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Where Nobility Becomes More Than Money

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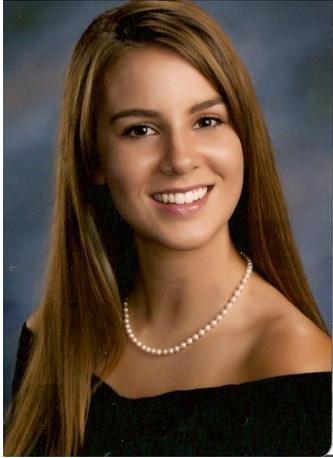
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Where Nobility Becomes More Than Money

Abstract

In lieu of an abstract, below is the essay's first paragraph.

"Today, we grow up in a world where we are taught to focus on one career and do the most we can to become successful. Driven by things like money and power, it makes it easy to forget the things that should really take importance in our everyday lives. When at the end of the day all you are left with is your money and power, are you truly happy? Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote addresses the issue of achieving more for oneself than simply material things. Finding an avocation, defined by Dictionary.com as 'something a person does in addition to a principal occupation, especially for pleasure; hobby' is just as pertinent in fulfilling one's life as having a successfully driven career is."



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“Whatever career you may choose for yourself - doctor, lawyer, [or] teacher - let me propose an avocation to be pursued along with it. Become a dedicated fighter for civil rights. Make it a central part of your life. It will make you a better doctor, a better lawyer, a better teacher. It will enrich your spirit as nothing else possibly can. It will give you that rare sense of nobility that can only spring from love and selflessly helping your fellow man. Make a career of humanity. Commit yourself to the noble struggle for human rights. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country and a finer world to live in.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Address at the Youth March for Integrated Schools on April 18, 1959

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at the end of the day all you are left with is your money and power, are you truly happy? Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote addresses the issue of achieving more for oneself than simply material things. Finding an avocation, defined by Dictionary.com as "something a person does in addition to a principal occupation, especially for pleasure; hobby" is just as pertinent in fulfilling one's life as having a successfully driven career is.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was fighting for civil rights of African Americans, he gave many speeches throughout the entire country. He made it his goal and dedicated his entire life to fight for justice and equality. He was an advocator and fighter for civil rights. In this quote he stresses the importance of always making sure that people are not strictly focused only on their careers, but also bettering their inner selves while fighting for others. I truly believe that nothing feels more rewarding than having the satisfaction of knowing that we helped someone and left a positive influence in their life. I think that this brings the ultimate happiness and it is what makes someone feel the most successful. Anyone can have a good job or career if one works hard enough, but not everyone achieves the career of giving herself or himself to humanity.

Dr. King lived in a time when change in attitude and the acceptance of equality for African Americans were not tolerated at all. He fought so hard for justice because he knew that it not only would be benefiting others, but also fulfilling himself as a total person. In today's world it is hard for any of us to imagine having to fight for the right to

go to school. However, people are still struggling to receive the rights that they deserve. For example, in countries such as Russia and Jamaica, people are still being persecuted and killed for their sexual orientation. As an advocator of civil rights, Dr. King believed that each human being should help humanity become more accepting and tolerant, even when it is hard to understand.

I agree with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s strong invitation that people should dedicate their life to fight for human rights, no matter how hard the struggle may be. If no one fights to help other people, then our world will continue to be in chaos. It is more fulfilling to help one another than to isolate oneself in selfishness and only care about how much of a profit one can bring home in a year. When we put advocacy and being able to have a successful career together, there is a much higher sense of achievement. From a personal experience, I have gained a greater sense of myself by volunteering at a local hospital. There is something wonderful about putting a smile on someone's face that no amount of money can buy.



Church in Trastevere, Rome, Italy (Photo by MC)