizens have equal opportunities to vote in the election.¹¹

On the other hand, the impact of Voting Rights Act (VRC) is undesirable as it creates a negative response from the white racists.¹² Due to negative perspective towards Martin Luther King Jr. in getting African American to vote, they have a campaign against this success. The idea of human nature plays the main role in explaining the violence behavior. Due to human nature when human act violence or irrational, it is because men are confused therefore they have the lack of faith in behave in a proper way. By nature, human wants to be above the others and at the same time they want to be equal but equal with those above them. From this, it explains that white American do not want the black African American to have same equal rights as them while the black African American seeks for more equality and respect as white people. However in the longer term, far more African Americans are hired in the public place such as firemen, teachers and clerks. This reflects that this act, the Voting Rights Act, is the encouragement for the social rights movement. Moreover, this revolution proves the belief of King that people will adapt to the

⁷ Wikipedia contributors. "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom" *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 20 Jan. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_on_Washington_for_Jobs_and_Freedom>

⁸ Unknown contributor. "Transcript of speech by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. August 28, 1963. Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C." *analytictech*. 20 Jan. 2012. <<http://www.analytictech.com/mb021/mlk.htm>>

⁹ Wikipedia contributors. "African-American Civil Rights Movement (1955–1968)" *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 21 Jan. 2012. <[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AfricanAmerican_Civil_Rights_Movement_\(1955%E2%80%931968\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AfricanAmerican_Civil_Rights_Movement_(1955%E2%80%931968))>

¹⁰ Wikipedia contributors. "Civil Rights Act of 1964." *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 26 Jan. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Rights_Act_of_1964>

¹¹ Wikipedia contributors. "Voting Rights Act." *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. 26 Jan. 2012. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voting_Rights_Act>

¹² CORE -- Congress of Racial Equality contributors. "Voting Rights Act of 1965". *CORE- Congress of Racial Equality*. 1 Feb. 2012. <http://core-online.org/History/voting_rights.htm>

change (revolution) and will adapt to the use of nonviolence.¹³ Nowadays people realize that evolutionary is only a change in perspectives and they change from time to time. The obvious examples of this is that white Americans vote for Barak Obama as we know he is the first black African American president and because he is well qualified, more people approve for interracial marriage, more black American singers get the music awards. And American people do not care whether their children's teachers are white or black.

From all above, the way Martin Luther King Jr. contributes human right is through his role and his speech in the sense that he leads and speaks. And the evidence of this success, we, as humankind, have more freedom, more justice and more equality no matter we are yellow, black or brown. Under the aim of persuasion, King fights for these things peacefully, openly and cheerfully in term of talking and seeking for compromise. Without Martin Luther King Jr., there would be more of our fellow friends struggling for racial injustice and we would not learn and have the approach of the problem without this successful example. Furthermore, Martin Luther King Jr. is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in the field of human rights at the age of thirty-five; however, he is assassinated on the April 4, 1968.¹⁴

¹³ Ashbrook Center at Ashland University's project. "The Power of Non-violence"

TeachingAmericanHistory.org. 4 Feb. 2012.

<<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=1131>>

¹⁴ Nobel Prize Organization. "The Nobel Peace Prize 1964 Martin Luther King Jr." *Nobelprize.org*. 4 Feb. 2012. <http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html>